

## Germany / Deutschland

*Submitted by Ruprecht Langer – President*

### National board members

- President – Ruprecht Langer – Deutsches Musikarchiv, Leipzig
- Vice President – Cornelia Schöntube – Staatliches Institut für Musikforschung, Berlin
- Secretary – Martin Blank – Musikhochschule Lübeck
- Treasurer – Dr. Jutta Lambrecht – Bornheim-Sechtem

### Board meetings held during the year

Following the election of a new board at the 2024 national conference, an increased number of meetings were held to establish necessary workflows and organize this year's conference. Between June 2024 and June 2025, the board convened for sixteen video conferences on the following dates: 01.07., 30.09., 07.10., 04.11., 28.11., 16.12.2024; 07.01., 23.01., 12.02., 17.03., 14.04., 24.04., 19.05., 20.05., 16.06., 17.06.2025. In addition, two in-person meetings took place: on 20.09.2024 in Frankfurt/Main and on 20.01.2025 in Dresden, the latter held jointly with the local committee of the 2025 annual meeting.

### Annual branch meetings

From 17–20 September 2024, the German national annual conference took place at the German National Library in Frankfurt/Main, with 142 in-person and 23 online participants. Sincere thanks go to the many colleagues involved in local organization, as well as to the German National Library for their flexibility in providing additional conference rooms at short notice due to last-minute changes.

The branch's general assembly was held on Friday, 20 September 2024.

### Branch membership figures

As of June 2025, the German national branch of IAML has 218 members (163 institutional and 55 individual).

The total number of members is consistent.

### Deaths of notable members

Joachim Jaenecke died 11 December 2024. His obituary statement will be read during IAML's conference in Salzburg.

### Branch activities

The reporting year began with the international IAML conference held from 23–28 June 2024 in Stellenbosch, which was attended by numerous members of the German national branch, several of whom held official positions.

The German national branch has four working groups, corresponding to the international “professional branches,” as well as two commissions. Each group holds a 2–3 hour session during the annual meeting.

The development of the Specialised Information Service for Musicology – musiconn – is monitored by the Advisory Board of the FID Musikwissenschaft. The German IAML branch has been represented on this board by Paul Haas since 2018. On 6–7 March 2025, Paul Haas participated in the board's meeting, where updates on the project's progress were presented.

Since autumn 2020, the National Research Data Infrastructure for Culture (NFDI4Culture) has received funding. In August 2024, Paul Haas signed a letter of commitment on behalf of IAML Germany, pledging to contribute expertise in music bibliography, documentation, and library science. This includes promoting open access to music-related publications and documents, developing cataloguing standards, and supporting librarian training. Paul Haas will participate regularly in the meetings and decision-making processes of the NFDI4Culture Steering Board (CSB). Close collaboration was established through a series of articles in Forum Musikbibliothek and the regular presence of NFDI4Culture staff at the IAML Germany annual conferences.

The Vice President participated in a virtual meeting of the NFDI4Culture on 8 November 2024. The meeting focused on the extension of DFG funding and the selection of projects within the framework of the so-called Flex Funds.

IAML Germany is also represented by Prof. Dr. Manuel Bärwald in the Training & Education section and by Jürgen Diet in the (Meta)data Terminologies and Provenance section NFDI4Culture.

The Vice President attended the Conference on "Music and Health" on Friday 18 October 2024 (virtual) and the General Assembly of the German Music Council in Berlin on Saturday 19 October 2024 (in person). In addition to strengthening musical life, a special focus in 2025 will be on the topic "Music and Democracy".

Several IAML Germany members represent their respective State Music Councils and will provide updates on cultural policy developments during the 2025 general assembly in Dresden. Engagement extends to other bodies including the Association of German Music Schools, the Federal Association of Music Teaching, the Association of Music Research, the German Library Association, the Network of Green Libraries, IASA (national and international), and others.

The annual spring meeting of the Working Group of Music University Libraries took place on March 13–14, 2025, in Nuremberg. Guided by the central question "What role do libraries play in the (further) development of music universities?", the conference focused on three main areas:

- Digitalization, with special attention to artificial intelligence (AI), open access/education/research, and electronic resources;
- Libraries as spaces for teaching and learning; and
- Libraries as venues for political and democratic education.

Two members of IAML, Dr. Martina Rebmann and Dr. Jutta Lambrecht, represent IAML at the German Music Council. Dr. Rebmann is a member of the advisory board of the Musikinformationszentrum (Music Information Center; MIZ), Dr. Lambrecht represents IAML at the National Media Committee.

The close cooperation with the state music council of Berlin was continued. In the monthly newsletter of the Landesmusikrat Berlin, Susanne Hein coordinates and delivers reporting values in the section "News from the member associations". In addition, she writes music book recommendations for current new releases in each newsletter.

## **Branch publications**

The German IAML national branch publishes [Forum Musikbibliothek](#), a journal issued three times a year by ortus-Musikverlag. With a twelve-month moving wall, all issues from 2012 onwards are freely accessible online alongside the printed edition. The Austrian and Swiss national groups also contribute.

The editorial team includes Susanne Hein and Dina Heß, with Dr. Joachim Lüdtke serving as editor. An advisory board includes the Vice President of German IAML. In addition to a wide range of articles, the journal also offers valuable space for reports on the IAML international and national conference (in this case Salzburg and Dresden).

## **Branch website**

The [IAML Germany website](#) prominently features announcements for the annual meetings in Salzburg and Dresden.

## **Social media activity**

Due to Elon Musk's public support for Germany's right-wing extremist AfD party and his efforts to influence federal elections, over 60 German universities and several cultural institutions have distanced themselves

from "X" (formerly Twitter). IAML Germany has never maintained its own account on any microblogging platform but traditionally linked to the international IAML account. In February 2025, these links were removed. Instead, IAML Germany created accounts on Bluesky ("IAML Ländergruppe Deutschland") and Mastodon ("IAML\_D@openbiblio.social").

The national board also contacted the IAML international board, recommending a withdrawal from X. The board was pleased to receive a prompt and positive response from IAML's president, confirming that these concerns are shared and that the Publications Committee has been tasked with discontinuing posts on X and identifying a suitable alternative platform.

### **RILM and RISM contributions**

IAML Germany lists its cooperation partners in a dedicated section of its website.

RISM: Contributions include ongoing work by the RISM working groups in Dresden and Munich, along with submissions from other institutions, including metadata and digital links.

RILM: The [German RILM editorial office](#) at the State Institute for Music Research regularly submits newly published monographs and content from approximately 80 periodicals.

### **Additional comments**

Involvement in IAML (international)

- Jürgen Diet (Vice President)
- Ruprecht Langer (Chair of the Research Libraries Section and chair of the National Libraries Study Group)



Picture caption and credits: The new board was elected during IAML Germany's annual meeting in Frankfurt/Main, 20 September 2024. From left to right: Martin Blank, Cornelia Schöntube, Ruprecht Langer (missing: Dr. Jutta Lambrecht). Foto: Josephine Kreutzer, DNB