



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 2013

Membership

The number of Belgian members has increased to 29 members with 25 institutional and 4 individual members. This year IAML welcomed 3 new individual members (Marie-Alexis Colin, Marie Cornaz, and Patrizia Rebullà) and 5 new institutional members: the Orpheus Institute in Ghent (www.orpheusinstituut.be), the Royal Conservatory of Mons (www.conservatoire-mons.be), the Belgian Society of Musicology, the Université libre de Bruxelles (www.ulb.ac.be) and the Université de Liège (www.ulg.ac.be). Six of those new members decided to apply for IAML membership in view of the upcoming creation of a IAML Belgian branch. In May, a project proposal was sent to the IAML Board with the approval of 15 of the 29 members. We expect a decision of the Board and the Council after the International Congress in Vienna.

Acquisitions

In 2013, Musiques & Recherches, an association dedicated to acousmatic music (www.musiques-recherches.be), received the electroacoustic work of one of the three Belgian pioneers, Arsène Souffriau (1926-1999). This collection, including his 475 works, will be catalogued and the several audio formats will be digitized. Musiques & Recherches inherited also a large part of the sounding bodies that Arsène Souffriau has collected during his life. Thanks to the King Baudouin Foundation, in September 2012, the Royal Library (www.kbr.be) acquired the manuscript of an unknown opera by Henry Vieuxtemps (1820-1881), *La fiancée de Messine*. The arrival of this manuscript is a nice addition to the collection of manuscripts of the Belgian violinist and composer that were deposited in the Royal Library in 2011. The Royal Library bought the correspondence of the Belgian composer Jean-Théodore Radoux (1835-1911), a letter from Grétry, and the autographic manuscript of *La jeunesse de Grétry* of the Brussels pianist and composer Félix Pardon (1851-1921).

The Royal Conservatory of Liège (www.crlg.be) received a collection of 40 scores of keyboard music, from the private library of the Belgian musicologist Suzanne Clercx-Lejeune (1910-1985).

The library of the Lemmens Institute (www.lemmens.wenk.be) began in January 2013 with a CD collection and already includes about 500 CDs.

Digitization

The Digitization Department of the Royal Library continues its far-reaching digitization of periodicals, printed books, and illustrated sheet music related to, among other things, the European project *Europeana Collections 1914-1918* (www.europeana.eu) and the European Library (www.theeuropeanlibrary.org). In the coming months it will add photographs, ephemera, and recordings to these digitized collections. Since February 2013, the digitized versions of the Belgian music journal *Le Guide Musical* (1855-1917) and the yearbooks of the *Annuaire du Conservatoire* (1877-1980) are available in the reading room of the Music Department. The



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system is in a test phase but already gives the researcher, thanks to the high image quality and the OCR system, numerous search possibilities.

Cataloguing

Since October 2012, the Royal Conservatory of Mons is being restructured after its fusion with the Academy of Arts, now called ARTS² (École Supérieure des Arts). This fusion means the start of a vast project of online cataloguing (PMB) of the music collections of the Conservatory. Students and researchers from the Université libre de Bruxelles and the Royal Library also study the old collections as part of the project *Mons 2015, European Capital of Culture*.

Thanks to Olivia Wahnnon de Oliveira, librarian of the French-speaking part of the Brussels Conservatory since 2008 (www.conservatoire.be / www.kcb.be), they have started the inventory, cataloguing, and valorisation of the collection of the Belgian composer and former director Joseph Jongen (1873-1953). The library also continues the retrospective cataloguing project. The work done has already been recognized with the award “Darche frères.” presented by the commission of the patrimony of the Brussels Conservatory.

Musiques & Recherches re-started the database *Électrodoc*. This database includes books, periodicals, electro-acoustic works, and audio and audio-visual formats. It will permit searches based on various criteria and keywords (from September 2013: <http://electrodoc.musiques-recherches.be>). The database already lists, among other things, 11,000 electro-acoustic works.

The Musical Instruments Museum (www.mim.be) and the Royal Library, two federal institutions, are part of the common catalogue of the Belgian federal libraries (www.bib.belgium.be).

The library of the Orpheus Institute is part of a unique research environment and houses a specialized collection that focuses on aesthetics, philosophy, performance practice, and artistic research. Thanks to the input of doctoral students and ORCiM researchers, the collection grows continually. Accordingly, the Orpheus Institute has invested in a larger library infrastructure and bought a new software package for library automation, BIDO (created for specialized, small libraries and includes management modules for the catalog, lending- and order administration, and a browser-based OPAC). As a result, the collection of the Orpheus Institute is now available online (www.orpheusinstituut.be).

