

Belgium / België / Belgique

Belgian Federal institutions and Belgian French-speaking institutions or members
Submitted by Marie Cornaz (Royal Library, Brussels)

Membership

In June 2021, the Belgian Federal institutions being IAML members are: the Royal Library of Belgium and the Musical Instruments Museum (MIM). The Belgian French-speaking institutions are: the research centre 'Musiques & Recherches', the conservatories of Brussels, Mons, and Liège, as well as Brussels, Louvain and Liège universities.

Acquisitions

In 2020-2021, the [Royal Library of Belgium](#) had the opportunity to enrich its music collections with documents and scores by Debussy, Ysaÿe, Franck and Gaston Knosp, as well as to acquire a new collection dedicated to the Belgian composer Elias Gistelincx (1935-2005).

The library of the Royal Conservatory of Mons received the donation of the family Visart de Bocarmé, while the library of the Royal Conservatory of Liège acquired an important collection from the Walloon city of Spa. Some Italian printed libretti as well as autograph scores by Belgian composers joined the collections of the Royal Conservatory of Brussels.

Digitization

In 2020-2021, the Royal Library of Belgium continued its running digitization projects concerning music, with new references from the Fétis and Ysaÿe collections as well as from his sound archives.

The Royal Conservatories of Brussels and Liège also continued their digitization projects, according to the researchers' and musicians' requests. The Musical Instruments Museum (MIM) digitized some plans of instruments.

Cataloging

In 2020-2021, Musiques & Recherches continued to describe new works and publications into the database [Électrodoc](#). This database includes books, periodicals, electro-acoustic works, and audio-visual formats. The library of the Royal Conservatories of Brussels continued to encode new descriptions (retro and new acquisitions) visible through the [online catalog](#), having doubled the number of descriptions in 5 years. The Musical Instruments Museum (MIM) library continued to use Limo (LIBISnet) for cataloging, while the Royal conservatories of Liège and Mons continued to encode documents through PMB.

Projects

To promote their musical heritage, the Royal Conservatory of Brussels and the Royal Library of Belgium organised concerts, conferences and exhibitions presenting musical sources kept on their shelves; due to the covid-19 crisis, some concerts have to be postponed; the Royal Conservatory of Brussels celebrated Beethoven with an online symposium Beethoven 250 in November 2020 and has started its collaboration with the European project ERC DIDONE, dedicated on arias from 18th century Italian operas.

Publications

In 2020, some publications were dedicated to Belgian figures. The Royal Conservatory of Brussels participated to the publication of the Trio opus 90 by Raymond Chevreuille (Da_sh Editions). Fauve Bougard, researcher at the LaM ([Laboratoire de musicologie – ULB](#)) published a book on the violinist, pianist and composer Juliette Folville (Cahiers de l'UF).

RILM and RISM

The Music Division of the Royal Library is the Belgian seat for the international RILM and RISM projects. On a regular basis, the team adds Belgian publications to the international database of music literature. Since 2012 it also resumed the encoding of descriptions in RISM, using the database software Kallisto and then Muscat.