Greetings and welcome to Spring semester 2014!

Change is afoot in the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library. Most of you know that our former Head, Connie Mayer, retired back in November to return to her home state of Minnesota to be closer to family. With Connie's departure, I was asked to serve as Interim Head. I also continue to serve as Music Librarian, so please keep those purchase requests, reference questions, and classroom invitations coming. I will pass along information about plans for a permanent head as it becomes available.

MSPAL staff and I are dedicated to continuing the work Connie began to serve and inspire performing artists and researchers. We are committed to collaborating with the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center to build the future of the arts at the University of Maryland. Our (your!) collections, spaces, and services will continue to change to meet your evolving needs.

I am looking forward to 2014 being a year to think big about future directions for the library and we want your advice. See "New Year, New MSPAL" in this newsletter for details on all the ways you can tell us what you think. In addition, look for opportunities to talk to us over the course of the year through focus groups, brown bags, and the formation of a new MSPAL advisory group.

In addition to gathering feedback, we will also be moving forward on some initiatives we know will be appreciated. We will soon begin a circulating technology equipment program, much like the one McKeldin has been offering. We will start with a collection of Macbook Air laptops, followed by a selection of chargers for cell phones and other gadgets. It is also possible for us to circulate tablets, e-readers, and more, so let us know what you'd like to see.

Group study space has long been at a premium in the library, and we will take steps to offer more of it. We are also hoping to update the technology in our existing group study room, and to add classroom technology to the Lowens Room for Special Collections.

Given all this potential change, I want to ensure everyone that we will not be neglecting the core library functions we know you value. We will continue to be good stewards of our cultural heritage, will continue to offer spaces for quiet study and contemplation, and most importantly, will continue to staff the library with knowledgeable and caring professionals ready to assist you in any way possible.

From the entire staff of MSPAL, we wish you a productive and happy Spring semester!

Meet the Curators: SCPA and IPAM

If you're looking to conduct original research on the performing arts using unique primary sources held by MSPAL, get in touch with **Vin Novara**, the Curator for Special Collections in Performing Arts (SCPA).

Email: vnovara@umd.edu
Phone: (301) 405-9220
Office: 1517B—located in the Lowens Reading Room

Researching anything in the field of classical piano music, whether pianists, scores, or recordings? Contact **Donald Manildi**, Curator of the International Piano Archives at Maryland (IPAM).

Email: godowsky@umd.edu
Phone: (301) 405-9224
Office: 2517A—you can find IPAM on the second floor of MSPAL
New Year, New MSPAL!

The Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library wants your ideas and feedback! We’re interested in the kinds of changes and updates you would like to see in your library. Do you have ideas about new technology that could benefit MSPAL users? Are there ways we can rearrange or add to our spaces to better accommodate your individual or group study needs? What kinds of library instruction would help you with your research? Is there a book, CD, DVD, or other resource that you’d love to get your hands on but isn’t already in the collections? Let us know how we can help!

There are several ways to send your feedback to the librarians and curators of MSPAL:

- Visit our “Idea Guy” and leave a message for us on the board. “Idea Guy” is currently located in the main reading room of MSPAL, but keep an eye out for him as he roves all around the Clarice Smith Center looking for feedback!
- Fill out our online form: [http://bit.ly/1kYwVSu](http://bit.ly/1kYwVSu)
- Drop a note in our suggestion box, located at the circulation desk.
- Send us an email at [pal@umd.edu](mailto:pal@umd.edu), or contact any of your librarians and curators directly.
- Visiting another library that has great study space? Post a pic to Instagram and tag us with [@mspal/umd](https://www.instagram.com/mspal/umd) – we’re always looking for inspiration!
- Visit us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/mspalUMD](http://www.facebook.com/mspalUMD)) or send us a tweet (@mspal/umd) and tell us what you think!

