



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)

Belgium, report 2012

Acquisitions

In June 2011, the King Baudouin Fondation bought for the Royal Library (www.kbr.be), an exceptional set of music manuscripts by the Belgian composer and violinist Henry Vieuxtemps (1820-1881). The collection contains more than twenty autographs, including the world famous *Cinquième concerto pour violon*. Thanks to this acquisition, the Royal Library has become the world's most important preservation centre of Vieuxtemps' compositions.

In October 2011, the Music Department bought the Collection Eric Mathot. It contains more than 40,000 titles of orchestral material and 2,000 scores of jazz, chanson and popular music from the first half of the 20th century. These latter scores are notable for their illustrated covers. Mathot collected music editions from Belgium, Western Europe, and North and South America. The collection is completed with the addition of 78-rpm records, photographs, and commercial catalogues.

Digitization

The Royal Library's Digitization Department, which was established in 2011, started its activities with an interesting music digitization program. At first, the Department digitised the very well-known Belgian music journal *Le Guide musical* (1855-1917), followed by the yearbooks of the Brussels Conservatory, the *Annuaire du Conservatoire royal de musique de Bruxelles* (1877-1981). Inside the library, a full text search interface gives access to these collections.

Furthermore, 250 documents, such as printed books and illustrated music sheets, form from the Music Department of the Royal Library, have been digitised within the European project *Europeana Collections 1914-1918*. This selection will be available very soon on the Europeana website.

Publications

Matrix, a documentation centre for new music, published an inventory of Flemish Chamber Music composed since 1950. The publication contains a historical overview of the genre as well as a discussion of selected works. Its website is www.matrix-new-music.be.

Resonant, the Flemish expertise centre for musical heritage, published the final report of the research project *Jazz heritage in Flanders and Brussels*. The report, written in Dutch, is available on the internet for no charge: www.resonant.be. Resonant is also working on archival care guidelines for composers and carilloneurs. The guidelines will be published as brochures and online.



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Musical heritage

In December 2011, the ‘lost’ autograph score of the opera *L’Officier de fortune* by Grétry was discovered in the Grétry Museum in Liège.

The library of the Royal Conservatory of Ghent, <http://cons.hogent.be>, participated in the commemoration activities of the Belgian author Maurice Maeterlinck (1862-1949), well-known as the librettist of *Pelléas et Mélisande*. Musical settings of this text and instrumental works, inspired by the symbolist style of the author, were performed during several concerts in the city.

The musical heritage collection of the Ghent Conservatoire reached a large public with 20 small contributions about its opera collection in the very popular TV program *Man bij hond* (*Man bites dog*).

Matrix started a new music heritage project: the development of a portfolio model for contemporary music scores. The information of the traditional music score on paper is often too limited for the later realisation of the score for performance, particularly of contemporary music. Problems such as not-fully-written-out scores or music with electronics can inhibit later performances. The purpose of the project is to create executable ‘scores’, to conserve them, and to make them accessible.

Music library meetings

The general library meeting took place in Oostende, 15 and 16 September. It was organized by the Flemish Library Association, www.vvbad.be. Its main focus was digitization, heritage and new media. The visual and performing arts library association, www.okbv.be, organized an international meeting, devoted to the E-library for the Arts. This meeting led to a workshop with the theme: re-e-sourcing for the art librarian. Starting from specific and practical research questions, the purpose was to share knowledge among colleagues about databases. A practical approach in order to get an up-to-date overview in the domain of the arts.

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