



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)

Poland, report 2013

Conferences

On 26-28 September 2012, the conference *Kościelne zbiory muzyczne w bibliotekach polskich* [Church Music Collections in Polish Libraries] took place in Gniezno. The conference was organized in collaboration with the Archdiocesan Commission for Singing, Church Music and Liturgical Service; the Archdiocese Museum; the Archives of the Archdiocese; and the School of Church Music in Gniezno. It was under the patronage of the Primate of Poland Archbishop of Gniezno, Józef Kowalczyk, and the Mayor of the District of Gniezno. During the opening ceremony, Archbishop Józef Kowalczyk thanked us for choosing Gniezno as a city of the conference. “This choice is symbolic,” the Archbishop said, “Because you come to reflect on church music collection in Polish libraries to the source of life of the nation and the Church in Poland, in the shadow of the Basilica of the Primate, in which lie the relics of St. Adalbert.” Words of greeting to the participants were also presented by the Mayor of the District of Gniezno, Dariusz Pilak, and Joanna Paształeniec-Jarzyńska, a Board member of the Polish Librarians Association (PLA).

The conference was attended by librarians, musicologists, organists, and students of musicology. They represented many universities from around Poland: Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Jagiellonian University in Kraków, University of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński in Warsaw, Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, University of Szczecin – Library of the Faculty of Theology, Silesian University Library – Faculty of Theology in Katowice, University of Warsaw, University of Wrocław. There were also attendees from music academies (in Katowice and Gdańsk), the Silesian Library (Katowice), the Fryderyk Chopin Institute (Warsaw), the Silesian Association of Church Music (Wrocław), the National Library RISM Centre (Warsaw), and the Central Editorial Board of RISM (Frankfurt). Among the participants were representatives of the libraries affiliated to the Church Libraries Consortium, FIDES.

The conference covered the following topics: 1) the place of sacred music in liturgy, 2) music sources – identifying problems, concordances, 3) church resources in academic libraries, 4) collections of monastic libraries, and 5) church music collections in Silesia. The papers and discussion drew attention to the importance of the International Inventory of Musical Sources (RISM). The conference’s invitation to the representative of the RISM Central Editorial, Guido Kraus, showed that cooperation with RISM is very important for both librarians and musicologists who study church music sources.

One of the goals of the conference was to establish contact with the church libraries affiliated to the Federation of Church Libraries, FIDES. The participants spoke about the need of closer cooperation, stressing the importance of the support from musicologists on the preservation and the proper development of music in church archives.



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The Gniezno Cathedral became the place of particular importance for the participants at the Conference. In the evening of the first day, there was an organ concert performed by Metropolitan Basilica Cathedral organist Ryszard Superczyński. On the second day, the participants had the unique opportunity to visit the crypt of the Cathedral, the famous Gniezno Doors, and the Museum of the Archdiocese with the most valuable works of religious art held in Gniezno.

This was the second time that the Music Libraries Section of the PLA had organised a conference on church music collections in Gniezno (the first conference was held in 2003). The Conference has become an important event for more than just scientific reasons. Staying in Gniezno brought the participants an unforgettable experience and permitted the collections to be shown in the right context. The organizers hope that the conference proceedings will be an opportunity to present these issues to a broader public.

RISM

The project “Central Catalogue of Music Manuscripts - RISM” is being continued by the RISM Centre of the National Library in Warsaw. The main tasks were recently concentrated on the subject “The music manuscripts and old-print music collection from the Archive of the Cistercian Abbey in Mogiła near Kraków”. The Music Collection in Mogiła is a heritage of the Cistercian musical ensemble from the 18th century. The repertoire contains sacred works (masses, litanies, arias for solo voice with orchestra) and instrumental music, mainly symphonies. There are works by Italian, German, Czech and Polish composers, including J. Gołębek, J. Szczurowski, Xistus Policki - Cistercian from Mogiła Abbey, and J. Staromieyski. The collection contains the greatest set of compositions by Johann Adolf Hasse in Poland. Hasse was composer and band master at the court of King Augustus III the Saxon. The thematic catalogue of the collection, *Muzykalia po kapeli cysterskiej w zbiorach Archiwum Opactwa OO. Cystersów w Mogile*, has been prepared by Jolanta Byczkowska-Sztaba and it will be published by the National Library in 2013. A preliminary article on the collection was presented in *Fontes Artis Musicae* in 2012 (Jolanta Byczkowska-Sztaba: “The Music Manuscripts and Music Prints Collection in the Archive of the Cistercian Abbey in Mogiła”, pp. 134-148.)

Future plans

A lot of activity of the Board of the Polish National Branch of IAML was devoted to organise the future conferences. The 13th National Conference of Music Librarians will be held in the Feliks Nowowiejski Music Academy in Bydgoszcz on 21–23 October 2013. This conference is planned as a joint conference with the Section of Sound Archives of the Polish Librarians Association. The preliminary programme of the conference is available at:
http://www.iaml.pl/Konferencja_Bydgoszcz_2013.htm

Another important event is going to be held in 2014 when music librarians in Poland celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding the Section of Music Libraries of the Polish Librarians



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Association. Preparations are being made to celebrate this anniversary and to promote music librarianship in Poland.

Stanisław Hrabia

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