Cataloguing Commission

Sessions, Naples, 2008

The Cataloguing Commission hosted one session at the conference in Naples.

The first paper was given by Cristina Magliano of the Istituto Centrale per il catalogo unico delle biblioteche italiane e per le Informazioni bibliografiche (ICCU) in Rome under the title: Cataloguing music in the Italian national library network SBN - a new guide. The paper outlined recent initiatives in Italian music cataloguing:

- the conversion of the SBN Musica central database into the SBN catalogue;
- the distribution of new national central services;
- the creation of an SBN protocol to facilitate online cataloguing of printed and manuscript music, sound recordings and libretti using specific music fields in UNIMARC.

The increase in shared cataloguing reinforced the requirement to conform with both national and international rules and standards. ICCU acted as a central co-ordinator for work from 2002 onward to revise the 1975 Italian RICA rules in collaboration with a music working group from IAML Italy. ICCU publishes various documents on its website relating to the new SBN protocol and definitions of UNIMARC tags for music materials. The structure of the new SBN guide for cataloguing music was described along with details of name access points and rules for music uniform titles.

The second paper: Digitizing and indexing Italian music periodicals (1800-1950) by Marco Capra (Istituzione Casa della Musica - CIRPeM, Parma) was delivered in his absence by Federica Biancheri from the same institution. This paper described a co-operative project involving the italian national Ministero per i Beni e le Attività Culturali, the local governament Istituzione Casa della Musica and the Centro Internazionale di Ricerca sui Periodici Musicali (CIRPeM) to digitize the collection of Italian music periodicals on paper and microfilm from the collection of the CIRPeM research centre, now held in La Casa della musica. The project concentrates initially on two specific topics: Giuseppe Verdi, and Arturo Toscanini and the myth of the conductor. Some 400,000 pages of Italian music periodicals will be digitized and stored with accompanying metadata to the standards and procedures of the Servizio Bibliotecario Nazionale and the Biblioteca Digitale Italiana. They are connected with a university research programme that examines critics in Italian musical life from 1900 to 1950. This paper will appear in a future issue of Fontes Artis Musicae.

The third presentation: The information subject gateway MUSica was given by Václav Kapsa (National Library of the Czech Republic, Prague). It described the way that the MUSica Subject Gateway (MUS) provides integrated access to information resources in the field of music and musicology. The gateway was created by a collaboration between the National Library of the Czech Republic and the Charles University in Prague, as part of a project to co-ordinate the
structure of several subject gateways such as the Czech Uniform Information Gateway and subject gateways for library and information science (KIV), art and architecture (ART) and sciences, technology and engineering (TECH), MUS takes advantage of the technologies MetaLib, SFX and Plone. The MUS subject gateway allows for parallel searching of specialized databases and library catalogues. The Quick Search menu requires the user to select the type of document required: sheet music, sound recordings, music literature or web resources. It also includes lists of available e-journals and a collection of relevant web links which can also be searched according to specified categories. The SFX link server facilitates finding documents or information related to them and/or their authors. The paper can be read online.

Elections were held at the end of the session with the following results for 2008-2011. Chair: Antony Gordon (British Library Sound Archive); Vice-Chair: David Sommerfield (USA); Secretary: Joseph Hafner (McGill University, Montreal).