Collection Development Policy Statement for Music

Subject Specialist responsible: Stephen Henry, 301-405-9256, shenry@umd.edu

I. Purpose

The music collection in the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library supports, inspires, and celebrates the study of music at the University of Maryland. The collection primarily supports the curricular and non-curricular needs of the School of Music, but the School of Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies, and the Clarice Smith Center management staff are important audiences as well. To a lesser extent the collection supports recreation and intellectual curiosity in the campus community.

The School of Music states its mission as follows:

The University of Maryland School of Music serves as an advocate for the art of music in American culture. The School provides a comprehensive program of study for cultivating and transforming our musical traditions in ways that prepare our students for meaningful engagement with their art, their culture, and the world community through music performance, composition, scholarship and teaching.

The School offers the artistic focus of a conservatory in the context of the academic and intellectual resources of a flagship state university.

For more on the School of Music see http://www.music.umd.edu/about_us

The School of Music offers degrees up to the doctorate in performance, composition, conducting, music education, musicology, music theory, and ethnomusicology. The music collection reflects the School’s combination of a conservatory and a liberal arts curriculum, with a balance of materials needed for performance (sets of parts, performing editions, trade journals) and research (scholarly monographs, scholarly editions of music, academic journals). The library also strives to offer a broad and deep collection of sound and video recordings of use to both performers and researchers. Finally, the collection aspires to house the recordings, writings, and compositions produced by School of Music faculty and students.

Coordination and Cooperative Information:

The Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library houses two special collections units—Special Collections in Performing Arts (SCPA) and the International Piano Archives at Maryland (IPAM). The general music collection is developed in coordination with these two units.

In general, IPAM focuses on rare, antiquarian, and historical published piano music, while the general collection focuses on recent editions of standard repertoire as well as new works for piano. IPAM maintains a comprehensive non-circulating collection of recorded piano music, and to some extent overlaps with recordings in the general collection, which may be checked out of the library.
SCPA contains a large number of specialized collections in music. Some of SCPA’s strengths include music education, band music, clarinet, and popular music. As with IPAM, there is some duplication between these archival collections and MSPAL’s general collections.

The general collection is developed with an eye toward supplementing and enhancing the special collections housed within MSPAL.

Musical Theatre & Opera materials (scores, CDs, DVDs) are collected in collaboration with the Theatre, Dance, and Performance Studies subject specialist.

Occasionally, interdisciplinary materials relevant to Music (for example: anthropology, recording technology, etc.) will be collected. In these cases, the appropriate subject librarian will be contacted to determine the best area in the University of Maryland Libraries collection to house the item.

The University of Maryland’s membership in consortia like the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA), and the Chesapeake Information and Research Library Alliance (CIRLA) greatly expand the number and depth of resources available to the campus community, although there is currently no coordination of music collecting practices between members.

**Diversity:** Recognizing that music incorporates individuals of all ages who represent a multiplicity of racial and ethnic backgrounds, economic and educational levels and physical and mental abilities, the subject specialist/s build collections that mirror and support this diversity. The music collections include materials and resources that reflect a variety of political, economic, religious, social, minority and sexual issues and support intellectual freedom by providing free access to all expressions of ideas through which any and all sides of a question, cause or movement may be explored. (Text adapted from: https://www.carnegielibrary.org/about/policies/collection-development-and-management/)

II. **Summary of Collection Scope at Current Collecting Levels**

The music collection at the University of Maryland Libraries was originally housed in the Fine Arts Library within McKeldin Library. The Fine Arts Library collected music and dance as well as materials on the visual arts. In the early 1970s the music and dance collections moved to Hornbake Library along with the recently-created (1968) Special Collections in Music (SCIM). The University of Maryland approved plans to build a new Performing Arts Center, which would include a new performing arts library, in 1992. That center, eventually named the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, opened in 2000 and contained the new Performing Arts Library, which now included theatre materials in addition to music and dance, as well as the International Piano Archives at Maryland (IPAM) and Special Collection in Performing Arts (SCPA), which was renamed to reflect an expanded collecting interest in theatre. The Performing Arts Library was named the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library in 2001.

