UTAH 1988

Come help us celebrate the Chapter's 10th anniversary in Utah for our annual conference on May 26-27. As a special treat, this year's conference will be held in two locations. On Thursday May 26, we will meet at the University Park Hotel in Salt Lake City, and on Friday May 27, we will travel to Provo (about 60 miles to the south) to meet on the campus of Brigham Young University. Due to arrangements which must be made prior to the conference for transportation, meals, etc., we are strongly encouraging pre-registration. (See elsewhere in this issue for pre-registration form, hotel information and tentative program.) Hope to see you all there!
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This newsletter actively seeks to serve as a written forum for the open discussion of issues relating to music librarianship. Your participation in this forum is encouraged. Please submit all information, queries, articles, suggestions for articles, etc., to: Charles King, Music Collection, 115 Music Building, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721. We need your input.

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OFFICERS OF THE MOUNTAIN\PLAINS CHAPTER -- 1986-1988
Chair: Karl Kroeger (Music Bldg. M290, Univ. of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309) 303/492-8093.
Vice Chair/Chair Elect: Carolyn Dow (Polley Music Library, 14th & N St., Lincoln, NE 68508)
Secretary/Treasurer: Laurie Eagleson (Catalog Dept., Univ. of Arizona Libraries, Tucson, AZ 85721 602/621-6452.
Member at Large: Ellen Johnson (Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66044) 913/864-3496.
Past Chair: Dorman Smith (Music Coll., University of Arizona, Tucson AZ 85721. 602/621-7010.

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MOUNTAIN/PLAINS TRADING POST

Well, the response to our last offer wasn't overwhelming, so I'll list them again, in case you just never got around to responding. Also, I'm adding a Musical Quarterly offer that I hope someone can use. Please contact the libraries offering the material directly.

1. From Arizona State University: (contact Arlys McDonald)

2. From University of Arizona: (contact Dorman Smith)
   van der Werf, ed. Extant Troubadour Melodies. unused

3. From University of Arizona:
   lacks 1958 no2, 1971 no3. Take all, or take what you lack!
THE MUSIC LIBRARY AT WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

By Sue Weiland

Wichita State University's Music Library is located in the Duerrson Fine Arts Center. For 20 years, it was "owned and operated" by the Music Department, becoming a branch library in 1981. Over 12,000 recordings and 21,500 scores are crammed into 1,138 square feet, a space which also contains study tables, 7 listening stations, staff space, the card catalog, a microfilm reader, and soon, 2 terminals for users to access the online catalog. The collection, which was built in the last 30 years from almost nothing, has clearly outgrown its current space and the search for larger quarters has begun.

In addition to the holdings in the Music Library, there are about 16,000 books and 104 current serials in Ablah Library, the main library. This collection serves 385 majors and 54 faculty. Circulation is predictably heavy; students may check out books and scores for a month, faculty for a semester. Recordings circulate only to faculty. WSU's status as an urban university means that any Kansas resident can get a Special Borrower's card and receive limited check-out privileges.

The collection is primarily "classical" music with a particularly strong selection of Polish, Czech, and other East European composers. Housed in Special Collections is the Thurlow Lieurance Archives, with 17 linear feet of materials by and about the Dean of the College of Fine Arts (1928-1941) and his collection of 18 historical flutes.

WSU has used the NOTIS system since late 1985. Retrospective conversion of the Music Library will likely begin in FY 1989 and the card catalog frozen the following year.

Given the tight space in the Music Library, it is perhaps not surprising that all the people who work with the collection seem to be thin...The Head of the Music Library (currently vacant) is also the Fine Arts Librarian (art, music, dance, theatre, film) and splits his time between Ablah and the Music Library. The Music Library is also staffed by a full-time paraprofessional, Amy Law. Three students work part-time, providing extra staff for busy times and allowing the Music Library to be open 2 evenings a week and on Saturday afternoon. The cataloging staff is quartered at Ablah Library and is responsible not only for music scores and recordings, but also for any other non-print formats. Sue Weiland is Music & Media Cataloger and Shirley Vaughan is her paraprofessional assistant. One student (1.25 FTE) is responsible for most of the OCLC and NOTIS input.

MUSIC STAFF:  Open  Fine Arts Librarian  Sue Weiland  Music and Media Cataloger
                Shirley Vaughan  Cataloging Paraprofessional  Amy Law  Music Library Supervisor

LIBRARY HOURS:  Monday - Friday, 8-5
                Saturday  1-5
                Evenings  5-8 (2 evenings per week)

ADDRESS:  Duerrson Fine Arts Center
           Wichita State University
           Wichita, KS  67208-1595

PHONE:  (316) 689-3029
1988 Annual Conference Preliminary Program

Thursday, May 26 (University Park Hotel, Salt Lake City)

8:00  Registration, Coffee & pastries
9:00  Welcome

Presentations tentatively scheduled for Thursday include the following (not necessarily in this order):

"The Ingram Publishing Company of Denver" - Nancy Carter
Panel: "Music in online systems" - Dorman Smith, moderator
Featuring a discussion of several online systems, including NOTIS and CARL.

"Japanese music in Puccini's Madama Butterfly" - Marc Faw
Paper on Herbert Howells - Myron Patterson
"Pulitzer prize winners in music" - Charles King
Speaker from Music Department of Temple Square

Lunch: On your own (hotel restaurant, which is the only eating facility in the immediate area, will be setting aside tables for us)
Dinner: Restaurant to be selected
Evening: Attend rehearsal/mini-concert of Mormon Tabernacle Choir.

