

COMMUNICATIONS

SSHRC LIBRETTO GRANT

The University of Toronto has gratefully received a \$20,000 grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, in the Support for Specialized Collections program. These funds will be used to add to the Libretto Collections. These collections now include over 6,500 printed early editions of texts of operas, oratorios and other extended vocal ensemble works of the 17th through 19th centuries, held in the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library and Robarts Library, over 200 titles in reprint editions located in the Faculty of Music Library and the over 12,000 titles of the Library of Congress' Schatz Collection on microfilm in Robarts.

At the same time, SSHRC has awarded grant support to a U of T co-operative research project entitled "'Prima le parole': Italian librettos (1600-1815) and their impact on music, musical life and the theatre". Prof. Mary Ann Parker of the Faculty of Music presented a preliminary report on this project at the joint chapter meeting of the AMS and MLA on Sept. 23, 1989, in Rochester, N.Y.

RECORDINGS GIFT TO MEMORIAL

The music collection at Memorial University of Newfoundland has received an anonymous donation of about 1400 LP recordings, mostly of 18th- and 19-th century music, a substantial addition to the holdings.



CAPAC + PRO = SOCAN

The process of merging the operations of CAPAC and PROCAN began almost eighteen months ago. In December the two Boards approved the name of the new Canadian society: Society of Composers, Authors and Music Publishers of Canada. The abbreviated version is SOCAN which, for international identification, serves the names in both official languages clearly.

CAPAC and PROCAN's magazines, Canadian composer and Music scene, cease publication with the December and January issues respectively. A new, enlarged, quarterly magazine published in separate English and French editions will begin publication this spring. Titled Canadian composer, it will report on the activities and concerns of Canadian composers and publishers, both in Canada and abroad. The titles are the same as CAPAC currently uses and these were thought to be most suitable for the new magazine. A new monthly newsletter title Probe (the title currently used by PROCAN) will be published regularly. Four times a year the newsletter will be incorporated in the quarterly magazine. The current editorial staff members will carry on with these publications.

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Le processus de fusion des activités de la CAPAC et de la SDE a débuté il y a presque dix-huit mois. Les membres des deux Conseils d'administration ont approuvé en décembre le nom de la nouvelle Société, à savoir: Société canadienne des auteurs, compositeurs et éditeurs de musique. L'acronyme de la Société sera SOCAN, et pourra donc servir tant pour la désignation française que l'anglaise, quand viendra le moment d'identifier la Société dans un contexte international.

Les magazines de la CAPAC et de la SDE, soit Le Compositeur Canadien et La Scène Musicale, cesseront de paraître après les numéros de décembre et de janvier respectivement. Un nouveau magazine trimestriel paraîtra en versions française et anglaise à compter du printemps prochain. Intitulé le Compositeur canadien, ce magazine se fera l'écho des activités et des préoccupations des compositeurs et éditeurs canadiens ainsi qu'étrangers. Ces titres correspondent à ceux actuellement utilisés par la CAPAC et ils ont été jugés on ne peut plus appropriés pour le nouveau magazine. Un nouveau bulletin d'information mensuel, intitulé Le milieu (titre que la SDE utilise actuellement), sera lui aussi publié régulièrement. Ce bulletin d'information sera inséré dans le magazine trimestriel. Les équipes d'édition des deux sociétés vont demeurer en charge de ces publications.

COMPACT DISC ACQUISITIONS

A bibliography of articles on collection development and technology, plus a list of suppliers' addresses and phone numbers was compiled for the CLA 1989 Workshop presented by CAML. Copies are available from the chair of the session: William Sgrazzutti
Music Library, University of Calgary
Calgary, Alta. T2N 1N4

Issues addressed at the sessions were: size of CD collections, suppliers (retailers, wholesalers, jobbers, etc.), storage problems and solutions, and other related concerns. Information was based on a survey of twenty libraries (eight academic, seven public, 5 special), selected at random from various parts of the country. In responses, libraries reported CD holdings from less than 100 to over 3,000 titles. Selection criteria and suppliers used were just as varied. Twenty suppliers were selected for comparison. All were extremely helpful in supplying information regarding discount /fill rates, turnaround time for orders,

damaged goods, and the sound recording industry in general. Due to time limitations, only a portion of this material was covered at the workshop. Transcripts of the supplier survey are also available from William Sgrazzutti.

