

# *Sonnet Scroll*

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## **The Cello in the Square**

By David Landon

*For the Musicians of Kyiv, Ukraine,  
with thanks to The New York Times.*

There's history as usual, of course,  
its story of some guy with testicles,  
of murderous contrivances of steel.

And yet today, front page, in the town square,  
a cello guy is bowing his resistance,  
ladies with violins to left and right,

the whole battalion—an orchestra most days—  
scattered strategically here and there,  
armed with their instruments in battle mode:

viola, tuba, oboe, trumpet, harp,  
formidably contrived from maple, spruce,  
zinc, copper, ebony, and—damn right!—steel.

I'm betting that there's magic in the cosmos.  
One day the cellos will un-tune the tanks.