



Association internationale des bibliothèques, archives et centres de documentation musicaux (AIBM)

International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML)

Internationale Vereinigung der Musikbibliotheken, Musikarchive und Musikdokumentationszentren (IVMB)

## Denmark, report 2008

On 31 December 2007, the Dansk Musikbiblioteks Forening (DMBF) had 165 members. That is a decline of approximately 15 percent compared to last year. The decline might be due to several factors. Firstly, the foundation of members has decreased and secondly there is a decline in the numbers of counties and fewer colleagues work exclusively with music in the public libraries. The decline of members is a challenge that the DMBF must respond to in 2008/2009.

In 2006 we decided to increase our publicity in the new counties. The goal was to distribute our membership periodical *Musikbib* to at least 95 of the new counties by 2007! Did we accomplish this challenge? Almost – currently we have distributed *Musikbib* to 88 counties.

### Waiting-time works – not at all!

The fight against waiting time for compact discs in the Danish libraries is still on the agenda for the DMBF. In 2007/2008 we have completed an investigation of the administration of the waiting time and this shows that the waiting time (to put it nicely) is being administrated very unevenly by the company in charge. In practice, the waiting time varies between four to fifteen months for a single publication before it is accessible in a library. That is simply not satisfactory.

The DMBF will discuss the conclusions and reactions to the investigation with other partners in Denmark and thereafter we will make an initiative to discuss the matter with the Danish Library Agency. During 2008 The Danish Union of Librarians will launch a substantial investigation of the consequences of the waiting-period – in light of the increasing amount of downloading of music on the Internet. Further information on our website [www.dmbf.nu](http://www.dmbf.nu).

### A broader concept for the DMBF?

In the majority of county libraries in Denmark, music is no longer a field of work in its own right but instead an integrated part of other fields and branches – often with ‘new’ materials such as films and computer games. The board has discussed whether this development should reflect the DMBF maybe in the shape of a broader concept for the branch. The board’s position is mainly positive. In the following time we will clarify the advantages and disadvantages of the idea and discuss it with the members.

### The Royal School of Library and Information Science

For the time being there is great interest in working with music at the Royal School of Library and Information Science. This applies to all levels – from first-year-students to candidates. Also the Library School in Aalborg is experiencing growing interest and for the first time in several years a separate music course has been established for ten students. During the coming years



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the DMBF will initiate closer contact with the students of the Royal School of Library and Information Science.

## **Courses**

In October 2007, we held a 2-day conference with an exciting programme. It took a lot of work to plan and conduct this arrangement but luckily we had a lot of support. There were many highlights and a substantial summary is available at *Musikbib* or via download:  
<http://www.iaml.dk/musikbib/temadage2007-ref.shtml>.

We are contemplating arranging a single theme day during the coming fall as well as considering new professional initiatives – both individually and in collaboration with the Royal School of Library and Information Science.

## **Musiskbib and www.DMBF.nu**

*Musikbib* is still a vibrant magazine with lots of exciting material and great layout. Further *Musikbib Online* has by far the most hits on [www.dmbf.nu](http://www.dmbf.nu) The magazine will be published in three issues in 2008. We work with shifting editors to divide the work equally between the members of the board. We have also discussed changing to electronic publication but no final conclusion has been reached yet. Therefore the magazine journal will in 2008 be published in traditional form on paper.

During the spring and summer/autumn of 2008 our website [www.dmbf.nu](http://www.dmbf.nu) will undergo an extensive upgrading – this will most likely also influence the collegial music mail-list, which is still with the most significant focal point in the music library debate in Denmark.

## **Economy**

The economy of the union is, as the accounts will show, still healthy but the coming years will propose vast challenges in the form of a decreasing number of members.

## **The International Collaboration of IAML Scandinavia**

In 2006 and 2007 the DMBF together with the Norwegian IAML have finished a number of proposals for changes in IAML's regulations and procedures concerning electronic publication of the Association's journal and the institution of electronic voting. It is high time that IAML is renewed if the interest and number of members are to be maintained and hopefully increased. All of the proposals are available at <http://dmbf.nu>. The proposals was discussed on the general assembly in Sydney 2007. My blog for Sydney is still available at <http://iamlsydney.blogspot.com/>. Conclusion: Two workgroups were appointed:



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1. concerning electronic publishing of the members' magazine *Fontes Artis Musicae*.
2. concerning electronic and more uniform voting procedures.

Both groups are currently working on preparing proposals for the general assembly in 2008 in Naples. The further process will be interesting to follow.

*Ole Bisbjerg*

*IAML (Denmark)*