



*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)*

## Croatia, report 2008

There are no big changes in the Croatian Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (CAML) activities last year. We are still a small group of music libraries and librarians only (8 institutional and 8 individual members). After a four year period, we have elected a new president (Željka Radovinović), and a new secretary (Aleksandra Mežnarić-Karafin).

We are still trying to involve colleagues from archives and documentation centres, but they still don't understand the possible benefits of getting together in the way of taking care of the same kind of materials. They mind their own business, eventually merging within a narrow professional circle. If they are willingly to cooperate with us, they have no wish to become members of a society and pay the membership dues. Being so scarce, nobody is taking us seriously, even then, when we have ideas and plans of national interest.

One of the directions we are following is preserving music materials. It is not so big problem within big libraries that develop their own plans for preserving and digitization. Smaller collections (as my own - Academy of Music Library), are getting no funding for the everyday small repairs, to say nothing of repairing autographs and rare printed music or the digitization of old and endangered materials. There is almost no concern of Croatian musical sound heritage.

In the Croatian Ministry of Culture it is very popular to talk about digitization. They have opened a big project called Croatian Cultural Heritage a few years ago, and a web-portal with the results of digitization processes. There is no musician or music-information expert within the elite cluster of people with power to decide who will get the money for that business. As CAML, we are trying to make a breakthrough.

In that direction, we have planned a small project of digitization materials about Franjo Ksaver Kuhač (1834 - 1911) – the first Croatian musicologist. For the 100th anniversary of death in 2011, we have planned to make some kind of promotional web-page and/or noncommercial biographical CD-ROM, consisting of both popular and scientific content. Last year, we tried to get the funds from the Ministry but with no success. We will, of course try again.

Thinking about musical sound heritage, we are trying to inspire the institutions of the State to be aware of its importance and endangered condition, and to establish a sound archive of some kind. From contacts with colleagues from the museums came the new idea about establishing the state museum of music with sound archive, which will be a home for numerous items with a possibility to illustrate them with music recordings kept in digital sound repository.



*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)*

In autumn 2007, colleagues from the Musical Department of the Zagreb City Library successfully organized the international meeting called *AV-Materials and Heritage*, celebrating IFLA's day of AV heritage.

The members of CAML are active in Croatian Librarians Association as members of the Commission of Music Libraries. As a professional association we gave our contribution in creating a new text of Croatian Law on Libraries, and a text of the new standards for special libraries. We are also active in national professional meetings all over the country, cooperating with the Croatian Musicological Society as well.

The members of CAML are contributing to the of RILM project.

In the next few months, we are planning to continue with our efforts for increasing the membership; to get the funding for the project of F.K. Kuhač; to get involved in the project for Croatian Digital Heritage; to be active in professional conferences in Croatia and abroad (if possible). We will also organize the education of young users of music libraries (especially students of the Academy of Music), for searching through the digital library catalogues and bibliographies on the web.

No one from the Croatian branch would attend the Sydney meeting last year, but this year there are three of us. And I would like to take this opportunity to thank the organizers for the help from the outreach fund). There are plans to meet you in Amsterdam next year.

*Željka Radovinović,*  
*President, IAML (Croatia)*