

IAML Goes Down Under: The Wellington Conference

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IAML's 1999 conference in Wellington celebrated not one, not two, but three firsts! It was our first conference in the Southern hemisphere, our first winter conference, and, strange but true, the first international library conference to be held in New Zealand! With the weight of all this on their shoulders, one might have wondered if the members of the New Zealand local organizing committee might feel a bit daunted. Not a bit of it! The four main organizers, Roger Flury, Jill Palmer, Joan Clayton and Dorothy Freed remained cool, calm and collected throughout, and produced for the 138 participants a truly wonderful and superbly organized meeting.

Wellington, the capital city of New Zealand, is located at the south end of the North island, and is a manageable place to get around. It offers, amongst other things, superb views over the harbour, a large number of excellent restaurants serving enormous portions of food, a wide selection of New Zealand wines available by the bottle in even the humblest café, and at least three automatic banking machines on each corner. The conference was located in the Town Hall, where the opening ceremony, hosted by the Mayor of Wellington, took place, beginning with a *powhiri*, or Maori welcome, featuring some fascinating dancing, singing and speeches, followed by excellent wine and food. Later on in the week, there was a reception at the National Library of New

Zealand to launch three exhibitions, entitled collectively *Keeping the Score*, consisting of early music sources in New Zealand, the 25th anniversary of the Archive of New Zealand Music, and the 15th anniversary of the Lilburn Trust.

In addition to exploring the downtown area, investigating Te Papa, New Zealand's magnificent new national museum and gallery, and a ride in the cable car to view the city from a loftier angle, there were opportunities to see something of the countryside. A midweek excursion took us to the Kapiti Coast, and the Lindale Farm complex. Those staying on for an extra day or two experienced an amazing drive over the mountains to visit the wine growing area of Martinborough.

To turn to the conference itself, this year we had perhaps a more discursive Council meeting than usual, as a result of the President's message sent out on IAML-L asking for suggestions for the future of IAML, and how things might be bettered. Below are some of the salient points.

Languages

A lively discussion on the use of languages in the Association was sparked by the President's message about IAML's future. There seemed to be a

unanimous feeling from the start that a move to an English-only environment was not an option. Interest was expressed in the possible expansion of the number of official languages, for example, adding Spanish, however, this could be viewed as the thin end of the wedge, as once one new language is added, then it will not be long before other languages will be knocking at the door. The situation has also to be viewed from an administrative point of view, as to how many official languages IAML can sustain. Another issue was the presentation of papers in languages other than the three official ones, especially in countries whose language is not one of these. In sum, the Board suggested that the status quo be maintained, but that a flexible attitude be adopted towards publicity in other languages, also to allow papers to be presented in other languages, provided a full text translation, or at least detailed abstracts, are provided in the official languages. Debate on this matter will continue.

Jazzing up the programme

Several ideas were forthcoming on this point, such as presenting the official programme in a less forbidding, more user-friendly style, putting out calls for papers on IAML-L, or other related lists, and introducing workshops on current topics for a more hands-on experience. Time will tell how we do on this one.

Full text electronic *Fontes*

Both Chadwyck Healey and H.W. Wilson have made offers to make *Fontes* available electronically. This has both an

up and a down side. On the one hand, it would make the journal accessible to a wider sphere of readers, but on the other hand, this availability could result on a certain loss of membership. Royalties would be received, but it is unclear how much this would be. The situation is complicated by the fact that the situation of periodicals in electronic format is still unstable, as is the question of archiving materials in electronic form. The Board will pursue the issue, looking for more information from both firms concerned, and will also investigate what IAML itself can do, such as placing the table of contents and abstracts on the home page.

Electronic Newsletter

There was a general agreement that this would be a very good thing to have, even though it unfortunately had to be acknowledged that not all members of IAML would have access to it. It would still be better than nothing. The concept of a newsletter has come up several times in the past, as addressing the need for a means of communication that would be faster and more informal than *Fontes*. However, the two major questions of cost and logistics have always provided an insurmountable stumbling block. A newsletter in electronic format effectively removes these two problems, and it was eventually agreed that the Secretary General would send out a trial issue, or maybe more, to see how it would fly. (For those of you who have already read it, yes indeed, I have lifted bits I wrote from it, but there's no point in writing the same thing twice! For those of you who

haven't read it, I'd love it if you did. Just go to the IAML Web site and follow the link to the *Newsletter*.)

