

Working Group on Access to Music Archives

Work carried out in the 2014-2017 term

In 2014 the AMA-WG decided to concentrate on updating RISM series C: the directory of research libraries, in order to get the information about single institutions that are listed in this directory up-to-date. The new directory will be online and we think it will be a very useful tool with information about each institution and links to their websites.

We have had the support and help of RISM Central Office in Frankfurt. The update framework was discussed with the technical team at RISM, with much work concentrated on mapping of fields in the previous version of the Directory of Institutions against the MARC Authorities format whilst adhering to the ISDIAH archival rules.

- A reference manual for the new Directory of RISM-C has been written.
- AMA-WG has updated the Archives pages on the IAML website, building on the outstanding work of former IAML Archivist Inger Enquist (<http://www.iaml.info/archive-school>).
- AMA-WG has promoted knowledge of music fonds all over the world, showing projects established in Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom and Ireland (<http://www.iaml.info/access-music-archives-related-projects>).

Members of the AMA-WG have travelled widely to encourage work with Music archives, particularly in Latin America: Primeras Jornadas de Capacitación para Archivos Musicales y Sonoros organized by the National Library of Chile held in Santiago de Chile (2014); Encuentro de Entidades Documentales de la Música, organized by the Music Documentation Centre of the National Library of Colombia, in Bogota (2015). Information from Argentina and Cuba has also been received (2016).

In 2017 the Greek Branch of IAML announced the creation of a working group for Access to Music Archives. We have also had contacts with Taiwan Music Institute.

At the Riga Congress the Group discussed and approved starting the process of becoming a permanent IAML Study Group, with the following initial proposal for its Terms of Reference:

The Access to Music Archives Study Group works on the visibility of music archives and collections and on national initiatives and projects related to describing holding institutions and their holdings. It promotes and encourages the development of guides of fonds and collections related to music, and of music directories, using descriptions at a fonds level. Tools concerning the archival approach are created and disseminated by the group. The Study Group coordinates the ongoing work of updating the RISM-C directory of music holding institutions, in collaboration with RISM Zentralredaktion in Frankfurt. The work of this Study Group is overseen by the Archives and Music Documentation Centres Section.