



Greece

A very exciting first year for the newly founded Greek Branch and many things were accomplished after its recognition at the Rome conference.

The Greek IAML Branch Board that was elected in 2016 is comprised of:

President: Alexandros Charkiolakis, Head of the Erol Ucer Music Library, Lecturer in Historical Musicology, MIAM - Istanbul Technical University

Vice President: Stephanie Merakos, Head of Library, Music Library of Greece, The Friends of Music Society, Athens

Secretary: Vera Kriezi, Head of Cataloguing and Technical Services, Music Library of Greece, The Friends of Music Society

Treasurer: Aristides Bazmadelis, Music Librarian, School of Music Studies of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Member: Christina Theodorica, Librarian and Information Specialist, Library of the Technological Educational Institute of Epirus.

During the General Assembly that was held during the First Conference of the Branch on April 22nd, 2017 the same members were re-elected for a period of three years.

Membership: the Branch in 2017 has 14 institutional and 13 individual members. The National Library of Greece has also recently joined the institutional membership.

The activities of the Greek Branch are listed below:

Board meetings: there were 9 board meetings held during the period September 2016 to April 2017; all of them were held using Skype and were well attended by all members of the Board.

Contribution to Fontes: an article about the formation, the scope and the objectives of the Greek IAML Branch was published in the last issue of *Fontes*, Vol. 64/1, January-March 2017.

Collaborations: Board members visited the Director of the National Library of Greece, the Athens Municipal Library, the Board of the Greek Association of Librarians and Information Scientists, and the Cypriot Association of Librarians and Information Scientists. All four organizations congratulated the members of the Board for the initiative and expressed their sincere wish to accommodate and support the Greek Branch of IAML towards its goals.

Website: The building of the [Branch's website](#) was one of the first goals that were set. It was launched in February of 2016 with the help of colleagues at the Technological Educational Institute of Epirus.

Social Media: The [Facebook group page of the Branch](#) already has 315 members. There is also a [Twitter](#) account which is slowly building up a group of followers.

The 1st Conference: The biggest challenge of the newly formed Branch was the organization of its first conference. It was organized by the Greek Branch and the Music Library of Greece "Lilian Voudouri" and hosted at the Music Library on April 21st and 22nd, 2017. The call for papers was announced in September of 2016 and the deadline for sending proposals ended on the 25th November. There were 36 proposals received and finally 32 of them were accepted by the Organizing Committee. The program included 10 parallel sessions with 32 presentations by 45 authors, 2 keynote speeches, 2 roundtable discussions (one on the state of music research in Greece and the other on cataloguing mainly in academic libraries) and 7 sponsor presentations.

Keynote speakers were the Director of the National Library, F. Tsimpoglou and the Chairman of the Board of the Athens Conservatory, N. Tsouchlos. Among the guests was the Chairman of the Committee for Libraries of the Ministry of Education, M. Sfakakis. Along with the personnel of the Music Library there was substantial help from librarianship student volunteers. The conference attracted more than 200 attendees. The program included a lot of topics regarding mainly archives, relationships between music research and libraries, and librarianship in Greece; however, the most important outcome of this gathering was that all participants realized the necessity of collaboration in matters such as documenting the present situation in the country, music cataloguing, access to archives and digitization.

Formation of working groups: during the General Assembly on April 22nd, the formation of two working groups was decided. One for Access to Music Archives and the second one on Technical Matters of Music Librarianship - Cataloguing.

RILM-RISM: Several members of the Greek branch are also members of the Greek RILM and RISM Committees so there was an "introduction to RILM" session during the Conference as well as a presentation of RISM.

Other activities: The Greek IAML Branch recommended the scheduling of a roundtable discussion with the subject "Music and Digital Repositories in the Balkans and South Eastern Europe" in collaboration with the Cypriot Association of Librarians and Information Scientists in the upcoming IMS Regional Association for the Music of the Balkans Conference that will take place in Cyprus in September of 2017.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Board,

Stephanie Merakos

Vice President of the Board of Greek IAML Branch

Head of Library, Music Library of Greece "Lilian Voudouri", Athens, Greece