



IAML Electronic Newsletter

No. 30, December 2008

IAML-IMS 2009 Amsterdam

[The IAML and IMS joint conference and symposium](#) will take place July 5-10 in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. A very rich program is being concocted for us all, on topics ranging from medieval chant to contemporary portals and archives.

Ontologies are making a strong comeback. The establishment of a formal music ontology working group was approved at the Naples conference, and a first informal meeting of some of its members and many new ones took place in Paris in December, to be followed beginning of January by another one in London.

Two meetings of the working group are scheduled in Amsterdam, as well as two plenary sessions which will include presentations on this topic of interest.

Music in libraries

Lilian Voudouri Music Library

In the [Newsletter n° 23](#) (April 2007), we spoke of the inauguration of the new building of the Lilian Voudouri Music Library of Greece. We were fortunate enough to be able to visit the open, vast and beautiful space under the guidance of its director, Stephanie Merakos, who can be seen in the picture below standing in the children reading room. We can attest that *Fontes* is



Candidates for the 2010 Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections

Please let me remind you that every member of IAML has the right to propose candidates for the office of the President and the four Vice-Presidents. According to the Constitution “the President may only be re-elected immediately in exceptional cases. Vice-presidents may not be re-elected more than once”. All proposals should be presented at the first Council session of the meeting in Amsterdam (5 July 2009). I would therefore appreciate receiving your suggestions, together with brief Curriculum Vitae and a statement of acceptance by the candidates, **no later than 3 July 2009**.

Roger Flury

well displayed (see second picture).

Library staff will speak at the Amsterdam conference about its digital archive of Greek songs (1870-1960).



Scheide Library

The [Scheide Library](#) is a private library owned by Princeton 1936 alumnus William Scheide, and is housed in the university's Firestone Library. It holds many very significant rare manuscripts and books. Regarding music, it owns an 1815 sketchbook used by Beethoven (which includes a sketch related to the Ninth Symphony) as well as music manuscripts of Bach. A new book, *Biblio*, by photographer Natasha D'Schommer, provides more than 120 photographs of some of the rare Scheide documents. (Source: [News at Princeton](#))

To submit an item to this newsletter, please send it via email to the address iaml-news@ircam.fr

Publications

Eblida, Europeana et al.

[The last couple of issues](#) of the newsletter of the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations briefly report on meetings of interest. Its joint conference with IFLA and eIFL provided a platform to discuss the recent settlement between Google and authors and book publishers: while it will probably enable better access to online contents while remunerating right owners, it may have unforeseen questionable effects on libraries.

The EBLIDA/LIBER Joint Expert Group on Digitization and Online Access “encourages its membership to advocate for national digitization strategies and to ensure that these are embedded in national library strategies. Funding for mass digitization is a major challenge and [they] believe that there should be opportunities to seek funding for such projects at the European level if the European Commission is really to achieve the goals of the [i2010 initiative](#) and to ensure the long term success of [Europeana](#).

Speaking of which: the *Europeana* prototype was officially launched late November, with ca. 2 million digital items. Music is still quite under-represented, for obvious reasons: rights. Thousands of excerpts from French contemporary music sound archives will eventually make their way into *Europeana* once it manages to harvest the French [gateway](#) for contemporary music resources which has made them available on the Internet as of a few months ago and for harvesting by *Europeana* in due time for the launch.

Richard Chesser,
Michael Fingerhut



Culture & Recherche n° 118-119

[The fall-winter issue](#) of this publication of the French Ministry of culture and communication contains the proceedings of [a conference](#) which it organized November 27-28 in Paris. It was dedicated to the digitization of cultural heritage in Europe.



Two talks were dedicated to music portals: Marie-Hélène Serra, from the [Cité de la musique](#) in Paris, spoke of the world music portal and of the French orchestras portal and will do so in Amsterdam, while Michael Fingerhut from [IRCAM](#) spoke of the French gateway for con- temporary music resources.



Forum Musikbibliothek 29/4

The latest issue is out. The table of contents can be found at the end of this newsletter. Many books are reviewed, among which some worthy of being offered as gifts. They are identified in the journal with a small package-like icon. Count them, fill in and return the quiz to the Editor before January 6. You may win one of ten CDs. You can also subscribe to the journal (31 €/year + postage) or download single issues from the publisher's [web site](#).

