

Finding violin is sweet music to forgetful fiddler

健忘音樂家名貴小提琴失而復得

An **absent-minded** musician left his 18th century violin in the back of a New York taxi but was soon **reunited** with the instrument thanks to satellite technology, newspapers reported.

South Korean-born **virtuoso** Hahn-Bin forgot the US\$600,000 violin, made by Giovanni Francesco Presenda, in a yellow cab on his way back to Manhattan from a concert, the *New York Post* and other dailies said.

It was only after the exhausted fiddler had taken a shower in his Chinatown apartment that the realization hit him like **a bolt from the blue**.

The city's taxi authorities, however, had no trouble tracking down the taxi — all yellow cabs are fitted with GPS trackers and the vehicle was found to be at cabbie Dalbir Singh's home in New Jersey.

"Losing an instrument is a greatest fear, even more than making a mistake on stage," Hahn-Bin was quoted as saying. (AFP)



Above: Virtuoso violinist Itzhak Perlman performs for US President George W. Bush, Queen Elizabeth II and invited guests in the East Room following a State Dinner at the White House in Washington, DC, on May 7, 2007. PHOTO: AFP

Below: A musician holds her violin as the NDR Symphony Orchestra conducted by Christoph von Dohnanyi performs during the opening of the 24th Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival in Luebeck, northern Germany on July 12, 2009. PHOTO: EPA

上圖：二〇〇七年五月七日，小提琴演奏大師伊札克·帕爾曼在美國華府白宮的東廳中，為享用完國宴的美國總統小布希、英國女王伊麗莎白二世，以及其他受邀貴賓演奏樂曲。照片：法新社

下圖：七月十二日，在德國北部呂貝克舉行的第二十四屆史列維希—霍爾斯坦音樂節開幕典禮上，杜南伊指揮的北德廣播交響樂團演出時，一名小提琴手拿著小提琴。照片：歐新社

報導指出，一位健忘的音樂家把他十八世紀的小提琴忘在紐約一輛計程車後座，所幸不久後就失而復得，而這都歸功於衛星科技。

《紐約郵報》等報紙報導，韓裔小提琴家韓彬（音譯）結束演出、返回曼哈頓的路上，將一把價值六十萬美元、由吉歐瓦尼·法蘭賽斯科·派森達大師親手打造的名琴遺留在計程車上。

這位累壞了的小提琴家回到唐人街的家中沖完澡後，才發現這個晴天霹靂的事實。

所幸，找到這輛計程車對紐約市計程車協會來說不是件難事——所有的小黃都裝有全球衛星定位追蹤器，而這輛計程車顯示的位置，就在司機位於紐澤西達比辛格的住處。

報導中引述韓彬的話說：「最怕的是弄丟樂器，那比在舞台上出錯還更令人擔心。」 (法新社／翻譯：袁星塵)



TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

- 1. absent-minded** /'æbsnt'maɪndɪd/ adj.
健忘的 (jian4 wang4 de5)，心不在焉的 (xin1 bu2 zai4 yan1 de5)
例：Tracy is so absent-minded that she missed her turnoff on the highway yet again. (翠西心不在焉，結果又錯過她要下的交流道。)
- 2. reunite** /,riju'naɪt/ v.
使重逢 (shi3 chong2 feng2)
例：It was an emotional scene as the survivors were reunited with their families. (生還者和家人重逢的場景令人動容。)
- 3. virtuoso** /,vɜ:ʃu'oso/ n.
演奏大師 (yan3 zou4 da4 shi1)
例：I'll never forget the day I had a piano lesson with a legendary piano virtuoso. (我永遠忘不了和知名鋼琴演奏家一起上鋼琴課那天。)

IDIOM POINT 片語要點

a bolt from the blue 天大的消息，晴天霹靂

A **bolt from the blue** is a surprising event. In the article, the realization that he had left the violin in the back of a taxi was a huge shock to the violinist.

Examples: "The news of Yvonne's pregnancy hit me like a **bolt from the blue**," or "The redundancy announcement arrived like a **bolt from the blue**."

「a bolt from the blue」的意思就是一件驚人的大事。文章中提到，發現自己把琴遺留在計程車後座對這位小提琴家來說，是一件晴天霹靂。

例如：「伊凡懷孕對我來說是個天大的消息」，或是「這項裁員公告像一顆震撼彈」。