



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)

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There is a clear inconsistency between the topics concerning music documentation in the working field of the libraries and those appearing in the press. For this last the main topic is without any doubt copyright, especially the downloading phenomenon. The fields of action in the music libraries are not focusing the copyright issues but musical heritage and digitization.

Resonant, a centre for musical heritage, completed a top ranking list of music in Flanders. The purpose of that list is to keep the mentioned documents of indispensable interest in the country and to provide for them also conservation and restoration means.

The same centre organized in collaboration with the Nederlands Muziekinstituut a meeting presenting the best practices in musical heritage.

The purpose is to publish a manual or guidelines for musical heritage.

OKBV, the Art Libraries Association, which covers visual and performing arts libraries, started a platform for digital exchange, called “Dublin core is meer dan genoeg” or translated “Dublin Core is more than enough”. The name of the project demonstrates the targets as well.

Some digitization projects just started. The Royal Library has a project called “Belgica” in which there is also a section devoted to music. SVM, the Flemish Music Institution, put about 150 scores free on line as a first step in a larger project. DIVA, a project from the Flemish Broadcasting Company, will digitize 20.000 hours of audio and video; there are 350 hours of prestigious music recordings.

VVBAD, the general Library Association, organized a meeting about “Libraries and their buildings”. A second session focused on the special needs of art and music libraries. A promising meeting, organized by two cultural heritage institutions, resulted in the establishment of a working group on music inventory. The purpose is to create a federated search possibility that will give access to the music collections of the more than 30 participants.

A survey of last year showed that 50% of all Belgian IAML-members prefer to have an electronic newsletter. By the creation of a blog: www.baml-iaml.blogspot.com, it is hoped that this free tool will function as the needed communication platform and will stimulate the dialogue between the different cultural communities in Belgium.

Johann Eeckeloo

Koninklijk Conservatorium Brussel Bibliotheek, Belgium