



*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)*

## Lithuania, report 2010

We regret to report that we have been unable to establish either an association of music libraries or a local branch of IAML. The Law on Associations of the Republic of Lithuania blocked our activity in this field interpreting that music libraries are not independent institutions but a part of libraries, educational, or other institutions. Lithuanian music library network consists of over one hundred libraries. Music documents are preserved at libraries of different types – research and public libraries, and at libraries of musical educational institutions. The holdings contain various forms of music documents. For almost 50 years the Music Department of the Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania has provided organizational and professional assistance to all Lithuanian libraries possessing music stocks, and from 1970 has participated in the IAML. In the Soviet times it was considered as a representative of the Soviet Union. In 1990, after the restoration of Lithuanian independence, the National Library of Lithuania joined IAML and established a National RILM Committee (Chair: Eglė Marčėnienė), which was later involved into RISM project. At present four Lithuanian libraries are members of IAML: the National Library of Lithuania, the Library of Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre, the Vilnius Public Library of Music and Arts, and Klaipėda University Library. Two more libraries were going to join IAML, however, their plans changed because of the economy. Last year the Music Department of the National Library of Lithuania continued its participation in the RILM project, working with the Ibis RILM submission website forms and submitting manuscripts material to RISM. From last year, The Music Department was able to involve musicologist Darius Kučinskas, who is a professor at the Kaunas University of Technology, and who was awarded a PhD from the Lithuanian Music Academy in 2002, and worked at the National M. K. Čiurlionis Art Museum in 1990 and 2000. Dr. Kučinskas ‘research on the creative heritage of the Lithuanian composer and painter Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis (1875–1911). During his work in at the Čiurlionis Art Museum, Dr. Kučinskas identified many new compositions and found a lot of unpublished music. In 2006, he found some unknown manuscripts of Čiurlionis in the Vilnius University Library. As a result of all his research work Kučinskas has been able to compile a chronological catalogue of Čiurlionis’ music. He provides basic bibliographical information about all known music manuscripts, compositions, first publications, first performances. He also covers lost manuscripts and lost music. All music descriptions contain music incipits. For the internet, several web-sites were created: [www.ciurlionis.lt](http://www.ciurlionis.lt) (the official website of M. K. Čiurlionis National Art Museum), [www.ciurlionis.eu](http://www.ciurlionis.eu) (a private website for info about Čiurlionis on the web), <http://ciurlionis.licejus.lt> (a private site for general info about Čiurlionis), [www.ciurlioniokuriniai.lt](http://www.ciurlioniokuriniai.lt) (a private site for the complete music catalogue). Dr. Kučinskas has been very interested in IAML activities and joined IAML in 2010. He took part in the IAML congress in Moscow 2010, where he made a presentation on “In search of the lost music manuscripts of M.K. Čiurlionis“ and is going to continue his activity in IAML.

In this period of economical crisis, projects seeking financial support are especially important. They provide possibilities of progress. Music libraries also take part in successive and new projects looking for implementation of their objectives in the age of new technologies. I would like to mention some of the more important of them.



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The Music Department of the National Library of Lithuania has begun a project of digitization of Lithuanian vinyl and shellac records under the framework of the new “Development of e-heritage virtual system“ project, funded by EU structural funds. The Music Department has acquired and preserves an archive of Lithuanian published audio and video documents that are part of the National Archive of Published Documents of the National Library of Lithuania. The main criteria for formation of the archive are scientific research, comprehensiveness, guarantees of preservation and accessibility. The conversion of the Lithuanian shellac record collection into CDs was completed in 2007. The collection is accessible by the public in the reading room of the Music Department of the National Library of Lithuania as an object of Lithuanian National Registry in the framework of the UNESCO Memory of the World programme. However, the formation of the archive of Lithuanian published audio and video documents is a continuous process based on the cooperation with the researchers and collectors in order to recover the lost Lithuanian records. An awareness of the historical significance of Lithuanian recordings led Vytautas Strolia, a famous expat Lithuanian musician, collector, and researcher to devote his life to collecting Lithuanian records and sound Lithuanica from all over the world sparing nothing in his pursuit. With his patriotic devotion to this mission, he became one of the most famous researchers and promoters of Lithuanian recording, and has collected about 3,000 Lithuanian shellac, vinyl and CD records. His activity was highly appreciated both in Lithuania and in America.

