

Belgium / België / Belgique

Belgian Federal institutions and Belgian French-speaking institutions or members

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Membership

In 2024, the Belgian Federal institutions being IAML members are: the Royal Library of Belgium and the Musical Instruments Museum (MIM). The Belgian French-speaking institutions are: the research centre 'Musiques & Recherches', the conservatories of Brussels, Mons, and Liège, as well as Brussels, Louvain-la-Neuve and Liège universities.

Acquisitions

In 2023-2024, the [Royal Library of Belgium](#) had the opportunity to enrich its music collections with the archives of the Belgian musicians Michel Brusselmans, Herman Sandy and Paul Uy; the institution also received on deposit from the King Baudouin Foundation autograph scores by Eugène Ysaÿe and César Franck as well as the personal archives of Henry Le Boeuf, including an album with musical autographs by many composers such as Dukas, Milhaud, Ravel, Prokofiev and Poulenc. Among the heritage acquisitions of the [library of the Brussels conservatories](#) we can mention autograph manuscripts by François-Auguste Gevaert, Emile Wambach and Guillaume Lekeu as well as letters by Tinel, Vieuxtemps, Malibran, Puccini, Massenet and d'Indy.

The [library of the Musical Instruments Museum](#) (MIM) has acquired archival documents concerning François-Joseph Fétis and has received on temporary deposit from the Brussels conservatories archival documents retracing the history of Musical Instruments Museum, which was initially part of the conservatory.

Digitization

In 2023-2024, the Royal Library of Belgium continued its running digitization projects concerning music, with new references from the Ysaÿe and Franck collections, from the public domain as well as from his three-dimensional and sound archives.

The Royal Conservatories of Brussels and Liège maintained their digitization projects, according to the researchers' and musicians' requests (without online accessibility). The Musical Instruments Museum (MIM) continued the digitization project around the figure of Charles Mahillon.

Cataloging

In 2023-2024, the library of the Royal Conservatories of Brussels continued to encode new descriptions (retro and new acquisitions) visible through the online catalog. The Musical Instruments Museum (MIM) library continued to use Limo (Alma) for cataloguing, while the Liège Conservatory continued to encode documents through PMB.

Projects

In 2023-2024, the library of the Brussels Conservatories changed its French-speaking librarian, with Hugo Rodriguez succeeding Olivia Wahnon de Oliveira, who became the new director of the French-speaking institution CrB (Royal Conservatory of Brussels). With the renovation of the historic building on Rue de la Régence, the entire library was moved to three sites: the State Archives in Leuven, the MIM and the Royal Library of Belgium; the latter institution will host the staff of the library of the Brussels Conservatories (CrB and KCB) for the duration of the work (estimated at 5 years). The library of the Liège Conservatory

inaugurated a new storage space, meeting optimal conservation standards. Various collections are now stored there, such as the Spa collection. Librarian Stéphanie Fruzzetti has started a series of weekly conferences during which she presents to the public a musical manuscript from the collections.

The Musical Instruments Museum (MIM) organized the conference "Mahillon and his time" in 2024 (June in Oxford, July in Brussels), in partnership with the Galpin Society and the Bate Collection of Musical Instruments.

In partnership with the Belgian Musicological Society, the Brussels University (Université libre de Bruxelles, ULB) and Bozar (Centre for Fine Arts, Brussels), the Royal Library of Belgium organized the International Study Day "Ysaÿe Rediscovered" on February 15, 2024, with speakers from the Juilliard School in New York, in the framework of the European premiere at Bozar of the Ouverture sur des thèmes d'Atala by Eugène Ysaÿe. The autograph score of this work as well as autographs by the pianist Théo Ysaÿe are kept on long-term deposit at the Royal Library of Belgium.

RILM and RISM

The Music Division of the Royal Library is the Belgian seat for the international RILM and RISM projects and participates actively by encoding new publications and descriptions.