

*Journal of the
American Musical
Instrument Society*

VOLUME V-VI • 1979-80



Copyright by the [American Musical Instrument Society](#).
Content may be used in accordance with the principles of fair
use under [Section 107 of the United States Copyright Act](#).
Content may not be reproduced for commercial purposes.

Overall, though, the book is a model of care in proofreading and documentation. We can only constructively urge its expansion and refinement in subsequent editions, in order to explore more fully this otherwise untouched field.

LLOYD P. FARRAR

Jean Jenkins, ed. *International Directory of Musical Instrument Collections*. Buren, The Netherlands: Frits Knuf Publishers, for the International Council of Museums, 1977. ix, 166 pp. Hfl44.

The *International Directory of Musical Instrument Collections* has a long history. I learned in 1961 that an international survey of instrument collections was planned, but a manuscript directory listing the results of that survey was not completed until 1972, and another five years were to elapse before it was finally published. Some of the information, which was undoubtedly out of date when it was assembled, is even more so now. Nevertheless the *Directory*, representing a major international cooperative effort, is a valuable source of data on 687 collections (which are defined as containing "at least twenty instruments, or, if slightly less, instruments of outstanding importance and interest") in ninety countries, plus 7 collections in Canada and 9 in the United States that were not included in the Music Library Association's *Survey of Musical Instrument Collections in the United States and Canada* (1974). It will be of value to museum curators, individual collectors, scholars, and anyone interested in musical instruments.

Jean Jenkins, Keeper of Musical Instruments at the Horniman Museum in London, offers a brief history of the ICOM (International Council of Museums) *International Directory* in her three-page introduction, but she offers no numerical analysis of data, and there is no index. I gleaned the numbers of collections and countries surveyed by doing a little counting myself, and I was interested to learn that only a single collection is reported from each of thirty-six countries, 2 collections are included from each of eleven countries, while ten more

nations are listed as having only 3 collections each. At the other end of the scale, the United Kingdom has 99 collections reported, 27 of which are privately owned; the Federal Republic of Germany is represented by 55 collections, 4 of them privately owned; and France is in third place with 48 collections, of which 17 are owned by individuals. Next come Switzerland with 35 collections, 11 of them private; Italy with 33, 1 of them private; Austria with 31, 7 of them individually owned; India with 25, 1 of them private; the Netherlands with 24, 7 of them private; Poland and Sweden, each with 21 public but no private collections; Belgium with 19, 2 of them private; Japan with 18, 4 of which belong to individuals; the U.S.S.R. with 18, 1 of them individually owned; the German Democratic Republic with 14, none of them private; and Spain with 12. Since the *MLA Survey* plus the addenda in the *International Directory* report on 557 collections in the United States, 200 of which are privately owned, and on 31 collections in Canada, including 4 that are private, it is apparent that on a worldwide basis musical instrument collections are something of an index of the degree of personal freedom as well as of economic affluence.

Arranged alphabetically by country and then by city, each entry in the *Directory* includes the name of the museum or private owner, the address, the telephone number, the hours open to the public, and a description of the collection ranging in length from one sentence to a page and a half. Museum entries include lists of services, and some give extensive lists of publications. At the back of the book are forms for sending corrections and additions to the publisher. It is to be hoped that in due time a second edition incorporating such new information will be published.

Information on European musical instrument collections is also included in the valuable series of Music Guides by Elaine Brody and Claire Brook published by Dodd, Mead & Company, New York. Checking through the four books so far available—*The Music Guide to Great Britain* and *The Music Guide to Austria and Germany* (1975), *The Music Guide to Belgium, Luxembourg, Holland, and Switzerland* (1977), and *The Music Guide to Italy* (1978)—I discovered a number of musical instrument collections that are not included in Jenkins's *International Directory*. Some of them may not

meet the ICOM criteria, while others may have been missed. Listed in alphabetical order by country and then city, they are:

Austria – *Graz*: Stadtmuseum. *Mödling*: Missionsmuseum St. Gabriel; Museum der Stadt Mödling.

Belgium – *Liège*: Jacques Bernard (Museum); Musée des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Liège.

Federal Republic of Germany – *Cologne*: Museum für ostasiatische Kunst. *Düsseldorf*: Stadtarchiv. *Munich*: Musikantiquariat Hans Schneider.

Ireland – *Dublin*: The National Museum.

Italy – *Cremona*: Saletta dei Violini, Palazzo Comunale. *Faenza*: Biblioteca Comunale, Museo Teatrale. *Florence*: Museo di Antropologia ed Etnologia. *Livorno*: Biblioteca Comunale Labronica Francesco Domenico. *Modena*: Biblioteca Estense e Universitaria. *Ravenna*: Museo di Antichi Strumenti Musicali. *Rome*: Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana; Museo degli Strumenti Musicali. *Venice*: Biblioteca d'Arte e Storia Veneziana del Museo Civico Correr. *Verona*: Biblioteca Capitolare; Museo del Castelvecchio.

Switzerland – *Lucerne*: Richard Wagner Museum. *Zurich*: Hug & Co.

United Kingdom – *Birmingham*: Birmingham School of Music Library. *Blair Atholl*: Blair Castle and Atholl Museum. *Bradford*: Bolling Hall. *Brecon*: The Brecknock Museum. *Bristol*: Blaise Castle House Folk Museum. *Carlisle*: Tullie House, Carlisle Museum and Art Gallery. *Edinburgh*: Scottish United Services Museum. *Glasgow*: People's Palace (Old Glasgow Museum). *London*: Kenwood House; London Museum. *Maidstone*: Chillington Manor House. *Manchester*: Henry Watson Music Library, Manchester Public Libraries. *Merthyr Tydfil*: Cyfartha Castle Art Gallery and Museum. *Norwich*: St. Peter Hungate Museum; Strangers' Hall Museum. *Rossendale*: Rawtenstall Public Libraries. *St. Albans*: St. Albans Organ Museum. *Snowhill Manor*: Snowhill Manor.

DALE HIGBEE