It should be noted that the specialized Music Department opened in the Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania in 1961 has also started acquisition of Lithuanian recordings with the aim to collect and preserve them as a sound cultural heritage and create a collection for public access. I was the instigator of this collection scheme and had the great honor and fortune to cooperate with Vytautas Strolia for many years implementing the idea of overall collection and preservation of Lithuanian recordings. When Strolia donated his collection to the Music Department of the National Library of Lithuania, I prepared for the transportation of the recording collection from the USA, funded by the Ministry of Culture of Lithuania, went to the USA, and prepared the collection, consisting of about 3000 recordings, for shipment to Lithuania. The Strolia collection reached Lithuania and was included as a separate unit into the archive of sound documents of the National Library. In Soviet times, we were always on the hunt for old Lithuanian recordings in various ways, but they were hard to find, it was forbidden to acquire them, and it was necessary to hide the recordings from Soviet censorship; once collected, often the recordings were inaccessible to the Lithuanian public at that time. Despite of such historical and political problems, the Music Department of the National Library was able to collect the most comprehensive collection of Lithuanian records in Lithuania. Our collection is especially rich in recordings issued in Europe, and the collection of Lithuanian records systematically collected by Strolia extends our collection by supplementing it by records issued in America, which did not come to Lithuania in Soviet times.

Now the Music Department of the National Library of Lithuania, under the framework of the new project „Development of e-heritage virtual system“, between February 2010 and July 2012, will digitize internally newly-found shellac and vinyl recordings and all audio and video recordings collected for many years into the national archive of Lithuanian. In total, about 4,300 Lithuanian vinyl and shellac recordings titles (about 10,200 works) will be accessible by the



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sound virtual system. The new project aims at guaranteeing the digitization and dissemination of cultural heritage objects and developing a network of creation of digital content through establishing new centres and departments of digitization: Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, Kaunas County Public Library, Klaipėda County Public Library, I. Simonaityte Klaipėda County Public Library, Lithuanian Archives Department, Lithuanian Art Museum, Library of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, Lithuanian Museum of Theatre, Music and Cinema, G. Petkevičaitė-Bitė Panevėžys County Public Library, P. Višinskis Šiauliai County Public Library, and Vilnius University Library. The National Library of Lithuania is the initiator, developer, and the managing body of the project “Development of e-heritage virtual system” funded by EU Structural Funds. The budget of the project is 12,4 million Litas (€3.58 million), in addition to sound documents, 2,295,506 pages of objects of written cultural heritage are scheduled for digitisation and integration into the system

Another very important project is “e MoDB.LT: Opening of Electronic Scientific Databases to Lithuania”. This project with 30 million lita (€8.67 million) budget will be implemented over 3 years (June 21, 2009 – June 21, 2012) in accordance with the agreement signed by the Ministry of Education and Science, the European Social Foundation Agency, and the Lithuanian Research Library Consortium on 21 July 2009. The library of the Lithuanian Music and Theatre Academy, Klaipėda University Library, and Vilnius College Library will participate in this project. Ten training modules for usage of electronic sources of scientific information will be prepared; subscriptions will be taken for 60 electronic scientific databases; and 5 electronic archives, tool for formatting bibliographic references, and articles and licences for software for on-line access to databases content will be purchased; and scientists, researchers and students’ use of electronic science information sources, and librarians and databases administrators’ consulting qualifications to use information will be developed. This great project will raise the level of dissemination of information, including music, in Lithuanian society. You can read more about the project at [www.lmba.lt](http://www.lmba.lt) ([link is external](#)).

I would like to give an overview of the progressive teaching-process technologies and information services used at the National M.K.Čiurlionis School of Arts. Advanced technologies for readers service are inventively applied in the Music library (Head: Rasa Vilnienė) and the sound library (Head: Nailia Galiamova) of the National M.K.Čiurlionis School of Arts (founded in 1945 in Vilnius, named after the famous Lithuanian painter and composer Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis). It is the only school in Lithuania of its kind, spanning the entire 12-year learning cycle. There are three main departments in the school: Music, Fine Arts, and Ballet. The most gifted pupils and students from Lithuania study at this school. Many internationally-known Lithuanian musicians have graduated from this school. The library of the National M.K.Čiurlionis School of Arts participated in 2009 in the “Modernization of Libraries of General Education Schools” project implemented by the Education Provision Centre of Ministry of Education and Science. Participation in the project permitted the renovation and modernization of the reading room of the library. Through co-operation with the Arezzo Centre for Distribution of Sheet Music (Paris) even music otherwise unavailable in Lithuania can be ordered. Handling and computerization of sheet music collection is being continued and intensive work with MOBIS program is done in order to introduce an electronic readers’ service system. The library seeks to be accessible not only to pupils of the National M.K.Čiurlionis



