



Association internationale des bibliothèques, archives et centres de documentation musicaux (AIBM)

International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML)

Internationale Vereinigung der Musikbibliotheken, Musikarchive und Musikdokumentationszentren (IVMB)

Working Group on Access to Performance Ephemera Meeting, 2008

22 July 2008, 16.00

The Concert Programmes Project and its future direction was the main topic of discussion at the Working Group's meeting in Naples on 22 July 2008. Phase 1 of the project was completed in October 2007, the result of three years' work at the Royal College of Music in London and Cardiff University to produce a detailed overview of programme collections held in the UK and Ireland, thereby improving access to a largely untapped body of research material. Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the project has produced an online database, available free of charge at www.concertprogrammes.org.uk. The database contains 5,525 descriptions of programme collections held by 52 libraries, archives and museums in the UK and Ireland, revealing the wide range and depth of institutional holdings, with material relating to concerts given in 80 countries worldwide and dating from 1690 to the present day. The index of personal and corporate names has over 27,000 entries and users can also browse a spatial tree to help locate concert venues. The data is fully open to web harvesting, with the result that many users are finding the site via keyword searches on google and other web browsers.

The second phase of the project is now being planned and will involve the creation of an international network of scholars, librarians and others working in the field of performance history to consider a variety of issues around the question of describing programmes at item level. Funding is being sought for this phase of the project, which is being planned as a series of workshops over an eighteen-month period from summer 2009, led by Prof. Paul Banks (Royal College of Music). If the funding bid is successful, it is envisaged that the Working Group will play a leading role in these discussions, starting with meetings planned for the IAML conference in Amsterdam. To help facilitate this collaboration, Paul Banks has kindly agreed to be nominated as co-Chair of the Working Group (for consideration at the Council meeting in 2009). In preparation, the group is compiling a list of projects in the field of performance history research, to be made available via the IAML website.