

Report of the Russian group of IAML (2017 – 2018)

The year 2018 is significant for Russian music libraries, as this year marks the 20th anniversary of the Music Libraries Section of the Russian Library Association. In 1998, Emilia Rassina, who was the Director of the S.I. Taneyev Scientific Music Library of the Moscow State Conservatory at that time, initiated the establishment of the Section of Music Libraries in the Russian Library Association. Today, more than 30 Russian libraries of different sectors and from different regions of the country are regular participants in the Section. They include the Russian State Library, the National Library of Russia, the State Library for the Blind and Visually Impaired (St. Petersburg), the S.I. Taneyev Scientific Music Library of the Moscow State Conservatory, the Glinka National Museum Consortium of Musical Culture, the Scientific Music Library of the St. Petersburg Conservatory, the Scientific Library of the Voronezh State Academy of Arts, the Moscow State Institute of Culture, the Far Eastern State Academy of Arts, the M.I. Glinka Magnitogorsk State Conservatory (Academy), the Russian State TV and Radio Music Centre, amongst others.

The main milestones of the Section's development history and its partnerships with IAML can be found on the [website of the Russian Library Association](#).

This May, at the Russian Library Association Conference in Vladimir, there was a meeting of the Section of Music Libraries, where reports from specialists at several libraries described a wide range of activities. They discussed the problems of preservation of musical scores, gramophone records and discs; acquisition and service in both traditional and electronic environments; the development of electronic resources using their own collections as a basis; union catalogue projects; electronic collections; new methods of working with traditional materials and networking remote resources; and ways to attract young people to use library resources, etc. The main issues that caused heated discussions were mostly related to problems of copyright and related rights in musical scores, the problems of federal libraries in obtaining legal deposit copies, and violations by publishers in providing legal deposit copies to the Russian Book Chamber. They also discussed difficulties in providing the works of modern composers to performers, students and researchers, and the restrictions on using modern publications. Other issues discussed at the Section Meeting involved the international relationships of Russian music libraries, as well as their financing, provision of new premises for their growing collections, timely capital repairs of old buildings, and expansion of the staff with young musician-librarians. In conclusion, the meeting very much appreciated and acknowledged the importance of the Section of Music Libraries' support for regional music libraries, art departments of regional libraries, libraries of music universities and secondary education institutions.

Over the past year, Moscow music libraries continued to participate in the joint Russian-Polish project "Polish Music Sources in Moscow Libraries". In April 2018, within the framework of this project, the Russian State Library hosted Renata Suchowiejko's (Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland) lecture "Polish Music in the Russian State Library". There also was a [concert](#) of works by S. Moniuszko, M. Karłowicz, L. Różycki, F. Nowowiejski, K. Szymanowski and others, performed by Dmitry Grinikh (baritone) and Filipp Usov (piano). Especially for that lecture, the Russian State Library prepared an exhibition of works by Polish composers published in Russia in the late 19th century.

Among other important conferences of the past year in which the Section of Music Libraries took part, there are some that should be mentioned here, such as "The Romyantsev Readings" (held by the Russian State Library), "Russian Music Archives Abroad. Foreign Music Archives in Russia" (held by the Moscow Conservatory), "The Readings of the Manuscripts Department of the

Scientific Music Library of the St. Petersburg State Conservatory” (held by the St. Petersburg Conservatory), and others.

Music libraries did extensive work in the field of electronic resources creation. In 2017, the Russian State Library, being a moderator of the National Electronic Library, prepared [a collection dedicated to S.V. Rachmaninoff](#), for the 145th anniversary of his birth (1873—1943). The electronic collection includes valuable music publications, books about the composer, portraits, and photographs autographed by the composer, stored in the Russian State Library.

The effective performance of the National Electronic Library and its main objective of accessibility must be noted as well. Furthermore, any user of the National Electronic Library has the opportunity to actively participate in building the database of author’s training programs and visual master classes of leading music teachers and performers.

The Russian library community held meetings to discuss changing the law on electronic legal deposit copy. The essence of the proposed change is that publishers should provide one copy of printed publications in electronic form, certified by electronic signature, to TASS and the Russian State Library for permanent storage, the second copy (in printed form) should also be sent to the Russian State Library. This also applies to music publications. The question of whether libraries’ visitors should use the electronic legal deposit copy is still open.

The Section of Music Libraries of the Russian Library Association continues to develop the “Union Catalogue of Russian Music Publications of the Period from the 18th Century to 1931”. In 2017 in Saint Petersburg, the Publishing House of the National Library of Russia issued the fourth volume of this catalogue, which included the publications issued in the territories of the countries that were part of the Russian State in the 18th and early 19th centuries. The catalogue is intended for use by historians of culture, musicologists and performers.

Alla Semenyuk (Chairperson of the Group)

Russian State Library