Friday, May 27 (Brigham Young University)

7:30  Vans leave hotel for Provo
8:30  Registration
9:00  Meeting begins
Morning meetings include a panel on special collections at BYU featuring several local speakers
Lunch on campus
Business meeting
4:30  Vans return to hotel

Hotel. The conference hotel is the University Park Hotel, 500 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108, 1-800-637-4390 (toll free outside Utah) or 801-581-1000 (in Utah). The hotel has extended a special rate of $55.00 per night (single or double) for our conference. Please mention that you are with the Music Library Association - Mountain/Plains Chapter when making reservations. Free shuttle service is provided by the hotel to and from Salt Lake City International Airport, approximately 20 minutes away. Look for the courtesy telephone near the baggage claim area. The hotel also features an indoor swimming pool with sun terrace. A map with general directions to the hotel can be found elsewhere in this issue.
THE NATIONAL SOUND ARCHIVE

by

Charles King

The National Sound Archive in London formerly known as the British Institute of Recorded Sound is for most music librarians perhaps only the native habitat of the indefatigable Eric Hughes, long time public information officer, but best known as editor of the World Encyclopedia of Recorded Music (WERM). Eric has now retired from the NSA but still comes in on a regular basis to work on the WERM which is surely the indispensable reference to classical recordings from the 78 rpm era.

This article is to report on some personal observations in using this facility last May. First, as veterans of a visit to London will already know, survival there requires a working knowledge of the subway system—the underground. London is so large and congested that any other means of transportation would result in not getting much accomplished for lack of being able to get around in a reasonable time.

When we visited the NSA on a Friday afternoon it meant getting off at the South Kensington Station and walking around the corner on to Exhibition Rd. There one walks between the Natural History Museum on one side and the Victoria and Albert Museum on the other, both of which are enormous buildings. My first reaction was that we would spend the whole afternoon wandering in these massive buildings to finally find the Archive buried in the basement of one of them. Happily such was not the case, for in the next block the NSA occupies its own building which may have been an elegant private home at some time in the past.

The National Sound Archive, although now a part of the British Library, does not impose the strictures on its users common to so many European libraries. The patron is well-advised to write ahead concerning the use to be made of this Archive as everything is in a closed stacks area and paging can be very time-consuming. For us, the requested material had been put aside and was thus delivered immediately to our table in the small but attractive reading room. In a facility in which all of the users had very special interests, it remained very quiet and business-like at all times.

The collections at the National Sound Archive are very impressive within the areas in which it specializes. The single most valuable resource at the NSA is undoubtedly its access to BBC broadcast material. This is in effect the public's only (limited) access to anything from the BBC. Those libraries that previously subscribed to Recorded Sound, the now-defunct journal of the NSA, can get a very good idea of the quality of the holdings and of the institution's access to specialists in various fields.

For music librarians the holdings in western art music will be of the greatest interest, although folk and ethnic from around the world are there as well as extensive pop and jazz collections. The archive is very strong in the music of contemporary composers—especially British composers—reflecting the extraordinary concert life in London but not limited to that source. The NSA is naturally an invaluable resource for discographic research both for their recorded collections and for the large collection of catalogues which, like the recordings, extend from the beginnings of sound recording.
In addition to music, mention should be made of the large documentary collection which includes not only the voices of many notables from the past, but the sounds of contemporary life as well. Industrial sounds, playground, street sounds, etc., as well as the vast sound effects collection that are available in part to our collections. Finally, there is the carefully-catalogued collection of nature sounds—the sounds of living creatures from around the world. This includes not only bird songs, but extends to insects and mammals including whales and other aquatic sounds.

The National Sound Archive is not a tourist attraction in any sense of the word, but is a unique resource that librarians, music and otherwise, should be aware of and to which they should be able to direct certain types of patrons. Better still, if you are in London, go and see for yourself.

VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

In approximately two months, your noble leader (hereafter abbreviated YNL) will pass on the symbolic (and invisible) gavel to Carolyn Dow and pass into that equally symbolic (and invisible) state called "Past Chair." As I look back over the two years of my administration, I can clearly see that not much was accomplished. On the other hand, the chapter doesn't seem any the worse off, which is perhaps in itself an accomplishment. We have gotten an Employee Identification Number from the IRS. We needed this in order to get tax-exempt status. It seems to me that the big task ahead for Chair-elect Dow is to get some employees, so we can use the number.

Over the past several months, I have been deluged with letters and promotion brochures from hotels and motels in Tulsa, OK, offering accommodations for our 1989 chapter meeting. Anyone want to meet in Tulsa? Apparently, some busybody at the Tulsa Convention Bureau got hold of my name (thanks heaps, Dorman!) and caught me in a weak moment. No promises have been made or even hinted at, but it's hard to quench the enthusiasm of an eager convention bureau worker. All of this will be passed on to Carolyn in Salt Lake City.

Carolyn informs me that her Nominating Committee has come up with a couple of exciting slates of nominees for chapter officers. Ballots will be mailed out to members who have paid their dues (in one way or another) later this month.

We all look forward to meeting on May 26-27 at Salt Lake City and Provo, Utah. Let's hope that our first meeting in the northern tier of our vast chapter geography will draw out some members who haven't been to previous meetings of the chapter. At the chapter dinner in Minneapolis, Myron Patterson showed us a brochure from the new University Park Hotel, which will be the center for the meeting. It looks like a fine facility, with good services and (for these days) reasonable rates. I hope we'll see a good turnout. At this meeting I hope we'll be serenaded by a performance of the chapter's commissioned composition: "14 for 8 Wine Glasses" (with apologies to J.C.)

In conclusion, I'll leave you with this thought: "Take a Piano-Tuner to Lunch!"

Karl Kroeger