Jutta Lambrecht,
Editor-in-chief

Events

Unlocking Audio 2

March 16-17, London. This conference, whose theme this year will be “Connecting with Listeners”, marks the end of the second phase of the British Library’s Archival Sound Recordings project, funded by the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC). It will focus on ways that researchers and other audiences expect to discover, browse, audition and analyze archival audio resources. It will take place at the British Library Conference Center. [The provisional program](#) is available online, and it includes the names of the two keynote

speakers (Charles Leadbeater and Andy Powell), as well as the list of spoken papers. Deadline for late registration is February 16, 2009.

Antony Gordon

Tenth ISMIR conference

October 26-30, Kobe. The ISMIR series of yearly conferences on music information retrieval (MIR) [was born in 2000](#), when [its first meeting](#) – then called “symposium” – took place in Baltimore. [Its tenth conference](#) will take place in Japan. A call for papers (deadline: May 8) and tutorials (deadline: January 31) has just been issued. The emphasis is on higher quality and wider interdisciplinary research and scholarship in all pertinent aspects of MIR. Readers of this newsletter are strongly encouraged to contribute.

Awards, grants

Queen Sofia prize

The jury of the 26th Queen Sofia prize for music composition 2008 met a couple of weeks ago in Madrid. It selected three works as finalists of the competition:

- *That scream called silence – Piano Concerto*, by Eduardo Soutollo (Spain)
- *Tessiture*, by Miguel Farias (Chile)
- *Seven days / Stained Glass / Mirror*, by Jae-moon Lee (Korea).

These works will be premiered by the Spanish Radio Television Symphony Orchestra in October 2009 before a new jury selected by the [Ferrer-Salat Music Foundation](#). It will award the prize.

Lidia Capó
Michael Fingerhut

Yiguo Yan gets Opera prize

The [2008 Nancy Van de Vate International Composition Prize for Opera](#) has been awarded to Yiguo Yan for her work, *Mirror*, composed in 2007. A chamber opera,

for which the composer did her own libretto, *Mirror* is scored for Peking tenor, soprano, flute, oboe, clarinet, piano, and percussion. The prize is \$1,000 and publication of the winning work.

This prize, awarded by the American music publishers, Vienna Masterworks (BMI) and Vienna Master Composers (ASCAP), is open to women composers of any age or nationality. The biennial prize, given for the fourth time in 2008, recognizes the difficulty women composers worldwide have in finding performances for their operas and is intended to encourage public production of their works.

Funded German projects

[OPERA](#), a 15-year long project, starting in 2009, aims at publishing critical editions of 63 outstanding works of European opera from the 17th until the 20th centuries. It is led by Prof. Dr. Thomas Betzwieser at the University of Bayreuth, and has received a funding of ca. 3,3m€

The future of the publication of the scientific-critical edition of the [letters of Richard Wagner](#) by the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg has been assured: the German Research Foundation has approved the project for three more years.

Jutta Lambrecht

Funded French project

The French Ministry of culture and communication has awarded funding to the [French Gateway for Contemporary Music Resources](#) project for the third year. In 2009, it will almost double the number of partners being harvested and organize the digitization of, and online access to, the holdings of small ensembles.



At the beginning of 2009, the volume of online audio it already provides online will triple with the inclusion of the sound archives of the [Ensemble intercontemporain](#) and of the [Cdmc](#).

Other news of interest

Cacophony at the City of Music of Rio de Janeiro

[This mega project](#) consists in building, in the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro, cultural facilities over one million square feet, accommodating a Philharmonic Concert Hall (1800 seats convertible into a 1300 seats Opera House), a Chamber Music Hall (500 seats), an electro acoustic hall (180 seats), headquarters for the Brazilian Symphonic Orchestra, music school, rehearsal rooms, media library, two cinema theaters (150 seats each), another cinema theater (300 seats), a restaurant, shops, administration offices, equipment rooms and a car park. The architect is Christian de Portzamparc, known among other projects for his design of the [Cit  de la musique](#) in Paris.

