

IAML Study Group on Access to Performance Ephemera

Mid-year report Spring 2019

Following the meetings in Leipzig, group members have reviewed online resources and projects on the IAML website, and updated the website pages with projects currently in progress and databases of performance ephemera. It continues to keep a watching brief on developments in access to ephemera, examples of which are briefly outlined below.

Funded by the German Research Foundation, SLUB Dresden has now launched a crowdsourcing facility on its website musiconn.performance, which serves as a central starting point for all research questions concerning musical events. The project is asking the public to contribute information about the concert programmes of the Frankfurter Museums-Gesellschaft (over 4,000 programmes) to identify works and performers and make the content of the digitized programmes searchable. The URL is <https://www.slub-dresden.de/sammlungen/musik/musik-spezialthemen/frankfurter-museums-gesellschaft/>

In the UK the National Brass Band Archive has been moved to the custody of Brass Bands England; as well as a library of performance sets, the archive includes programmes, photographs, ephemera and memorabilia relating to the British Open Brass Band Championships and its forerunners.

New records continue to be added to the Concert Programmes Project database of programmes in the UK & Ireland (<http://www.concertprogrammes.org.uk/>). Programmes from the Rubbra archive at the Bodleian Library are among recent additions, and libraries have the facility to add records directly to the database.

In Oxford, the Bodleian Library's John Johnson Collection has digitized a representative group of concert ephemera including tickets, newspaper cuttings and playbills, which are now available on its website <https://digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/>

The Royal Academy of Music in London has undertaken a digitization project in its Museum and Archives department, to make available a range of materials, in particular early programmes and playbills of the McCann collection, which includes a variety of ephemeral items from ca.1830-1997 (<https://www.ram.ac.uk/museum/collections/performers-collections-and-archives/mccann-collection>).

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