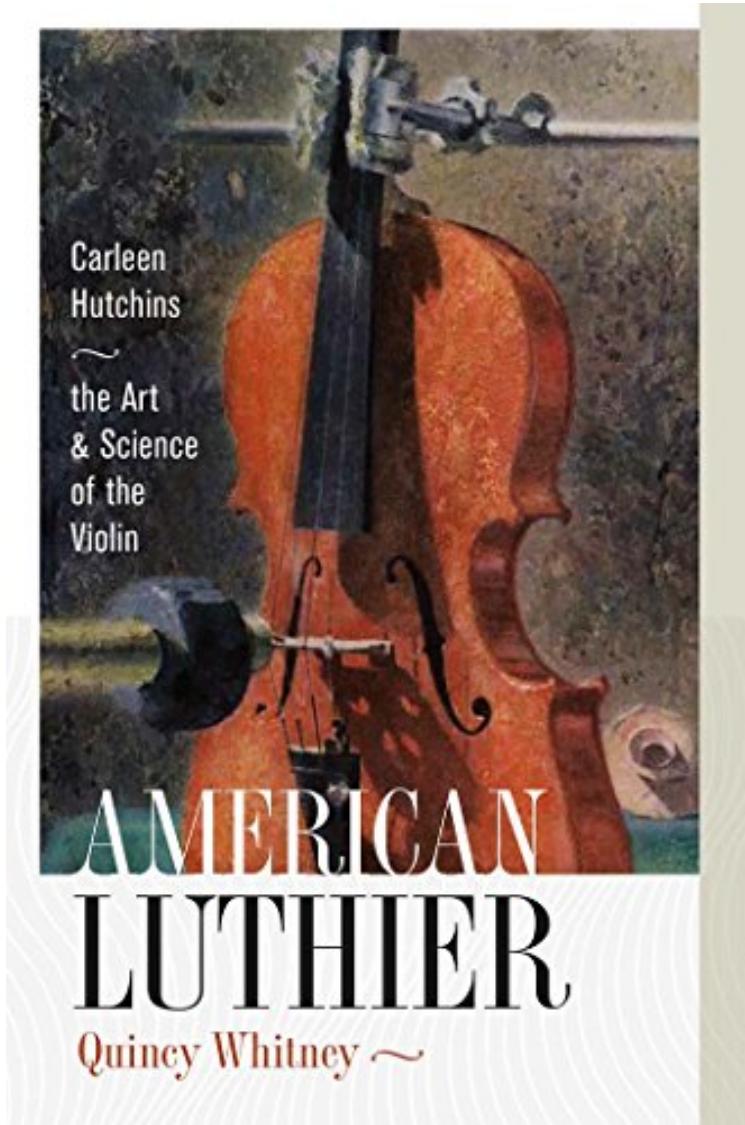


(Free read ebook) American Luthier: Carleen Hutchinsmdash;the Art and Science of the Violin

## American Luthier: Carleen Hutchinsmdash;the Art and Science of the Violin

*Quincy Whitney*

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**Quincy Whitney : American Luthier: Carleen Hutchinsmdash;the Art and Science of the Violin** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised American Luthier: Carleen Hutchinsmdash;the Art and Science of the Violin:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A story of strength, talent and cultural rigidity. By RL Older This is an inspiring read. The personal story of Ms. Hutchins is one of incredible dedication and talent. The violin market has been one of smoke and mirrors almost forever and it's always a good thing to have the sun shine through a little to

clear some things up. If one is reading this for technical information about violins it certainly has a bit of that but that is not the main purpose of the contents. If there is any criticism I could make at all I suppose it would be the almost total exclusion of mentioning violin family bows. But Carleen was a pioneer in making violin family instruments with a huge amount of scientific research that was, and is, controversial. So much value in today's world is based on celebrity. Just a great personal story. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. More than a violin story. By Student I'm still in the middle of this book. It has been a very interesting read. The story of a "Nasty" woman, one who ignored any concept of a women's place, and changed the course of violin Lutherie and the understanding of violin acoustics by just being herself. Great Lutherie reads, great history of science read, great human interest read. Go get it! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. I recommend it highly. By Howard Ever since her famous Scientific American article I've been interested in her work. Her direct and open approach to the violin-making profession is refreshing. Makers kept more secrets BC (before Carleen). Now most makers are sharing their research. Hers is a fascinating story as much for the quirkiness of her personality which may have caused her professional successes. I recommend it highly.

From the time of Stradivari, the mysterious craft of violinmaking has been a closely guarded, lucrative, and entirely masculine preserve. In the 1950s Carleen Maley Hutchins was a grade school science teacher, amateur trumpet player, and New Jersey housewife. When musical friends asked her to trade a trumpet for a \$75 viola, she decided to try making one, thus setting in motion a surprising career. A self-taught genius who went head to head with a closed and ancient guild, Hutchins carved nearly 500 stringed instruments over the course of half a century and collaborated on more than 100 experiments in violin acoustics. In answer to a challenge from a composer, she built the first violin octet—a family of eight violins ranging in size from an eleven-inch treble to a seven-foot contrabass, and in register across the gamut of the piano keyboard. She wrote more than 100 technical papers—including two benchmark *Scientific American* cover articles—founded an international society devoted to violin acoustics, and became the only American and the only woman to be honored in Cremona, Italy, the birthplace of Stradivari. Hutchins died in 2009 at the age of ninety-eight. The most innovative violinmaker of the modern age, she set out to explore two worlds she knew virtually nothing about—violins and acoustical physics. *American Luthier* chronicles the life of this unsung woman who altered everything in a world that had changed little in three centuries.

“Whitney’s biography . . . is engaging and contains many fascinating details.” —The Strad