What's the Score?
NEWSLETTER OF THE LEWIS MUSIC LIBRARY

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libraries.mit.edu/music

New Piano Arrives

The Lewis Music Library sponsors a growing number of events each year, from recitals and lectures to open mic concerts. Many of these activities require an acoustic piano. In the past, the library would rent a piano for the day. The expense and logistics of obtaining a piano in this way led the library to consider the purchase of its own piano.

Due to generous donations from loyal members of the Class of 1982, the library purchased a beautiful Yamaha studio upright piano. Since its arrival this past fall, the piano has been featured in various events and received rave reviews. This semester, the new piano will be highlighted even more (see Spring 2014 Events on p.2).

Thanks to the Class of 1982 for giving us the gift of live music in the library.
Spring 2014 Events

Monday, March 3, 5:00-6:00 pm
*Paper Engineering Page Turns for Music Scores*

Erin Gee, Assistant Professor of Composition-Theory, University of Illinois and Jana Dambrogio, Thomas F. Peterson (1957) Conservatory, MIT Libraries. Watch the video: techtv.mit.edu/videos/27989-paper-engineering-page-turns-for-music-scores

Wednesday, March 5, 5:00-6:00 pm: Composer Forum
*Western Saddlebag: Cowboy Songs and the Craft of Composition*
Charles Shadle, MIT Senior Lecturer, Music and Theater Arts.

Thursday, March 6, 6:30-7:30 pm
*Open Score Introduction to the Beethoven Quartets*
Jupiter Quartet, hosted by Teresa Neff, Lecturer, Music and Theater Arts.

Friday, March 7, noon-1 pm
*Open Mic in the Lewis Music Library*
Library music! A chance to try out the new piano. Come jam, perform, or just listen.

Thursday, April 3, 5:00-6:00 pm: Composer Forum
*Letting Time Circle Through Us and other recent music*
Keeril Makan, Associate Professor, Music and Theater Arts.

Friday, April 4, 12:00-1:00 pm
*Open Mic in the Lewis Music Library*

Thursday, April 10, 5:00-6:00 pm
*The Polymers: poetry reading and conversation*
Adam Dickinson, Associate Professor, Brock University, Ontario.

Friday, April 11, 1:00-2:00 pm
*12th Annual Prokofieff Violin Music Concert*
MIT students.

Monday, April 28, noon-1pm
*Electroacoustics for Lunch: Acoustic and electronic sounds of ethereal and earthbound origins*
Florian Hollerweger, Forrest Larson.

Thursday, May 1, 5:00-6:00 pm: Composer Forum
*The Revolution is Heard! Sound Art, the Everyday, and Aural Awareness*
Florian Hollerweger, Lecturer, Music and Theater Arts.

Friday, May 2, 12:00-1:00 pm
*Open Mic in the Lewis Music Library*

Bad Music Jokes

Q. How many Deadheads (Grateful Dead fans) does it take to change a lightbulb?
A. 12,001. One to change it, 2,000 to record the event and take pictures of it, and 10,000 to follow it around until it burns out.

Q. How do you fix a broken tuba?
A. With a tuba glue.

Did you hear about the time the bass player locked his keys in the car? It took two hours to get the drummer out.

New Manuscript

The library recently purchased an autograph manuscript page by avant-garde Swedish composer Klas Torstensson (1951-). This large oblong folio consists of notation for his "Urban Songs" (1992), which is written for soprano, instruments, and synthesizer. The score, notated in ink, pencil, and colored pencils, was requested by a faculty member and will be a valuable resource for teaching contemporary music. This manuscript was purchased by the Class of 1982 Fund.

Detail from Klas Torstensson's "Urban Songs" (1992).
Oral History Website Update

The new website for the Music at MIT Oral History Collection is now available. It contains interviews with current and retired MIT music faculty, staff, former students and visiting artists. The interviews are available as streaming audio (1999-May 2010) or streaming video (September 2010 on). See libraries.mit.edu/music/oralhistory

Written transcripts of each interview can be viewed as PDFs; the text also scrolls along with the interview.

The Music at MIT Oral History Project was made possible through the generous funding of Lionel Kinney ’53.

Digital Audio Projects Update

Digital Initiatives Project

This past July, the Lewis Music Library began work on the Lewis Music Library Digital Initiatives Project. The first phase of this project is to inventory all analog audio/video recordings of MIT music performances held by the MIT Libraries. The ultimate goal is to digitize these analog recordings and make as many as possible available online. The Libraries will also preserve the digital copies for the future. This project will serve as a model for how the Libraries handle future digital projects.

Lewis Music Library staff member Cate Gallivan is working on this project, funded by Lionel Kinney ’53. Cate is close to completing a brief inventory of all these recordings. Among the MIT performing groups represented in this work are the Glee Club, MIT Symphony Orchestra (MITSO), Brass Ensemble, Jazz Band, Festival Jazz Ensemble, Choral Society, and Chamber Music Society. There are also faculty and guest artist recitals at MIT, along with compositions by MIT music faculty. Recordings date from the 1940s to the 1990s. Formats include mostly reel-to-reel tape, audiocassette, LP, and VHS tape.

Pomeroy Collection

In addition to this project, Cate Gallivan is inventorying the Herb Pomeroy Collection. In 2011, MIT received the collection of nationally renowned jazz performer and educator, Herb Pomeroy (1920-2007) who helped to establish MIT’s jazz program in 1963. Reel-to-reel, audiocassette, and VHS tapes and LP records are being examined first. Processing the paper manuscript portion of this collection will be handled later. The Libraries plan to preserve this collection and make it widely accessible. A generous donation from Michael Good ’79 and JoAnn Close ’82 and contributions from other donors are making this project possible.

Having recently completed an initial inventory of over 400 recordings from the Pomeroy Collection, Cate observed, “What a busy, busy man! On a given day, he might teach at Berkleel in the morning, play a lunchtime gig, go back to Berklee for more afternoon classes, over to MIT to work with students in the evening, and then play another gig that night!” She was thrilled to find recordings such as Herb performing in a 1954 quintet with Charlie Parker, Bud Powell on piano, Charles Mingus on bass, and Art Taylor on drums. We are excited to see what other gems are yet to be discovered!

New Subscriptions

Medici.TV offers high-quality streaming video of operas, ballets, concerts, documentaries, and more.
libraries.mit.edu/get/medici

(MIT certificates needed)

Academic Charts Online (ACO) contains statistical chart data for research across music genres from pop to classical, jazz, world music.
libraries.mit.edu/get/aco

(MIT certificates needed)
Donations
(April 2013-February 2014)

The Lewis Music Library is grateful for the generosity of our donors:

Donations:

Donations to the Lionel (1953) and Vilma Kinney Music Information Resources Fund:
Lionel and Vilma Kinney.

Donations to the John N. Pierce (1954) Memorial Fund:
Julian J. Bussgang, Thomas C. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold S. Orange, Daniel L. Orange, Mrs. John N. Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. Steven Richman, Herman O. Stekler, Benjamin J. Woznick, Jr.

Donations to the Pomeroy Collection Fund:

Donations to the Class of 1982 Music Library Fund:

Gifts in Kind:

Many Thanks!
If we have omitted your name from this list, please let us know!

MIT’s Banjo Club ca. 1893. Do you recognize any of these players? We’re looking for their descendents! See our Facebook page: facebook.com/mitmusliclib