Other Highlights

The Cataloguing Commission presented a session comprising two demonstrations of cataloguing systems. Andrew McPherson (National Library of New Zealand) spoke about Te Puna, the web and windows-based online system of the National Library of New Zealand, using Voyager software, and offering an OPAC, a cataloguing module, and ILL. He demonstrated the cataloguing system, including creating bibliographic records, authorities, and various search techniques. Antony Gordon (British National Sound Archives) presented CADENSA, the catalogue and collection management system of the British National Sound Archive in London. He talked about the problems of converting data received from varieties of sources, and gave us a live demonstration via Telnet.

Finally, Sherry Vellucci (St. John's University, New York) spoke about Metadata for Music, giving an overview of metadata characteristics, and indicating possible future areas of IAML activity in this field. She talked about flexibility, relating to form and content of documents, interoperability—the mapping between schemes—and extensibility, such as new elements and qualifiers, and mentioned the Dublic Core, where all elements are optional and repeatable, the order of elements is optional, and all elements can be qualified.

RILM presented a session on the development of national committees. Susanne Staral (Staatliches Institut für Musikforschung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Berlin) described the activities in Germany. An initiative in 1967 to have a committee operating out of the Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in Munich was not realized, but a year later in 1968, work was able to start at the Institut für Musikforschung Preußischer Kulturbesitz (SIM) in West Berlin. The committee for East Germany was located in East Berlin. There was no contact between these two branches during the existence of the two separate German states. The two committees finally met in 1991, after which the SIM became responsible for the whole country, and its number of titles increased by about 25 percent. Activities have gone from strength to strength, thanks to the development of computer technology and the encouragement of the late Barry Brook, and now the German committee has become the most productive one.

Responding to encouragement from the ubiquitous Barry Brook, Dorothy Freed (Wellington) managed the RILM work for New Zealand as a one-woman-band for ten years, starting in 1979. At the start, there were no periodicals devoted specifically to music, but there were articles to be found in other journals. In a country with good general library systems, she developed her own system for identifying and retrieving information. Subsequently she was able to call on assistance from IAML members in Auckland, and the National Library of New Zealand in Auckland.

The Research Libraries Branch presented an interesting session on fund raising. Susan Sommer (NYPL) started off describing the efforts required by the Research Libraries of the New York Public Library, which is funded almost entirely by endowments and public donations. Activities include convincing the City and the State to give money and lobbying in the community. Funds are also solicited from foundations, corporations and individuals. All these activities must be carefully coordinated to ensure that rules are followed, and potential donors are not "hit" twice or more. A wish list of different types of desiderata should be maintained, to provide prospective donors with options, such as donations in memoriam, and annual sales of unwanted duplicates can be held.

In Estonia, there are three major foundations which engage in fund raising that can support music libraries; the Open Estonia Foundation (Soros Foundation), the Estonian National Culture Foundation, and the Cultural Endowment of Estonia. Aurika Gergeleziu (National Library of Estonia) spoke about their various achievements. George Soros paid quite a lot of attention to libraries, particularly the technological side, while the Estonian National Culture Foundation receives donations from banks, businesses and individuals, with which to aid the preservation and development of Estonian culture and to support higher education. The Cultural Foundation of Estonia uses money from alcohol, tobacco and gambling taxes to support Estonian arts and folk culture.

Agostina Zecca Laterza focussed on the restoration of the Conservatory Library in Naples, explaining the different steps involved, such as the restoration of the building, the library equipment, and the cataloguing of the collection.

Finally, Pam Thompson (Royal College of Music, London) described the work of the Music Libraries Trust, a charitable trust supporting education and research in music libraries. The Trust was established since IAML (U.K.), due to its international involvement, is unable to gain charitable status in the U.K.. Most of the Trust's income comes from conference surpluses from IAML (U.K.), and it has been used to support research projects, assist attendance at courses and international conferences, funds a regular prize, and, most recently, a new course in music librarianship. It has excellent support from musicians and musicologists, and has had a variety of trustees from the music library and music business worlds.

There was a half-day plenary session devoted to New Zealand music. The first part featured an amazing display of indigenous instruments, described and played by Hirini Melbourne (University of Waikato, Hamilton) and Richard Nunns, a musician and teacher from Nelson. Following this, Allan Thomas (Victoria University, Wellington) spoke about the oral traditions of the Pacific, with particular reference to the Tokelau Islands, near the equator in the Central Pacific. He talked about the rich and complex oral heritage, and the difficulties encountered for researchers and

archivists, as the songs and dances created are continually developing and changing. Multifaceted performances cannot be satisfactorily caught by a single recording or document.