Projects

As part of the bicentennial of the death of the Belgian composer André-Ernest-Modeste Grétry (born in Liège in 1741, died in Montmorency in 1813), the Study Group of the 18th Century (Groupe d'étude du 18e siècle) of the University of Liège, in collaboration with the Conservatory of Liège, organised an international colloquium on 24 and 25 September 2012, *Grétry, un musicien de l'Europe des Lumières*. The conference proceedings have been published (Liège: Art et fact). The commemoration also included a travelling exhibition with a large number of books and music scores from the collections of the Conservatories of Liège and Brussels. The library of the Brussels Conservatory participated in the organisation of several student concert projects around Grétry.

The Brussels Conservatory library holds the Jean-Lucien Hollenfeltz collection and the archaeological museum Gaspar of Arlon asked their collaboration for an exhibition devoted to



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this Belgian collector, *Jean-Lucien Hollenfeltz (1898-1944). Les différents visages du plus grand humaniste arlonais du XXème siècle*. The library preserves documents Hollenfeltz gathered during his life that are related to the Mozart family.

MATRIX [Centrum voor Nieuwe Muziek] (www.matrix-new-music.be) celebrated their 10th anniversary in 2012 with a publication that gives an overview of graphic scores from their own collection. This publication, *Getekende klanken* (Leuven: Matrix), was related to an exhibition dedicated to graphic scores by Luciano Berio, John Cage, Cornelius Cardew and Earle Brown. The book is in Dutch only and is available free with cost of postage from MATRIX. In the framework of Heritage Day 2013, they created a temporary exhibition on the theme *Stop de tijd* (Stop the Time).

The Music Department of the Royal Library holds the largest collection of scores by the nineteenth-century violinist and composer Henry Vieuxtemps. To revive this heritage the Royal Library has launched an online exhibition on the life and works of Henry Vieuxtemps (vieuxtemps.kbr.be). The exhibition gives a chronological survey of his career and features numerous unpublished documents including autograph scores, letters, and drawings.

The library of the Lemmens Institute focuses on education and research in music or literature but since the academic year 2012-2013 they also implemented for a more targeted policy on heritage and preservation, in collaboration with Resonant, Centre for musical heritage in Flanders (www.resonant.be).

MONS 2015

In the perspective of “Mons 2015, European Capital of Culture” there are several scientific projects on which researchers from the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL - www.ucl.be), the Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB), and the Royal Library will be working together. According to their own expertise, they will do research on the period of the 15th to the 19th century. A first research project is “Hainaut, terre musicale”, lead by the Centre de Recherche en Musique-Musicologie (CERMUS). The goal is to rediscover the musical patrimony, to study, and to valorize it. This project will lead to colloquia and book-length publications. There are several collections to study including the collection Pierre-Louis Pollio (music director of the collegiate church Saint-Vincent in Soignies between 1767 and 1796), the State Archives of Mons, and the Mons Conservatory.

The UCL and the ULB also involve their musicology students in the research with several courses. At UCL, the course “Musiques sacrées” involves study of the collections of the collegiate church Saint-Ursmer of Binche. The students at ULB have the course “Patrimoine musical belge. Questions de recherche”, in collaboration with the Royal Library.

Upcoming

Musiques & Recherches will organize an international conference on the pedagogy of electro-acoustic music in November 2013.

The Musical Instruments Museum will commemorate the 200th anniversary of Adolphe Sax (1814-1894) in 2014 with an exhibition with instruments from, their own and other collections. The museum possesses the largest collection of Sax instruments in the world. This anniversary will also be celebrated with concerts, international colloquia, and publications.



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RILM - RISM

The Music Department of the Royal Library is the Belgian seat for the international projects RILM and RISM. On a regular basis they add Belgian publications to the international database of music literature, almost 200 items per year. Since 2012 they restarted encoding of descriptions in RISM, thanks to the database software Kallisto.

Awards

In 2012, Paulo de Assis, researcher at the Orpheus Research Centre in Music (ORCiM), received a European ERC Starting Grant for MusicExperiment21, a project that follows the current focus of the ORCiM: artistic experiment. The Grant has never before been awarded to an artistic research project and means an important recognition for the project, the discipline of Artistic Research, and the ORCiM. Thanks to the grant, the ORCiM strengthens its pioneering role in the relatively young field of artistic research in the arts.

Marie Cornaz received in January 2013 the Music & Letters award for her project research concerning the Montagu Music Collection (UK), in the wake of her article “Unknown Sources of Italian Baroque Music and New Vivaldi Operatic Discoveries in the Montagu Music Collection (Boughton House, UK)”, published in the vol. 66 (2012) of the *Revue belge de musicologie - Belgisch tijdschrift voor muzikwetenschap*.

In May 2013, the Musical Instruments Museum received the Museum prize for Brussels, presented by Openbaar Kunstbezit in Vlaanderen (OKV) and Linklaters. The library of the Museum is specialized in organology, traditional music, ethnomusicology, museums, and exhibitions related to music.

Marie Cornaz

Royal Library, Brussels