Sansone Musical Instruments

New York City

- 1881 Lorenzo Sansone born 7-26 in Monte St. Angelo, Italy.
- 1891 Starts playing flugelhorn in town band (Caluori).
- 1894 Hired to play horn in San Serero band (Caluori).
- 1903 Lorenzo emigrates in April to US, California, & plays for Chiaffarelli's Italian Band in LA.
- 1906 Conductor for the Ventura City Band. Marries Marie La Prevoaux in LA (Caluori says Emma Erndt of Pilzen).
- 1907 Son Nicholas is born in Ventura, CA.
- 1909-1910 Playing for the LA Symphony & Denver Symphony.
- 1910 Living in Denver with Mary & sons Nicholas (1907) and Lawrence Jr. (1908); theater musician (census).
- 1910-1911 Playing for the St. Paul Symphony.
- 1912-1915 Playing for the St. Louis Symphony.
- 1914 Invents a five-valve single French horn produced by Wunderlich. Playing for the Chicago Symphony in the summer (photo 2 by Robb Stewart).
- 1915-1918 Playing for the Cincinnati Symphony.
- 1916-c1953 His horns are made by Kruspe.
- 1916 Lorenzo is naturalized in October & living in Chicago.
- 1918-1919 Playing for the Detroit Symphony.
- 1920-1922 Playing for the NY Symphony.
- 1920 Still in Chicago (top photo) & listed as musician. He was applying for a passport to tour with the New York Symphony in France, Italy and Holland. His wife is listed as Emma Grudt of Bohemia whom he married in 1906.
- 1921 Playing for the New York Symphony Orchestra (news art.).
- 1921-1946 Sansone is on the Julliard faculty (Caluori).
- 1925 Establishes Sansone Musical Instruments (Caluori) at the Roseland building, 1658 Broadway (photo 5).
- 1927 Playing for the Beethoven Symphony.
- 1928 Now living at #607 W. 190th St. in NYC & starts working for the NBC orchestra (news article).
- 1929 Playing for the National Broadcasting Orchestra. Son Nicholas moves to NYC, probably joining him in the instrument company.













1930 Still at #607 W. 190th St.; orchestra musician; son Lawrence is an orchestra musician in LA also playing the French horn (census).

1930 ad



1931-1933 Playing for the Metropolitan Opera and Beethoven Association.

1931 ad



1932 Granted patent #1,855,423 for tunable mute.

1939 ad









- 1940 Son Lawrence is in LA with a private music practice. Son Nicholas is living at #3520 73rd St. and working as the treasurer for Sansone Musical Instruments (census) at #1658 Broadway (phone book).
- Home at #9713 31st Ave, Jackson Heights, Queens. Works at Julliard School of Music (draft). SMI makes the Empire series horn for supply to the military. His son Nick was running the business during the war and would bribe the horn testers to expedite shipment and increase profits. This resulted in lower quality and damaged Sansone's reputation. The single, 5-valve horn went out of popularity in favor of the double horn (Caluori).
- 1944 Home at 97-12 31st St., Jackson Heights (news article).

1945 ad



- 1946 Sansone Musical Instruments, #1658 Broadway (phone). Caesar LaMonaca starts working as a horn tester (Caluori).
- 1947 Sansone starts a private studio after leaving Julliard. His new Sansone trumpet is played by Conrad Gozzo.
- 1948 Sansone ad now includes a West Coast branch at Sansone Music Center, 5902 Sunset Blvd, Hollywood. The new Sansone trumpet is played by George Espozito of the Paul Whiteman Orchestra.
- 1955 Catalog below shows the #1658 address with a new added address at #549 W. 52nd St. His teaching is moved to his apartment in Queens (Caluori).



1942



1947

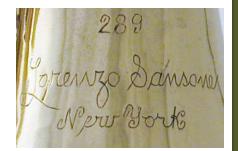


1956 The Roseland building, 1658 Broadway, is torn down.
549 West 52nd Street



- 1961 All copyrights are sold to Southern Music Co for \$9,500. Sansone is manufacturing 16 horn models and selling a complete line of brass (Caluori).
- 1975 Lorenzo dies in Queens on June 25th, age 94.
- 1986 Son Lawrence dies in LA.

Lawrence's son Robert reports that his final store was at 430 South Hill St in LA and that Lawrence played horn under contract with Republic Studios and freelanced. Nicholas stayed in New York.











Brass instruments found are mainly French horns with three to five valves, trumpets & cornets.

Instrument photos are from Horn-u-copia.net & online sales.

Undated factory photo

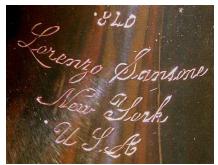


One undated catalog page shows four models of trumpets: Courtois made \$125, Kruspe made \$90, European "Professional" model \$75, and "La Tosca" model \$55





Some trumpets appear to be German stencils.









Trumpet #822 may be the "New Sansone Trumpet" model played by Conrad Gozzo in 1947 (auction photos).



CONRAD GOZZO

Ace Lead Trumpeter

TEX BENECKE and GLENN MILLER BANDS

formerly with Benny Goodman - Woody Herman Bands

USES HIS NEW

SANSONE TRUMPET

in all his Victor Recordings—Chesterfield Radio Hour—Motion Picture and Theatre work. Says Mr. Gozzo, "I use your new Sansone Trumpet exclusively because of its greater flexibility—carrying power, more powerful tone, greater brilliancy, and it stands up better under all types of playing conditions."

FOR THE ULTIMATE IN PERFORMANCE PLAY THE NEW SANSONE TRUMPET

PRICE \$160.00, Plus Tax and Case

Catalog on Request

SANSONE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, Inc.

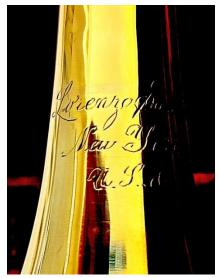
Musical Instrument Manufacturers

1658 BROADWAY
World's Largest French Horn House NEW YORK 19, N. Y.



This example appears to have been modified with a first slide saddle and non-matching bell braces. This has a 0.462" bore and a 4-7/8" bell. The case tag has the LA store so 1948 or later.





#733





#31479