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School of Arts but also on a more public front: the library's has a blog and the library uses social networks, such as Flickr, Facebook, Twitter. The library contributed to the project "Libraries for Innovation" organized by the National Library of Lithuania and to popularization of the actions of this project. Events, exhibitions concerts are organized regularly. On initiative of the Phonoteca of the National M.K.Čiurlionis School of Arts teaching process was technologically modernized. In the classroom for teaching composition and compositional disciplines (polyphony, instrumentation) MIDI equipment, virtual keyboard, various programs for creating and writing of music, the program *Instruments* from educational package *Sibelius*, and digital sound libraries are installed. In computerized classrooms of music theory subjects and music history, the internet makes possible access to collections of digital phonoteca, other online materials. The collections of phonoteca are supplemented with the records of state exams of graduates of the piano and violin departments, credits and exams as well as closing concerts of ballet department, concerts of pupils of the school and guest artists, seminars and master classes (CD, DVD). Works mostly used in teaching programs from vinyl and shellac records are transferred onto digital format (sets of computer discs), digital base of educational materials is filled and updated constantly. All this is an important contribution of phonoteca and library to the modern organization of teaching process. See <http://www.cmm.lt/cms/co> for more details.

For a long time "the iron curtain" isolated culture of Lithuania and Lithuanian emigration, therefore its reunification after Lithuanian independence even today is relevant for preservation of cultural heritage. Therefore very important is the long-term project "Lithuanian Musical Culture in Context of Migration (1870-1990): Interaction of National Identity and Musical Expression", initiated by the Lithuanian musicologist, researcher of musical culture of Lithuania and emigration, and director of the Institute of Musicology at the Faculty of Arts at Klaipėda University, Dr. Prof. Danutė Petrauskaitė. Together with the library of Klaipėda University, she launched this project in 2010. The project is supported by EU and the Lithuanian Government. In 2009, Dr. Petrauskaitė, together with the library of Klaipėda University, prepared and implemented the project "Library of Vytautas Strolia: Return to the Lithuania Minor", funded by USA Lithuanian organizations (Minor Lithuania Foundation and World Lithuanian Community). Spread of IAML ideas in Lithuania often influences cooperation of famous Lithuanian musicologists with the libraries.

A continuous library modernization programme financed by the Lithuanian Government and another national-scale Project, "Libraries for Innovation", financed by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Lithuanian Government, and Microsoft will further add to the improvement of musical libraries and enrich their opportunities. The Lithuanian Integrated Library Information System LIBIS serves as the basis for the Union Catalogue and enables to form the Lithuanian integrated library information network and to implement integrated projects.

I would like to tell you about to you a new cultural space in Vilnius. It's Infoteka (Manager: Eglė Stalnionienė) with the premises in the Menų Spaustuvė building established one year ago. Menų Spaustuvė (Arts Printing House) is a unique creative phenomenon in Lithuania. It is located in the Old Town of Vilnius. The premises had previously been used as a communist printing house for the main newspapers of the regime since 1965. Starting from 2002, the Arts Printing House has been used as a convenient space for number of annual theatrical, contemporary dance, and



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interdisciplinary and educational projects. The Arts Printing House is going to be the performing arts centre with 2 venues, 4 rehearsal spaces, non-commercial film cinema, information center (Infoteka), offices, café-club and guesthouse. Infoteka is an information resource centre. You can find a number of books and electronic media here - in English as well as in other languages. Thematically, the collection at Infoteka is mostly related to arts: besides books, one can watch and take home films by legendary directors, theatre performance recordings, and audio books. Infoteka is also starting to collect the recordings of the plays. These are the recordings of the plays directed by famous Lithuanian artistic directors, as well as recordings of the rehearsal working documents. Documentary films and artistic movies form the significant part of the Infoteka collection. We also have the recordings of various theatre festivals performances in DVD format. The contemporary dance collection is unique in the city. It consists of dance history, dance theory, modern dance companies' books, biographical books, as well as recordings of modern dance performances. This is the only such kind of dance and theatre documents collection in Vilnius. The core of the collection is formed from the books given by British Council Information Centre; other received from various non-governmental Lithuanian performing arts organizations, sponsors of special projects and other sources of gathering. Infoteka contains a collection of paper and audio books, DVDs, periodicals on theatre, design, fashion, architecture, dance, photography and arts (with a special emphasis on performing arts) in Lithuanian and English, French, Spanish and other languages. The resources are free to use. In case of borrowing books, audio books, videos or DVDs home, one needs to be registered and obtain a reader's card. Information on the site is at <http://www.menuspaustuve.lt>. Vilnius music, theatre and libraries community enjoy free access to Infoteka services.

The Music Department of the National Library of Lithuania, having the longest experience of participation in IAML, recently initiated collaboration with colleagues from archives, documentation centres and other similar institutions. We hope to develop IAML ideas in order to involve not only librarians or musicologists but also another archive and music specialists into IAML. So we hope to expand IAML activity in Lithuania.

*Eglė Elena Marčėnienė*

*Music Department of National Library of Lithuania*