Canada, report 2008

The Canadian Association of Music Libraries, Archives, and Documentation Centres (CAML / ACBM) held its own annual conference 5 to 8 June 2008 on the Vancouver campus of the University of British Columbia. The conference was held in collaboration with the Canadian University Music Society and was part of the 77 societies meeting under the umbrella of the Congress of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences. The CAML conference marked one year since the creation of a Quebec branch of CAML / ACBM. At the annual general meeting, an ad hoc copyright committee was struck in order to monitor and lobby for improvements to proposed new federal copyright legislation, especially for how it will impact on music and libraries. The featured plenary address was delivered by Dr. Regula Quereshi, who was also recognized and honoured for her many years of research in ethnomusicology.

CAML Board membership was confirmed at the AGM: the elected members are President, Peter Higham (in the second year of the two-year position); Vice-president / President-elect, Kirsten Walsh; Secretary, Laura Snyder; Member-at-large, Joseph Hafner. Appointed members are Treasurer, Rob van der Bliek; Communications officer, Cheryl Martin and Membership secretary, Janneka Guise. The CAML webmaster is Stacy Allison-Cassin.

CAML membership as of June was down slightly from previous years, though these numbers may improve by year end. There are 59 individual members including 29 who are also IAML members, 34 institutional and 3 subscription members. CAML must retain its membership numbers in order to maintain its vitality.

Over the year, three issues of the CAML Review / Revue de l'ACBM were published by editors Cheryl Martin and Denise Prince. Currently in volume 36, back issues of the journal are available online through CAML’s website at www.yorku.ca/caml/. The journal is indexed in the Music Index and RILM abstracts and highlights reviews of music, recordings and books chiefly by Canadian authors and concerning Canadian composers and performers.

CAML’s RILM Canada Committee continues to be led by Lisa Emberson, who reports that there were 103 submissions to the RILM Centre over the past year. CAML is trying to encourage the coordination of RILM Canada activity to be a more firmly established responsibility of Library and Archives Canada. RILM Canada requires additional help in abstracting at least four journals and a backlog of English monographs.

The seven-member CAML Cataloguing Committee, which is chaired by Daniel Paradis, has been very active in commenting to the Canadian Cataloguing Committee on the development of
Resource Description and Access (RDA). The Committee has been very conscientious in monitoring proposed revisions especially as to their effect on music cataloguing.

CAML looks forward to its annual conference, next year to take place in May in Ottawa at Carleton University. Also some members will no doubt be able to travel to Amsterdam to attend the IAML Conference.

Peter Higham  
IAML (Canada)