

Italy / Italia

The first meeting of the Italian branch dealt with *I Conservatori di musica e la ricerca: il ruolo delle biblioteche per la qualità degli studi, la governance e la valutazione degli istituti* [Music Conservatories And Research: How Libraries Can Improve Studies, Their Governance And The Accreditation Process] (Florence, Biblioteca Umanistica dell'Università di Firenze, 16 May 2014) http://www.iamlitalia.it/convegni/Firenze_2014/Firenze_2014.htm. It was coordinated by Annamaria Tammaro ([IFLA Library and Theory research, Chair](#)) and it concluded with annual assembly of the branch.

At the morning session, three new online Italian resources were presented, as a demonstration of the role that libraries have in disseminating and promoting research within conservatories of music. We heard about the just-published historical and lexicographical dictionary [Lessico italiano del canto](#) [Italian Lexicon of Singing] <<http://lessico.liguori.it/canto/>>, a publication that gives access to the digital transcription of more than eighty Italian treatises on singing, dating from the end of the 16th century to the start of the 19th Century. It includes 9,000 indexed lemmas organized in a thesaurus.

Casalini Libri presented the full-text digital platform [Torrossa](#) <<http://www.torrossa.it/>>, a full text platform that offers access to over 300,000 articles and chapters; 20,000 ebooks; and 700 e-journals from over 180 Italian, Spanish, French and Portuguese publishers. including publications on music. This platform supports the whole collection of publications of the Istituto Nazionale di Studi Verdiani (22 e-journals issues and 38 e-books) and Leo S. Olschki publications.

We also had a preview of the [Catalogo numerico Ricordi](#) www.iamlitalia.it/convegni/Firenze_2014/files/cnr_comunicato-%20stampa.pdf, which was presented by Pierluigi Ledda and Agostina Zecca Laterza: it includes Agostina Zecca Laterza's lifelong studies on dating Ricordi's plate numbers. It is expected to be available after summer 2014.

A dialogue between Italian music librarians, Zdravko Blažeković, RILM executive editor, and Gionata Giacomelli, EBSCO focused on comments made by Italian librarians on RILM on-line, concerning the one-month trial opened to facilitate the establishment of a Conservatory libraries consortium. At the same time, RILM-Italia offers cooperation to Conservatories library, librarians, and teachers who are ready to involve students in producing Italian abstracts for RILM. This initiative is the follow up from former work (see also previous Italian report, *Fontes Artis Musicae*, 60/4, October-December 2013, p. 334).

In the afternoon Leonella Grasso Caprioli presented RAMI (Associazione per la Ricerca Artistica Musicale in Italia - The Italian Association for Artistic Musical Research), < <http://www.associazionerami.org/rami/chi-siamo> >, and also proposed cooperation with IAML-Italia and other professional associations.

The last part of the meeting was devoted to the assessment procedures that the University assessment agency [ANVUR](#) (Agenzia Nazionale di Valutazione del Sistema Universitario e della Ricerca; The National Agency on the Accreditation of the University System and of Research) < <http://www.anvur.org/index.php?lang=it> > is developing for Conservatories. Paolo Troncon (Board of Conservatories Deans, President) presented the general schema for collecting data needed to evaluate Conservatories; this schema should be put in practice with the academic year 2014-2015. Federica Riva presented [the IAML-Italia proposal to improve data concerning libraries, museums and](#)

[institutional archives www.iamlitalia.it/convegni/Firenze_2014/files/RivaF_Schede-ANVUR_Osservazioni_Biblioteca-IAMLIt.pdf](http://www.iamlitalia.it/convegni/Firenze_2014/files/RivaF_Schede-ANVUR_Osservazioni_Biblioteca-IAMLIt.pdf) in Conservatories, Sergio Cordibella (Board of Conservatories Directors, President) explained the evolution of reformed Conservatories proposing the fundamental issues of a library reform; Tommaso Donatucci (Board of Students, President) asked the audience to remember student's needs as the core issue of life in conservatories.

