



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)

Hungary, report 2010

This year twelve institutions and four individuals confirmed their membership in the Hungarian Branch; thirteen of these are also members of the international organization. We shall seek to involve new institutions and colleagues in our activities and maintain close contacts with the Music Section of the Association of Hungarian Librarians, with whom we also run a joint website (www.zeneikonyvtaros.hu).

In the course of 2010 the directorship met on four occasions and discussed the following topics:

- the education of music librarians
- preparations of the programmes connected to the visit of three IAML colleagues from England
- R-projects
- applications for outside funding
- our colleagues' participation in the main musical events of the year

Themes for the plenary sections and the seminar were as follows:

- Report on the 2009 Amsterdam conference
- Report on the first phase of our cooperation with our English IAML colleagues; the experiences of our first study trip
- *Music Education in the Family, Day Nursery and Kindergarten* – participation in the conference organized at the Music Collection of the Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library
- *The 40th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Music Section of the Association of Hungarian Librarians, Celebratory Commemoration* – participation in the organization of the event. For the occasion, the president of our branch – a founding member and between 1986 and 1998 also president of the Section – compiled a brief history of the music section.
- *Education Opportunities for Music Librarians* – Hungarian–English joint seminar in Eger

A few more details about our most important activities

Cooperation on Education

The cooperation between IAML's UK and Ireland Branch and the Hungarian National Branch aims at improving the education of music librarians in Hungary by examining and adapting the British experiences to the special circumstances in Hungary. The first part of the cooperation was successfully realized in May 2009; the second part of the programme was scheduled for 5 to 8 May 2010.

We welcomed three eminent colleagues: Liz Hart (immediate past president), Ruth Hellen (former vice-president of IAML), and Frances Metcalfe, reference librarian in Kent, member and



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course leader of the Courses and Education Committee of IAML UK & Ireland. In Budapest our guests visited two libraries (National Széchényi Library and Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library), then traveling to Eger to participate in the seminar *The Perspectives of the Music Library Training*. Besides official representatives of the English and Hungarian IAML branches, we invited several colleagues from colleges and universities, as well as educational experts of the Hungarian Library Institute.

The presentations touched upon four topics. Klára Gyulyásné Somogyi surveyed the history of education in music librarianship in Hungary. Drs. Judit Tóvári and Enikő Pajor discussed the educational opportunities offered by the colleges at Eger and Szeged. Dr. Pajor's account of her experiences in France provided a welcome outlook at the international scene. Finally, Frances Metcalfe introduced the audience to the decades-old, well-constructed educational system of IAML UK & Ireland Branch. All presentations proved interesting and informative, and provided solid ground for contemplating the needs of, and opportunities for, music librarians in the country. (For more information, see our homepage.)

The Present State of the R-projects

In this regard we have not been able to make significant progress; the reestablishment of the Hungarian RILM and RISM committees remains a plan for the future. Nonetheless, we might have moved forward a slight bit. Obviously, the imminent cuts in budget and staff, as well as the resulting reorganizations, hardly allow our institutions to assume such 'new duties', as it were. Following last year's RILM consultation, however, we compiled an official memorandum for the then Minister of Culture, laying out our plans to re-establish the Hungarian RILM office and secure the regular submission of the relevant data to the New York centre. Unfortunately, no proper response has arrived until now. In view of the general elections in May and the resulting total reorganization of government structure we have to be patient – the main point is that we shall never give up!

Some progress has also been made as regards RISM, since the new Head of Music in the National Széchényi Library started to review the possibilities of returning to the project in some way or another (unfortunately, the employment of a RISM specialist proper seems hopeless under the present economical and political climate). At present the prime goal is to convert for RISM a number of work-lists that have long been published in Hungarian 'town-monographs', but have until now remained as good as unknown abroad – this project could produce thousands of new RISM records of Hungarian sources in a relatively short period of time.

Musical Events, Programs in Libraries

The programs of the Haydn year have continued with undiminished energy throughout the country. The exhibition *Seven Times Haydn*, presented in the National Széchényi Library between May and July 2009, has become available in an online version (at the moment accessible only in Hungarian). The same library also mounted an exhibition to commemorate composer and pianist Ernő Dohnányi, who died in exile in Florida precisely 50 years ago.



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Inspired by the 200th anniversary of the death of Ferenc Erkel, founder of the Hungarian national opera, the Institute for Musicology and the National Széchényi Library will co-organize another large-scale exhibition this autumn titled *Opera and Nation*. This will be followed by a number of Erkel-related conferences, among them a three-day international one under the same title.

In the Hans Richter Archive in Győr, the estates of composers Ferenc Albert (François d'Albert) and László Halmos were ordered and catalogued. The sound recordings from the 1970s and 1980s that survived in Ferenc's bequest were also digitized in the course of the year.

Due the reconstruction of the beautiful *art nouveau* building of the Liszt University of Music, the vast music collection has to be moved to a new, temporary location. The library provided full service throughout the academic year, but organizational work (discarding of unused materials, outreach efforts etc.) to prepare the move has also been pursued simultaneously.

The series of mergers of city and county libraries was continued this year as well. Pécs, which serves as European Capital of Culture in 2010, has just completed the merger: on 1 January the music collections of the city and county libraries were united. In September the whole collection will move to a new building, where our colleagues will work as part of the newly established South Transdanubian Regional Library and Knowledge Centre.

Web 2.0 applications are becoming increasingly popular in music libraries as well. Our libraries seek to advertise their services via new blogs and by registering themselves on Facebook, Twitter and the Hungarian *iWiW*. More and more libraries are able to provide remote access to some of their databases.

Outside funding

The Hungarian National Branch funds its activities primarily by applying to outside sources. Our participation in the Amsterdam conference was made possible by support from the National Cultural Fund, the National Civil Fund, and the Dutch branch of IAML. We have received less support from the NCF to develop our English-Hungarian cooperation therefore we had to rely on help from civil organizations and individuals. We would like to take this opportunity to say thanks to all who assisted us in any way.

Julianna Gócza
President, IAML (Hungary)