

Belgium / België / Belgique (Belgian Federal institutions and Belgian French-speaking institutions or members)

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Membership

In June 2022, 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-la-Neuve and Liège universities

Acquisitions

In 2021-2022, the [Royal Library of Belgium](#) had the opportunity to enrich its music collections with documents and scores by Vieuxtemps, Franck (Messe in A major, 1860 version), Philippe Boesmans (1936-2022) and Pierre Bartholomée (1937-) as well as to acquire a new collection dedicated to the French speaking chanson (Roger Nitelet collection, 40 000 scores) and to receive in deposit from the King Baudouin Foundation the archives of the Belgian violinist Arthur Grumiaux (1921-1986), comprising annotated scores, letters, photographs, books and sound archives.

The library of the Royal Conservatory of Liège acquired the archives of the Belgian musicologist and librarian Maurice Barthélemy (1925-2004). Some precious prints, letters and affiches as well as the archives of the Belgian composer Paul-Baudouin Michel (1930-2020) joined the collections of the library of the Royal Conservatories of Brussels.

Digitization

In 2021-2022, the Royal Library of Belgium continued its running digitization projects concerning music, with new references from the Fétis, Vieuxtemps, Ysaÿe and Toots Thielemans 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) is also involved in a program of digitization.

Cataloging

In 2021-2022, Musiques & Recherches continued to describe new works and publications into the [database Électrodoc](#). This database, including books, periodicals, electro-acoustic works, and audio-visual formats, is in a process of improving. 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 participated to edited scores and organised concerts, conferences and exhibitions presenting musical sources kept on their shelves; the Royal Conservatory of Brussels collaborated within a project highlighting the 18th century religious music collection of the Brussels Sainte-Gudule church (with the Louvain-la-Neuve university). The Royal Library of Belgium in partnership with the Musical Instruments Museum (MIM) organized the exhibition "Toots 100. The sound of a Belgian Legend" (April-August 2022) in order to highlight the archives of the Belgian jazz musician and composer Toots Thielemans; some concerts and an

international congress were planned during this event. The LaM ([Laboratoire de musicologie – ULB](#)), organized different conferences evoking the music libraries and their collections, some of them in collaboration with the Belgian branch of the International Council for Traditional Music (ICTM-Belgium).

Publications

In 2021-2022, some publications were dedicated to Belgian figures and their archives and libraries; amongst these, Mélanie de Montpellier d'Annevoie and Joanna Staruch-Smolec published articles on the library of the Belgian musician Eugène Ysaÿe (2021 issue of the review *Textyles*).

RILM and RISM contributions

The Music Division of the Royal Library is the Belgian seat for the international RILM and RISM projects and participates actively by encoding new publications and descriptions.