Initiatives in preparation for autumn 2014 include: a seminar for music librarians entitled: *Music Archives: preservation, inventories, development. methodological issues and procedures* (in Italian; Bergamo, 24 October 2014); the start of a new working group on subject headings and a music thesaurus; a new issue of the newsletter "[IAML-Italia-Notizie](http://www.iamlitalia.it/)" <<http://www.iamlitalia.it/>>; a second national meeting about cataloguing including presentations of music incipit encoding initiatives on different music notation systems.

Activities accomplished before the 2014 annual meeting held in Florence in May include:

- The presentation and the delivering to contributors and to all members of the Italian branch of the printed volume *Da Napoli a Napoli*" (LIM, ISBN 978-88-7096-684-8) with articles on Italian subjects proposed at the IAML conference held in Naples in 2008. The annual assembly approved to promote an English version published on-line.
- In February and April the first two issues of the non-periodical serial publication *IAML-Italia Notizie* <<http://www.iamlitalia.it/>> were published, a newsletter in Italian language presented as "an information service for Italian branch members about activities of IAML-Italia, of the associated libraries and institutions, as well as of IAML and the four R's of International Music Research (RISM; RILM; RIPM; RIDIM)".
- Activities devoted to the development of Conservatory music library services and dissemination of information about the heritage they preserve go beyond the action with ANVUR (reported above), and include activities done with the Istituto Centrale per il Catalogo Unico delle Biblioteche Italiane e per le Informazioni Bibliografiche (ICCU), Ministero per i Beni e le Attività culturali to improve data about music libraries into the national database [Anagrafe delle biblioteche italiane](http://anagrafe.iccu.sbn.it/opencms/opencms/) <<http://anagrafe.iccu.sbn.it/opencms/opencms/>>.

Activities concerning the improvement of Italian International relationships include agreements with RISM and RILM as follows:

RISM

On 1 March 2014, contacts started between Italy -- ICCU, l'Ufficio Ricerca Fondi musicali della Biblioteca Nazionale Braidense (URFM), IAML-Italia -- and the Répertoire International des Sources Musicales (RISM) discussing how to coordinate information about 285,000 records on music manuscripts preserved in Italian libraries now separately accessible through the SBN (205,000) and RISM (80,000) OPACS. Also on 1 March 2014, a meeting with RISM (Klaus Keil) was held by ICCU who accepted to become the seat of a new International RISM cataloguing project devoted to "libretti per musica." The project aims to give information about libretti and libretti collections at international level by improving libretti cataloguing at several different levels: by building a search engine connecting information already published on the web and promoting the use of a code for libretti; by improving the shift from paper to e-cataloguing, as well as relationships between library catalogues and digital accessible resources; by disseminating information about not yet catalogued collections eventually improving the list of RISM libraries. The project will be presented at the IAML Conference in Antwerp, to IMS and to the RISM board for approval.

RILM

See above for the report on a consortium for disseminating RILM activities and the RILM repertoires; the initiative is still on the way, and an intermediate report will be done at the end of 2014.

The Italian-branch policy to facilitate access, approved on the 2014 assembly, includes the free availability of the newsletter *IAML-Italia Notizie* and the discussion list IAMLIta_L being made open to non-members who are interested in IAML-Italia activities. The assembly voted also in favour of the maintenance of the IAML Council. The branch is looking for an English editor interested in coordinating translations of our web publication into English, such as for the volume *Da Napoli a Napoli*”), the non-periodical newsletter *IAML-Italia-Notizie*. Interested colleagues who are native English speakers with good Italian knowledge or Italian scholars living abroad are invited to write to the [Italian Board](#)

<http://www.iaml.info/en/organization/national_branches/italy> : Federica Riva,

President, Annalisa Bini, Vice-President, Federica Biancheri, Treasurer, Giovanni

Dequal, secretary

Federica RIVA

President, IAML (Italy)