Alexander Street Press Launches New Database Interface

Alexander Street Press has introduced a brand-new interface for many of their streaming audio and video databases, making searching and browsing the ASP collections easier than ever. It’s now possible to browse ASP’s collections by genre, time period, notable names, historical events, and many other categories specifically chosen for each database to help you find what you need. ASP databases are accessible through the Database Finder on the UMD Libraries homepage ([www.lib.umd.edu](http://www.lib.umd.edu)) - these titles include:

- **American Song**
- **African American Music Reference**
- **Black Drama: 1850 to Present**
- **Classical Music in Video**
- **Classical Music Library**: now with 595 new albums (11,475 tracks), including music from Chandos, Bridge Records, CBC, Nimbus, Haenssler Classic, Musical Concepts, and more.
- **Classical Music Reference Library**
- **Classical Scores Library**
- **Contemporary World Music**
- **Dance in Video**
- **Garland Encyclopedia of World Music Online**
- **Jazz Music Library**
- **Music Online**
- **North American Theatre**: to explore the expanded version of this database for a limited time, see p. 6.
- **Opera in Video**
- **Smithsonian Global Sound**
- **Theatre in Video**

Coming Soon:
MSPAL will begin circulating **five Mac Book Air laptops** that may be checked out for up to four hours by students with a current UMD ID. Stay tuned to the MSPAL website and circulation desk for details.
On March 13, 2014 at 4:30 p.m., Dr. Laurie Frederik Meer will discuss her book *Trumpets in the Mountains: Theater and the Politics of National Culture in Cuba* (Duke University Press, 2012). *Trumpets in the Mountains* examines the complex relationships among performing artists, state institutions, and the Cuban people in contemporary culture. Dr. Frederik has been conducting ethnographic research in Cuba for over 15 years – primarily in the isolated mountain communities of Escambray and Guantánamo called “zones of silence,” and with artists and intellectuals in Havana and Cienfuegos. She looks at rural-urban tensions in identity politics and the creative process, and provides an on-the-ground account of how visions of the nation are developed, manipulated, dramatized, and subverted.

This event, part of the series "Speaking of Books: Conversations with Campus Authors," is free and open to the public. Each author answers questions following his or her talk and signs books, which are available for purchase. Light refreshments will be served. For more information visit [http://www.lib.umd.edu/speakingofbooks](http://www.lib.umd.edu/speakingofbooks) or contact us at [lib-authorseries@umd.edu](mailto:lib-authorseries@umd.edu).
New Items and Highlights of the MSPAL Collections

Here are just a few of the new items we’ve acquired recently; these and many other fascinating resources are at your fingertips when you visit the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library, so stop by today and explore our collections.

**Acting with an Accent series by David Alan Stern, PhD**
MCD 16090–MCD16114

**Accents for Actors series by Gillian Lane-Plescia**
MCD16115–MCD16127

*(Located in Paged Collections—ask at the circulation desk)*

MSPAL now has an fantastic collection of resources to help actors learn to speak English with a variety of accents, including Italian, French, German, Dutch, Russian, Spanish, Standard and Cockney British, Irish, Scottish, Welsh, and Australian. This series also features unexpected surprises, such as Midwest Farm Ranch, Texas, American Southern, New York City and surrounding areas, Chicago, upper class Massachusetts or “Kennedy-esque,” “Down East” New England, Boston, Yiddish, Arabic, Farsi, Polish, Norwegian/Swedish, and more. Through a combination of recordings and printed material, these series help the user to move beyond imitation and to understand the speech rhythm, intonation, pronunciation, muscularity/resonance, lilt, and stress that define an accent.

Interested in American music? Visit MSPAL's Reference section and explore our brand-new eight-volume set of the *Grove Dictionary of American Music* (ML101.U6 N48 2013 v.1-8). Published in November of 2013, this comprehensive resource represents the cutting-edge in American musical scholarship and covers everything from musical theatre to bluegrass to opera to music technology.

In December 2013, Dr. Barbara Haggh-Huglo (Professor, Musicology) made a generous gift to SCPA of several valuable facsimiles and manuscript pages, including a page from a Renaissance manuscript dating from between 1490 and 1550, a leaf featuring a three-part polyphonic setting of a section of the Credo to the Latin Mass, and rare facsimile editions of the *Istanbul Antiphoner, Codex 121 Einsiedeln, Graduale und Sequenzen Notker von St. Gallen* and the heart-shaped manuscript *Le Chansonnier Cordiforme de Jean de Montchenu* (pictured here). Scholars with an interest in viewing these items should contact Vin Novara, curator of Special Collections in the Performing Arts (vnovara@umd.edu).
Refresher: ELMS Powered by Canvas