The Libraries in Music Teaching Institutions Branch and Commission on Service and Training presented a joint session on accessing collections via the internet. Angela Escott (Royal College of Music, London) talked about a cataloguing project aimed to provide internet access to the College's special collections of manuscripts and early printed music, which are a significant national resource. She gave an account of the processes involved in organising and cataloguing this material. Federica Riva (Conservatorio di Musica A. Boito, Parma) compared access to Web sites and Web catalogues, indicating the many music catalogues that are available, discussing the relationships between an institution, its library, and the catalogue, and what makes a good music library home page. She stressed the importance of keeping links up to date, and how linkages are made—for example, is a catalogue accessible directly from a music library home page, or from the institution's home page. Web sites can be used as acquisition tools, if new acquisitions are listed separately. She gave an example of a small university in Graz who have just scanned their card catalogue, and created a clickable index, which is a cheap and easy option.

Other items of interest included an update on the ISMN from Hartmut Walravens (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin Preußischer Kulturbesitz). This standard is

now implemented in 20 countries. Tim Maloney demonstrated the National Library's Virtual Gramophone project, which we had seen at the CAML annual meeting in Lennoxville; many aspects of New Zealand music and libraries appeared in various sessions, such as reissued early sound recordings, music publishing in New Zealand, the evolution of the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, and OCTAVES, its orchestral management system, and a description of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Islander Studies.

This year, there were elections for officers for the Professional Branches and Subject Commissions. Here are the results:

PROFESSIONAL BRANCHES

Archives and Documentation Centres Branch

Chair: Judy Tsou (Berkeley)

Vice-Chair: Chris Walton (Zürich)

Secretary: Chris Banks (London)

Broadcasting and Orchestra Libraries

Chair: Kauko Karjalainen (Helsinki)

Vice-Chair: Wynne Cole (Wellington)

Secretary: Marco Feklistoff (Stockholm)

Libraries in Music Teaching Institutions

Chair: Federica Riva (Parma)

Vice-Chair: Yasuko Todo (Tokyo)

Secretary: Angela Escott (London)

Public Libraries

Chair: Kirsten Voss-Eliasson (Herlev)

Vice-Chair: Brigitte Geyer (Leipzig)

Secretary: Carolyn Dow (Lincoln NB)

Research Libraries

Chair: Ann Barbara Kersting Meulman (Frankfurt)

Vice-Chair: Liesbetj Hoedemaeker (s'-Gravenhage)

Secretary: Aurika Gergeleziu (Tallinn)

Subject Commissions

Commission on Audio-Visual Materials

Chair: Antony Gordon (London)

Vice-Chair: Elizabeth Giuliani (Paris)

Secretary: Avo Kartul (Tartu)

Bibliography Commission

Chair: Susanne Staral (Berlin)

Vice-Chair: Barbara Zakrewska-Nikiporczyk (Poznan)

Secretary: Thomas Leibniz (Vienna)

Cataloguing Commission

Chair: Anders Cato (Lund)

Vice-Chair: Sherry Vellucci (New York)

Secretary: Christina Koch (Stockholm)

Commission on Service and Training

Chair: Mary Kay Duggan (Berkeley)

Vice-Chair: Tine Vind (Copenhagen)

Secretary: Dominique Hausfater (Paris)

The **Working Group on Hofmeister XIX** and the **Working Group on the Registration of Music Archives** were both renewed for a further three year term. A new working group was created to work on **Music incipits in UNIMARC** (Chair: Anders Cato (we hope) and a new

Information Technology (IT) Committee, chaired by Massimo Gentili-Tedeschi.

Future conferences

2000 August 6-11 Edinburgh Scotland

2001 July 8-14 Perigueux, France

2002 August 4-9 Berkeley, California

2003 Tallinn, Estonia

2004 Oslo, Norway

2005 Warsaw, Poland

Call for papers

Our next conference is coming up in Edinburgh, in August 2000. Is there something you know about that would make an interesting presentation to the Association? Consider sending the suggestion in to the Chair of the appropriate Branch or Commission.

Call for nominations

A call for nominations for the next Presidential and Vice-Presidential elections will be appearing in *Fontes* shortly (we hope!). If you wish to nominate someone for one of these offices, please send your nomination in to the IAML Secretary General, Alison Hall. Please ensure that the consent of the nominee is obtained in writing, and attach a short curriculum vitae of the candidate.