MLA-L

- from Alison Hall

I know that several CAML members already participate in MLA-L, and I'm sure find it as interesting and useful as I do. However, perhaps the word has not filtered through to everyone with an email address, and perhaps this news might be of interest to some who might soon have one.

MLA-L is an electronic bulletin board on Bitnet, used mainly by members of the Music Library Association, by which participants can request and receive information. Here are some of the possible uses:

- seeking answers to hard to solve reference queries
- tracking down obscure sound recordings of the "Internationale"
- dialogue about contentious cataloguing issues
- finding a home for periodical backfiles
- seeking opinions on definitions of musical genres
- bemoaning the latest deviant practices of LC
- whining about the inadequacies of the searching techniques of one's OPAC
- relaying information of general interest
- discussing ways and means of marking and tattle taping CDs and jewel boxes
- finding a roomie for the MLA meeting

The list is supported by the University of Indiana as a trial of LISTSERV software, and it may eventually become a permanent service. Presently there are 168 subscribers. Messages are sent to MLA-L@IUBVM.BITNET. But do bear in mind if responding to a message, that

invoking the answer command sends your reply speeding out to all 168 users: if it contains any confidential information make sure to reply only to the individual concerned.

Have we enough CAML members currently or potentially using email to consider establishing a CAML list of the same nature? Those of us who use MLA-L may feel our needs are met; on the other hand, it might be useful to have a vehicle to discuss issues peculiar to CAML and to Canada. We would need to find an institution with the capability and willingness to support such a list, and a person to create and administer it. Without voting one way or the other now, I am most interested in knowing the views of others, especially those already using MLA-L. I can be reached at the address at the front of the Newsletter, or at ALISON-HALL@CARLETON.CA.

Anyone wishing to participate in MLA-L can sign up by contacting Ralph Papakhian at PAPAKHI@IUBVM.BITNET. There is another list which is just a list of Bitnet addresses for MLA members, and which is updated and sent out on Bitnet quarterly I believe. To be included in this, contact Dick Griscom at RWGRISO1@ULKYVM.BITNET.

CONCERT PROGRAMS FROM CHINA

Ottawa resident, Raymond Yang, has offered to the National Library of Canada a collection of concert programs from Tientsin, China, spanning the years 1921 to 1937. The 21 programs, in English, feature world-renowned artists Mischa Elman, Fritz Kreisler, the Canadian violinist Kathleen Parlow, Jascha Heifetz, Efram Zimbalist, Jan Kubelik, Joseph Szigeti, Benno Moiseiwitsch, Ignaz Friedman, Alexander Tcherepnin playing his own music, Feodor Chaliapin, Maurice Maréchal and Emanuel Feuermann. In spite of the obvious socio-cultural and historical value of this collection as a slice of East-West relations, it does not fall within the collection guidelines of the National Library

(except for the Parlow programs which we hope to keep). Mr. Yang would like to sell the collection and contribute the proceeds to his mother's alma mater in Georgia, USA. He also has about 40 concert programs featuring Russian, Jewish and Chinese residents of Tientsin. Please address any expressions of interest to Maria Calderisi, Music Division, National Library of Canada, Ottawa, Canada K1A 0N4.

FRENCH SILENT FILMS

Le Centre de Recherche et d'Action Culturelle, with the help of SACEM, is in the process of compiling a catalogue of musical scores and cue sheets which accompanied public showings of films in France during the silent movie era. An introduction will deal with composers, musicians and musical practices in French movie theatres during the silent era. Mr. Christian Belaygue is responsible for compiling and editing the catalogue, and would appreciate it if you would contact him regarding any documents and materials in your possession which may be pertinent to this project. His address is: 2, rue des Poissonniers, 75018 PARIS France.

HELEN CREIGHTON, 1899-1989

CAML members will have been saddened to hear of the death of Helen Creighton in Halifax on Tuesday, Dec.12, 1989. Her pioneering work in documenting the oral and musical cultural traditions of the Maritimes resulted in numerous publications and recordings, and a collection of source materials deposited in the Nova Scotia Provincial Archives. She had been an Honorary Member of our Association since its earliest days, after delivering a major address to the Annual General Meeting at Mount Allison University in Sackville, NB, on June 17, 1973.