The University of Maryland has adopted Canvas, an online learning management system accessible at http://www.elms.umd.edu, to replace Blackboard. Both faculty and students are new to this system, and although the learning process can be confusing, Canvas has a lot to offer the UMD community. If you’re a faculty member and you want to add items from the Performing Arts Library to the reserves list for your course, Felicity Brown (Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies Librarian) and Steve Henry (Music Librarian) are here to help! Just add Felicity or Steve as a “course designer” and they can set up your online reserves list in Canvas. Faculty, to add your librarian as a “course designer”:

1. Go to https://emt.umd.edu/welcome.htm
2. Log in with your UMD ID
3. Click on “Manage Enrollment” in the left-hand menu
4. Select the course you’re looking for and add your librarian’s ID as a “designer” (fabrown for TDPS or shenry for SOM) and click submit

In addition to setting up course reserves modules in your course pages, your librarian can help you troubleshoot problems with the system and will even be available to get involved in online discussions. If you’re feeling adventurous, you can set up the Course Reserves Module yourself by following the ten steps outlined in this training handout: http://www.lib.umd.edu/binaries/content/assets/public/accessservices/coursereserve_instruct.pdf. The handout also explains how to request items to be placed on reserve online.

International Piano Archives at Maryland (IPAM) Recital:
Reflections from the Keyboard

Sunday, March 2, 2014, 2:00 pm, Gildenhorn Recital Hall
Free, but ticketed. For tickets, contact the Clarice Smith Center box office: 301.405.ARTS (2787)

"Reflections from the Keyboard," under the auspices of the International Piano Archives at Maryland, is presented twice yearly and explores the world of pianists and piano music. The spring recital features the acclaimed young American pianist Sara Daneshpour, silver medalist in the William Kapell International Competition. Her program will include *Gaspard de la nuit* by Ravel, and the *Prelude, Chorale and Fugue* by Franck as well as works of Chopin and Rachmaninoff.
New Database Trials — Drama, Rock, Opera, and More

MSPAL is offering trial access to some new databases throughout the next several weeks. Explore these resources and let us know what you think—should we subscribe?

Alexander Street Drama

Alexander Street Drama brings together thousands of plays from Alexander Street’s six individual full-text drama collections. Accessible on campus through UMD IP address. Trial ends 3/15.

Asian American Drama - http://solomon.aadr.alexanderstreet.com
Black Drama - http://solomon.bld2.alexanderstreet.com
Latino Literature - http://lit.alexanderstreet.com/lali
North American Indian Drama - http://solomon.ind2.alexanderstreet.com
North American Theatre Online: this is an expanded version of the ASP:NATO database already available through MSPAL; see p. 2 for link to current subscription content - http://asp6new.alexanderstreet.com/atho
Twentieth Century North American Drama - http://solomon.nad2.alexanderstreet.com

Rock’s Backpages

The largest online database of music journalism, Rock’s Backpages provides access to over 24,000 classic articles on artists from Aaliyah to ZZ Top and on all genres from rockabilly to hip hop. The archive draws on numerous publications from Creem and Rolling Stone to New Musical Express and MOJO, and is fully searchable by artist, genre, writer, or keyword. RBP also features a library of over 350 audio interviews, including classic conversations with Jimi Hendrix, Mick Jagger, Leonard Cohen, Joni Mitchell, Johnny Cash, and Kurt Cobain. Accessible from anywhere with the username and password listed below.

Trial ends 2/15.

www.rocksbackpages.com
Username: UMarylandRBP
Password: UMarylandROCK5

Met Opera on Demand

Met Opera On Demand provides unlimited access to over 450 extraordinary performances by the Metropolitan Opera, ranging from a 1935 audio recording of Verdi’s La Traviata through HD video of Handel’s Giulio Cesare, staged in April of 2013. The Met Opera catalog is searchable by title, performance date, or format (HD video, video, audio). Accessible on campus through UMD IP address—please note: do not include www or this URL will not work! Trial ends 2/20.

http://metoperafamily.org/ondemand/index.aspx

Academic Charts Online

Academic Charts Online organizes information about music trends to help researchers interpret the impact of music across countries and cultures. ACO tracks academic resources and data on international charting albums and singles in many genres and allows users to interpret, graph, analyze, compare and contrast musical trends in place and time. Accessible on campus through UMD IP address.

Trial ends 2/15.

http://ipm.academiccharts.com

MSPAL Spring Hours*

Monday-Thursday: 8:30am-11pm
Friday: 8:30am-6pm
Saturday: 12pm-5pm
Sunday: 1pm-11pm

*For exceptions, please visit our website.