Russia, report 2009

The Russian branch of IAML considers the preparatory work for the Moscow IAML Congress to be its primary goal. All of the main points have been settled. We have assigned members to the Organizing Committee, made up the programme of the Congress, and have decided on the venue. We hope that all these will contribute to the Moscow Congress being organized in a proper way. There is also much work to be done, and those of you who have already organized annual IAML conferences, are aware what it is like.

As the territory of Russia is rather big, music libraries and archives are disconnected to a certain extent. The Moscow Congress will be an an opportunity for us to meet not only specialists from different parts of the country but also our colleagues in the former Soviet Republics, as most of them used to be not only our colleagues but good friends as well.

Along with the Congress preparation, this year we have taken part in the anniversary Conference held in November 2008 by the Saint Petersburg Rimsky-Korsakov State Conservatory Music Library in St. Petersburg. The conference was called “St. Petersburg Reading” and was dedicated to the seventieth anniversary of the Conservatory Library’s Manuscripts Department. After the conference, there was a wonderful concert.

In March 2009 there was a scientific conference entitled “Russian musical archives abroad. Foreign archives in Russia” held in the Taneev Library in Moscow.

In May, we all gathered in Vologda for the annual congress of the Russian Library Association. A very pleasant event was the move by the Russian State Library to a new building, a wonderful piece of Russian architecture, called Pashkov’s House.

I would like to announce that the activity of the music departments in the public and municipal libraries in many Russian cities is now much higher. The Russian IAML Branch plays a significant role in this process. The leaders of the Branch continue working for RISM, RIPM, and RILM projects and correspond with the members of IAML.

Emilia Rassina
President, IAML (Russia)