The Brazilian complex is [raising controversy](#) for many reasons: its high cost for a city where crime and poverty are rampant, its dedication to art and classical music where popular sound is king, its location away from cheap public transportation facilities and its running way behind schedule.

Musicless YouTube?

A couple of weeks ago, Warner Music asked YouTube to remove from its site all videos involving its music from after failing to reach a licensing deal with the Google-owned video site. Now, Silicon Alley Insider reports that Warner and the other three majors--Universal, Sony, and EMI--may be in talks to create their own YouTube competitor. (Source: Matt Rosoff's [Digital Noise blog](#))

Performance of the future without performers

It is a sometime curious *pas-de-deux*: technology advances, man retreats. In a recent newsletter ([n° 28](#), p. 10), we reported on a robot conductor, and earlier ([n° 12](#), p. 4-5) on reducing the number of mu-

sicians in an orchestra by using a "virtual orchestra".

We are getting closer to the musicianless orchestra: classical music writer and critic Tristan Jakob-Hoff [tells us](#) of his use of the [Vienna Symphonic Library](#) (yes, it is a music library, but no, it's not one affiliated with IAML, it is a *software* library, i.e., a collection of sample-based virtual instruments on DVD) in order to compose a quartet without ever having to ask "real" (i.e., human) musicians to perform it in order to find out how it sounds. Yeah, the younger generation of composers is not what it used to be, and trial-and-error has gained its place in compositional methods. What's next, a virtual composer? Been there, heard that: algorithmic composition.

On The Web and elsewhere

Boulez: "patient but obstinate"

The *Guardian* put on its web site [a fascinating short video](#) of "revolutionary music maestro" Pierre Boulez filmed at the Lucerne festival, in which he briefly speaks about educating young musicians and is shown conducting with devilish precision and teaching aspiring composers and conductors: "if you are convinced of the talent of people, you will convince them."



Arvo P rt's Symphony n° 4

Would you believe it? Universal Edition has published P rt's *Symphony n° 4 "Los Angeles"* [online](#), while it hasn't even been performed yet. (Source: [The Guardian](#))

Australia's music heritage

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) has recently launched [a new web-site](#) to capture Australia's classical and experimental music heritage drawn from its vast archive of music recording. Those who attended the Sydney conference in 2006 will be pleased to find a 13-minute long piece by Anne Boyd whose work they had heard on the Asian Influences concert (see [Newsletter n° 25](#), p. 11).

Roger Flury

Beloved Clara

A new section of the [Schumann portal](#) is dedicated to the life and works of Clara Schumann. It was put online on the eve of the opening of the movie [Beloved Clara](#) on December 4.

Ingrid Bodsch
Direktorin StadtMuseum Bonn

For fans of Elliott Carter and the Berlin Philharmonic...

...the *Guardian* [writes](#) about the Berlin Philharmonic Digital Concert Hall and also about rich online free resources provided by the Library of Congress about Carter (including sketches).

Philippe Hersant: Helldunkel

At the 29th Festival d'Ambronay, Bernard Têtu and his Solistes de Lyon premiered, last October, *Helldunkel*, a work for choir and viola da gamba by Philippe Hersant, on poems by Catharina Regina von Greiffenberg, a 17th century poetess. The



ClassiqueNews.com site provides [three videos](#) documenting the genesis of the work and the work of the interpreters: interviews with the composer, the conductor and the soloists.

And still from IAML 2008

Reports

Minutes of the Council meetings and of the General Assembly are [available online](#).

Pictures

Pictures from the social and professional meetings are also [available online](#).

People

Catherine Massip @ AMS

At the AMS (American Musicological Society) [Nashville 2008 annual meeting](#) in conjunction with the SMT (Society for Music Theory), Catherine Massip, director of the Music Department of the Bibliothèque nationale de France, was elected [corresponding member](#) of the AMS.



Contributors

Many thanks to the following people who have contributed directly or indirectly to this issue: **Ingrid Bodsch, Lidia Capó, Richard Chesser, Roger Flury, Antony Gordon, Jutta Lambrecht**. Photos by Michael Fingerhut (except for the two video stills).

HAPPY NEW YEAR
TO ALL OUR READERS
AND THEIR LOVED ONES