

## Greece / Ελλάδα

Submitted by: *Arsinoi Ioannidou – Vice President*

### National board members

- Aris Bazmadelis – Music Librarian, Faculty, Library of the School of Music Studies, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki – President
- Dr. Arsinoi Ioannidou – Musicologist / Music Librarian, RISM Greek Office, Athens – Vice President
- Myrto Economides – Musicologist, Head of the "Manolis Kalomiris" Society Archive – Secretary
- Dr. Stella Kourmpana – Theatrolgist / Musicologist, Curator of the Athens Conservatoire Archives – Treasurer
- Sofia Tsopani – Librarian / Library of the School of Music Studies, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, member (since 2021)

### Board meetings held during the year

Board meetings took place from July 2021 until June 2022. All Board members were present via Zoom.

### Annual branch meetings

The annual meeting took place via Zoom on June 22 2022.

### Branch membership figures

The Greek Branch has 13 individual members and 13 institutional ones (June 2022).

### Branch activities

**Conference:** The fourth annual conference of the Greek Branch of IAML took place online via zoom rooms in December 3-4 2021.

We had the honor of hosting the President of IAML, Mrs. Pia Shekhter, to preface our Congress. It was indeed a successful event which included 22 presentations and attracted 68 and 40 participants in attendance on each day respectively.

The conference main categories were:

#### **Presentation of music archives**

This category includes all those presentations that introduced the hitherto unknown-to-the-broad-audience music archives, hosted in institutional and private collections. The purpose of including this category on the Congress's program was to be informed about existing music archives in Greece and promote collaborations and actions among the holders for the benefit of the music material.

#### **Projection and promotion of music archives**

The presentations under this category included the different actions and activities of holders of music archives such as, exhibitions, concerts and other events based on the archival material with the purpose to project and engage the audience with its contents.

## **Organization, processing, and creation of infrastructure of music archives**

Through these presentations, as well as, the valuable discussions that followed them, we got acquainted with the best practices in the field of organizing, processing and documenting music archives, and the creation of infrastructures such as repositories and indexes. The promising outcome of these sessions was the exchange of expertise and cooperation among the institutions.

## **Utilization and usefulness of music archives**

In this category we attended presentations that showed how, through the proper organization, processing and documentation of a music archive, the latter becomes, by all means, a vital educational tool of all scholarly levels and an indispensable aid to musicological research.

## **Synergy of the disciplines of musicology and librarianship**

By taking into account that in Greece there is no systematic education for music librarians, the focal point of these presentations was the offering of music archival courses as electives in music studies programs in academia. This initiative is a rare attempt of granting to music students a hands-on and invigorating learning experience focusing on the way in which a music archive is created, organized and processed.

## **Branch Working Group Projects**

### **Access to Music Archives Working Group**

(Coordinators and members: Stephanie Merakos, Aris Bazmadelis, Maria Aslanidi, Valia Vraka, Arsinoi Ioannidou, Sofia Kontossi, Vassilis Mitropoulos, Costas Moschos, Myrto Economides and Artemis Papadaki.)

After processing the data of the questionnaires, sent in the previous two years, for tracking any music archives and collections in Greece, the creation of the database, as well as one google map with data integration, followed quality control with corrections, updates, etc. and integration of new data, which came from questionnaire replies. The second questionnaire was drafted by members of the Group for the purpose of locating music archives on entities other than libraries, was sent to 28 institutions/ individuals of which only two responded and results were embedded in the map. Emails were repeatedly sent to agencies, libraries and files for updates on music collections data. The operation of the map, will be announced at the Academic Libraries mailing list, the Hellenic Musicological Society and other relevant bodies.

### **Branch Educational Working Group**

(Coordinators and members: Ilias Kyriazis, Dr Arsinoi Ioannidou, Prof. Irmgard Lerch Kalavrytinou, Sandy Tzagkaraki, Dr. Maria Aslanidi).

For the year 6/2021-6/2022 the Educational WG continued its activities, publishing more technical guides and online seminars and presentations. More specifically:

- 16/7: Publication of Technical Report/Guide no.4 titled "Music Reference Resources"
- 22/10: Seminar designed and presented at the Annual Congress of Academic Libraries by Ilias Kyriazis titled "Music libraries: from Traditional Librarianship to Digital Management of Music Information".
- 30/6/22: New guide titled "Survey and Processing Plan Workshee: a valuable tool tailored exclusively to the needs of the Greek archivists".

### **IAML-GR Archive**

The Board has appointed Mrs Vassiliki Papachatzopoulou as the Branch's archivist, of IAML-Gr Archive, in order to document the activities of the Branch and preserve its historical course of action.

## **Branch website**

The official webpage <http://iamlgreece.eu/> is active and contains all types of information regarding the Branch's activities, as well as the accomplishments of its respective Working Groups. In addition, due to the non-existent professional status of Music Librarianship in Greece, the Board members decided to add some advocacy content to the website, to promote awareness about our field. Additionally, the google map

application enriched with the data selected by the Working Group Access to Music Archives is implemented highlighting the location of libraries with music collections.

### **Social media activity**

The Facebook (Group) page has over 500 members

### **Advocacy and recruitment**

Branch Advocacy Working Group: (Coordinators and members: Dr Arsinoi Ioannidou, Dr Maria Aslanidi, Aris Bazmadelis).

The newly established WG was formed in June 2021 with the aim of raising public awareness regarding the value of music libraries and archives in society and working for the development of synergies and collaborations with other institutions with the purpose of the recognition of the speciality of professional music librarian and its necessity. The initiatives of the WG can be summarized below:

- Collection of supporting letters from IAML
- Composition of essays on the validity of the professional music librarian and the necessity of its recognition
- Organization of round tables titled "Music Librarianship: Higher Education and Vocational Rights: Actions and Synergies" (To be announced)
- Close collaboration with the Association of Greek Librarians and Information Scientists (AGLIS) to create job descriptions for music librarians and archivists and synergies with the same institution for the creation of letters of support and petitions in social media and other channels of communications for the vocational rights of the librarians in general and the music librarians in particular.

### **RILM and RISM contributions**

Members of the Greek Branch are also members of the Greek RILM and RISM Committees. The Greek RISM Office (Dr. Arsinoi Ioannidou, Dr. Maria Aslanidi and Aris Bazmadelis) worked on a pilot project on the update of RISM Series C directory of music holding institutions, in collaboration with the RISM Zentralredaktion in Frankfurt under the auspices of the Archives and Music Documentation Centres. The Project Group also worked with the Zentralredaktion to optimize Muscat in order to follow current trends in music cataloging of music in and out of Western Canon.

### **Additional comments**

#### **Collaborations with Other Agencies**

The Board of the Branch continues to work closely with the Association of Greek Librarians and Information Scientists (AGLIS) and the Hellenic Academic Libraries Cooperative Scheme (HAMLIB). This collaboration is focusing on various issues in relation to the working rights of the library professionals and the way of processing and describing musical material in Greek Libraries according to current International standards.