RISM

Report at the GA in Rome 2016

1. After having included the converted data from the A/I and part of B/I volumes in Autumn last year we are now preparing data from the rest of B/I and the whole of the B/II volumes. They will appear in the RISM online catalogue by the end of 2016. Next year they will be further revised when we merge the high-quality data from Early Music Online.

2. The RISM online catalogue contains 1,050,679 records, consisting of ca. 900,000 with descriptions of music manuscripts, 150,000 prints . This amount will increase significantly very soon when we change over to the new programme Muscat because this will enable us to import data from external library catalogues. We have just received data from RISM France, which will be made available in the Muscat environment during the IAML-congress, and will soon also have data from Italy (ICCU musica) and the national libraries of Spain and Austria.

3. A widely appreciated feature is the inclusion of links to digitised music sources. At the moment there are 19,546 records with links. A month ago we started a request for sending us lists in Excel format with RISM no. and permanent links to include them in the database. (See the news "Help RISM Link to Digitized Music" on the RISM website).

4. The development of the new input program Muscat was the main task of this year. I can report that the development is nearly concluded. The programme will be introduced to the RISM working groups in the last quarter of this year.

    The program is a joint development of RISM Switzerland and the RISM Zentralredaktion with support of the advisory council and the RISM working group UK.

    The program has a lot of advantages: it is browser based and so system independent. It is an open source program. The data organization is strictly by MARC21, what makes data exchange easier. It follows library standards and uses authority files like ViAf for names etc.

5. RISM and its partners Bayerische Staatsbibliothek Munich and Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin have renewed their collaboration agreement. They have applied for a grant in order to develop a new release of the RISM online catalogue. Part of the application is also a programme to explore ways of improving the RISM A/I and B data by incorporating catalogue data from RISM's contributing libraries.

6. In Series B a new volume will appear in November 2016: Volume no. XVII: Die Triosonate. Catalogue Raisonné der gedruckten Quellen. Edited by Ludwig Finscher, Laurenz Lütteken und Inga Mai Groote, assisted by Cristina Urchueguía, Gabriela Freiburghaus and Nicola Schneider. München (Henle) 2016.

    It is a hybrid edition, consisting of a book with descriptions of the works in the sources and their background and a database with sources newly described.

7.   Some initiatives, partly together with the other R-projects, raised awareness of the efforts of Latin American Countries to catalogue their heritage of music sources. RISM is organizing a conference in September 2016 with the aim of bringing together efforts and to make the results available to scholars in the world.

8.   We thank all contributors to the RISM projects, all supporters and users.

RISM Zentralredaktion

Klaus Keil

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For further information see the RISM website http://www.RISM.info