Since the early 2000s the music collection has evolved to place a greater emphasis on American music, recent concert music, popular music, and jazz. The collection has also adapted to reflect the Clarice Smith Center’s emphasis on new, innovative, collaborative, and cross-disciplinary work. The music
collection maintains a strong emphasis on academic and scholarly materials as well as on new recordings and editions of standard repertoire.

As of September 2014, the general music collection at the University of Maryland is housed in the Michelle Smith Performing Arts Library and consists of:

- Approximately 53,243 music scores (including reference scores)
- Approximately 34,574 books on music (including 3985 reference books, and 800 ebooks)
- Approximately 17,231 CDs and 10,024 LPs
- Approximately 850 DVDS
- Approximately 190 serial subscriptions
- Approximately 23 online resources (streaming audio and video, literature indexes, online reference books)

III. Developing the Music Collection

1. **Language(s):** For vocal music, scores and sound recordings are typically acquired in the original language, with or without accompanying translations. English language versions of vocal music are purchased upon request. Reprints or original publications of historic documents (journals and correspondence of composers, music theory treatises, nineteenth-century music journals) are collected in the original language as well as in English translations if available. The reference collection includes works in European languages, mainly German, as needed—prominent examples include thematic catalogues and the explanatory portions of collected works editions. The library maintains subscriptions to a small number of important academic journals in Western European languages. English is the preferred language for all other areas of the collection.

2. **Geographical areas:** The geographic emphasis is on Western Europe and the United States, although portions of the collection supporting the Ethnomusicology programs are by necessity global in scope.

3. **Chronological periods/Imprint dates:** Selection emphasizes current imprints. Reprints and older imprints are acquired as needed for replacement and to fill in gaps in the collection. A major current collecting focus is on acquiring scores, parts, and recordings of new musical works.

4. **Materials selected**
   1. **Included materials:** books, journals, compact discs, DVDs, scores, parts for up to nine instruments, databases. The preferred format for scholarly monographs is paper. The preferred format for reference books and journals is electronic.
   2. **Excluded materials:** Textbooks are not typically collected. Obsolete and near-obsolete media formats (LPs, cassette tape, open reel tape) are typically but will be acquired if a more modern format is unavailable. The library does not acquire sets of parts for more than nine instruments. Reprints are not acquired if the library already holds the original in good condition. Scholarly monographs are not currently being collected as e-books except by student or faculty request.
3. **Levels of Collection Intensity:** The scope of the collection for Music targets the Research Level of the RLG Conspectus scale.

IV. **Additional Collection Information**

1. **Duplication:** A small number of duplicate copies of performing editions and study scores of important works are maintained. The library also maintains multiple editions of most standard works. As noted above, some duplication exists between the general (circulating) and special (non-circulating) collections. Print editions are not typically deselected if an electronic version of the same edition exists. Existing ebooks will be duplicated in print by student or faculty request. In all other areas duplication is avoided.

2. **Gifts:** Gift items added to the [subject name] collection are done so in conjunction with the *University of Maryland Libraries Gifts-In-Kind Policy*, particularly so that they “supplement existing collections in support of the University’s teaching and research programs as well as to provide the University Libraries with special materials in which there is a scholarly interest” ([http://www.lib.umd.edu/collections/gifts/for_donors](http://www.lib.umd.edu/collections/gifts/for_donors)). The subject specialist for Music is ultimately responsible for deciding whether or not a gift is added to the collection.

3. **Deselection/Withdrawal:** The relevance of materials in the Music collection can and will change over time. Periodic weeding of the collection is done to identify items which no longer fit the criteria for inclusion in the collection.

4. **Preservation:** The subject specialist will work with the Preservation unit at the University of Maryland Libraries when individual titles are brought to their attention that need rebinding, repair or replacement.

**Implementation and Revision Schedule:** This policy has been reviewed by the Collection Development Council ([lib-cdc@umd.edu](mailto:lib-cdc@umd.edu)) and is considered effective on the date indicated below. It will be reexamined regularly by the subject specialist and will be revised as needed to reflect new collection needs and identify new areas of study, as well as those areas that may be excluded.

**Date:** May 21, 2015 SPH Rev. 8/30/16; Rev. 8/15/18     CDC 9/25/18