

## **Sweden / Sverige National Report 2019**

### **Advocating for music in the national library strategy**

After IAML's Congress in Leipzig the activities of the Swedish Branch focussed on advocating for music in public libraries in connection with the proposal for a national library strategy that was handed over to the government in March 2019. In spite of many efforts on several fronts the result was meagre: five sentences in a document of thirty-six pages dealt with music in libraries. We will continue to lobby, and the next step is a meeting with the Minister for Culture.

### **Swedish musical heritage – a one-day conference at the Royal Swedish Academy of Music**

2018 was the European Year of Cultural Heritage and the Swedish musical heritage was the theme of a one-day conference that took place at the Royal Swedish Academy of Music in Stockholm in November. The conference was a joint arrangement between the Swedish IAML Branch and the Academy. Around sixty music librarians and archivists from different sectors attended the meeting. Among the attendees were guests from the Royal Danish Library and the University of Copenhagen. One of the items on the programme was a panel discussion about digitization with representatives from different libraries.

### **The annual meeting with study visits, updates on RDA and a presentation with workshop on Libris XL**

The annual meeting in April took place at the National Library of Sweden in Stockholm. It was according to tradition combined with a couple of days devoted to further training of the members. The first day included visits to two very different types of museums: the Nydahl Collection, founded in 1920 with a rich collection of instruments and valuable manuscripts, and the newly inaugurated Swedish Museum of Performing Arts, with visitor participation as the point of departure. In the evening we enjoyed a dinner together. The second day dealt with RDA and the new cataloguing system Libris XL. Olle Johansson, a member of our branch and a leading expert on RDA in Sweden, updated us on the developments together with his colleague at the National Library, Katarina Synnermark. The new cataloguing system was introduced in June 2018. The colleagues at the Music and Theatre Library of Sweden did a heroic work to adjust the system for music. Our thanks go to Elisabet Andersson, Susanne Haglund and Pär Johansson from the Music and Theatre Library.

### **Application to UNESCO about an International Day of Music Libraries and Archives**

The Chair of the Swedish Branch, Pia Shekhter, initiated and formulated an application to UNESCO about an International Day of Music Libraries and Archives. The application, supported by the Advocacy Committee, the Forum of National Representatives and the IAML Board, was submitted in March.

She has also contributed to the work of the Outreach Committee and the Advocacy Committee during the year, formulating templates and statements.

### **100th anniversary of the Swedish Society of Composers**

Pia Shekhter and the past Chair of the Swedish IAML Branch, Lena Nettelbladt, attended the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Swedish Society of Composers that took place at the newly rebuilt Royal College of Music in Stockholm. A summary of the festive event can be found on IAML's website.

## **Associations World Congress in Gothenburg**

Pia Shekhter attended the Associations World Congress & Expo in April, as a stand-in for the Secretary General Anders Cato. The Congress conveniently took place in Gothenburg where she lives. A report is available on IAML's website.

## **Some facts about the Swedish IAML Branch**

In spite of the worldwide tendency of falling membership in organizations, the number of members in Sweden has thankfully been more or less steady for many years. We have 113 members – 73 individual (including 14 veterans and students) and 40 institutional. Veterans and students have a reduced membership fee, that does not include membership in "big IAML". Our branch has for many years had the fortune to be funded by the Swedish Arts Council. This enables us to subsidize the membership fee.

The Board consists of eight members:

- Pia Shekhter (Gothenburg University Library), Chair;
- Niklas Bogren Persson (Göteborg City Library), Vice Chair
- Kia Hedell (Uppsala University Library), Secretary,
- Besa Spahiu (Music and Theatre Library of Sweden), Treasurer

Members at large

- Tobias Danielsson (Music and Theatre Library of Sweden)
- Johanna Grut (Svensk Musik)
- Staffan Lundmark (retired archivist)
- Yvonne Suopanki-Lakso (the School of Music at the Luleå University of Technology)

Three Board meetings were held during the year.

"Musikgruppen" ("the Music Group") formally does not belong to our Branch, but there are strong connections. It deals with matters concerning music cataloguing and bibliography. The Music and Theatre Library of Sweden is responsible for the group, which consists of thirteen members with Susanne Haglund as the Chair. The group had three meetings and the protocols are published on our website.

The annual stipend of 10 000 SEK for attending the international congress was given to Sebastian Lindblom, Music and Theatre Library of Sweden. The recipient of Anders Lönn's travel grant was Niklas Bogren Persson (Göteborg City Library).

The much-appreciated membership journal "Musikbiblioteksnytt" was published with three issues (one of which a double issue), edited by Gunnel Jönsson and Tobias Danielsson. Pdf version are published on our website and on the page of the Swedish branch on the IAML website. From 2018 Musikbiblioteksnytt is included in Music Index with Full Text. The website is managed by our webmaster Ove Wahlqvist. Besides from reports and articles in the journal and on the website, members share news on our discussion list Musikbiblioteksforum (119 subscribers) and the Facebook page (65 members).

After eight years of service on the Board our secretary Kia Hedell, Uppsala University Library, finished her duties. The new secretary is Anette Lindström, Umeå Public Library. Our new Vice President is Johanna Grut.

## **Swedish branch representatives at the international level**

Pia Shekhter, finished her term as Secretary General of IAML at the Congress in Leipzig, after eight years in service. The role was handed over to another long-term member of the Swedish IAML Branch: Anders Cato, Palaces and Culture Agency in Copenhagen.

Niklas Bogren Persson, Göteborg City Library, was Secretary of the Public Libraries Section.

Kia Hedell, Uppsala University Library, and Marina Demina, Music and Theatre Library of Sweden, were the Swedish representatives in the RISM Committee. Kerstin Carpvik and Ann-Christine Olsson from the Music and Theatre Library of Sweden and Lena Nettelblatt, Stockholm University of the Arts, were the representatives in the RILM Committee.

In his capacity of archivist at the Music and Theatre Library of Sweden Sebastian Lindblom is responsible for IAML:s archive, which is kept in the library depot.

*Compiled by Pia Shekhter, Chair of the Swedish IAML Branch (Svenska musikbiblioteksforeningen)*



Board members from left to right: Johanna Grut, Gunnel Jönsson (Musikbiblioteksnytt editor), Tobias Danielsson, Pia Shekhter, Staffan Lundmark and Yvonne Suopanki-Lakso.



Swedish IAML Branch. Dinner company