

## **Annual Report 2016-17**

### **Association Répertoire International d'Iconographie Musicale (RidIM)**

The period since the last annual international conference of IAML in Rome in 2016 has seen a number of practical and strategic initiatives by Association RidIM. The General Assembly and Council of Association RidIM held their annual meeting in St. Petersburg on 9 September 2016. 2016 was an election year. The General Assembly re-elected all members of the Council and Antonio Baldassarre as President of Association RidIM. The Executive Board and the various Working Groups liaised several times during this period, both in person and via electronic communication.

#### **Database of Association RidIM**

Continuing on from the last reported improvements of the Database of Association RidIM the latest features embrace

- the option to upload pictures.
- the implementation of the ICONCLASS system.
- introduction of help buttons for cataloguers.
- the development of a sophisticated advanced search interface.
- a completely newly designed, and significantly improved, simple search interface.
- the facility to automatically track and review/renew URLs within each record.

Currently 2,929 of almost 5,000 records are published and publicly available via the [RidIM Database Site](#). With numerous new projects, the record number will achieve a first milestone and pass 3,000 in a couple of days. Association RidIM is very grateful to Alan Green (Project Director Editorial Centre), Sean Ferguson (Editor-in-Chief) and Dorothea Baumann (Chair RidIM Database Working Group) for their strong commitment and enormous involvement with the RidIM Database project.

#### **Website of Association RidIM**

The new [website of Association RidIM](#), has become one of the major gateways to accessing the various activities of Association RidIM. In March 2016, new content was introduced—the “Video of the Month”—providing a monthly video related to issues relevant to the iconography of music, dance and the dramatic arts.

#### **Association RidIM's Open Access Initiative**

As reported, in 2015, and updated since, Association RidIM launched the open access initiative Linking and Uniting Knowledge of Music, Dance and the Dramatic Arts in Visual Culture. This initiative provides the framework for the establishment of a unique network and platform for open data exchange and knowledge sharing with other organisations and institutions, under the leadership of Association RidIM, and with the RidIM Database as both a vital tool within the set of resources available, as well as being the central hub — further information see the [Cooperation Projects page](#). Association RidIM is pleased to report that as part of this initiative it entered negotiations with various organisations and institutions, and has successfully signed a collaborative partnership with RidIM Germany, one of the major national RidIM Centres. I am pleased to report that we have already received the first batch of data from Germany, and are working with RidIM Germany to successfully synergise our two operations. Association RidIM is optimistic that the negotiations that are underway with other potential partners will also soon result in the establishment of other

collaborations. Another significant result activated by the Open Access Initiative is – as already reported briefly - the significant donations of images and books that Association RIdIM has received, or has been assigned to receive soon, including the image archives of Richard Leppert and Sam Segal and the image collection and reference library of Uta Henning.

### **National RIdIM Centres and Working Groups: New Members**

The family of National RIdIM Centres and Working Groups was extended during the Conference in St Petersburg in 2016. Approval was given by the Council of Association RIdIM to welcome the Mexican and Iranian RIdIM Working Groups. In addition, Association RIdIM has recently been informed that initiatives to establish a National RIdIM Centre in Australia have been implemented.

### **Scholarly Meetings**

The 2016 St. Petersburg of Association RIdIM conference was dedicated to the musical salon in visual culture. This Conference turned out to be a very stimulating and inspiring event. Association RIdIM is very grateful to the Rimsky-Korsakov Museum that hosted the Conference and to Dr Lidia Ader, the chair of the local organisation committee. Later this year, i.e. from 5 to 7 October, Association RIdIM will meet in Athens for the 17th International Conference, organised in collaboration with the Music Library of Greece "Lilian Voudouri." The preparation of the conference is in full swing, and at the time of the close of the Call For Papers (30 April 2017), had attracted submissions from more than 50 scholars – colleagues and friends old and new – from a truly international reach. The 17th International Conference will focus on music and dance in visual culture and take place at the Music Library of Greece "Lilian Voudouri." Further information is available on the [RIdIM website](#).

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