

MUSIC REFERENCE

Music in Libraries: Just the Basics

SEMLA Preconference Workshop

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Name the questions to ask in a music reference interview.
- Identify the most common formats for music materials.
- Recognize the difficulties in finding songs (popular and classical) and instrumental music, and how to overcome them,
- Describe components that are used in a classical music title.
- Recognize the difficulties in finding world music.
- Name free internet sites (and paid electronic resources like WorldCat) to use in answering music reference questions.
- List basic music reference materials that your library may want to purchase.

WHAT MAKES MUSIC REFERENCE UNIQUELY CHALLENGING?

- various formats
- various instrumentation (and various terminology) of the musical work
- various arrangements
- various participants
- various editions or performances

UNIQUE CHALLENGE: COMMON
PHYSICAL FORMATS FOR MUSIC

AUDIO FORMATS – “RECORDS”

- Variable speeds – 33 1/3, 45, and 78 rpm are the most common.
- Terminology – vinyl, lps, 78s, 45s
- In many cases, the only performance of a work by a specific performer or group is available on one of these formats.



AUDIO FORMATS - TAPES

- Cassette tape.
- Reel-to-reel or open reel.



AUDIO FORMATS - DIGITAL

- DAT
- Compact disc
- Digital files (mp3, wav, wma, aif, etc.)



VIDEO FORMATS

- VHS tape
- Laserdisc
- DVD and blu-ray
- Digital files



The Met
ropolitan
Opera **HD**
LIVE

THE MUSIC REFERENCE INTERVIEW

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR PRINTED MUSIC (SCORE) OR A RECORDING?

- The answer to this question determines which follow-up questions you will ask.
- Remember that the user might need both.

FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS IF THE USER
ASKS FOR A SCORE:

User: I need a score to Beethoven's Op. 127 string quartet.

Follow up: Do you need parts or a full score?

User: I need a score to Mozart's bassoon concerto.

Follow up: Do you need a full score or the piano reduction and part?

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a symphony or concerto. The score is written for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Flauti** (Flutes): Treble clef, common time, marked *ff*.
- Oboi** (Oboes): Treble clef, common time, marked *ff*.
- Clarinetti in C** (Clarinets in C): Treble clef, common time, marked *ff*.
- Fagotti** (Bassoons): Bass clef, common time, marked *ff*, with a second part labeled *a 2*.
- Corni in C** (Horns in C): Treble clef, common time, marked *ff*.
- Trombe in C** (Trumpets in C): Treble clef, common time, marked *ff*.
- Timpani in C/G** (Timpani in C/G): Bass clef, common time, marked *ff*.
- Violino I** (Violin I): Treble clef, common time, marked *ff*.
- Violino II** (Violin II): Treble clef, common time, marked *ff*.
- Viola**: Bass clef, common time, marked *ff*.
- Soprano**: Treble clef, common time.

The score is in common time (C) and features a variety of musical notations, including rests, notes, and dynamic markings. A large blue box with the text "FULL SCORE" is overlaid on the bottom right of the page.

FULL SCORE

M
452
H 4155
H. III
no. 28
1988
pt. 1

Diletto musicale 719

Violino I

Divertimento in c

Quartetto op. 17, No. 4
(Hob. III:28)

JOSEPH HAYDN, 1771
hrsg. von Reginald Barrett-Ayres

I

Moderato

7

12

16

20

PART

(Grant them rest eternāl)
Molto largo (♩=40)

Soprano

sostenuto pp

Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam,
Grant them rest e - ter - nal,

Alto

sostenuto pp

Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam,
Grant them rest e - ter - nal,

Tenor

sostenuto pp

Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam,
Grant them rest e - ter - nal,

Bass

sostenuto pp

Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam,
Grant them rest e - ter - nal,

PIANO

Molto largo

ff

pp

CHORAL
SCORE

Oh! that I knew where I might find Him, that I might e - ven come
Ach! dass ich wüss - te, wie ich ihn fin - den und zu sei - nem Stuh

[pp]
p

cresc.

pre - sence, come be - fore his pre - sence! oh! that I knew
möch - te, wie ich ihn fin - den möch - tel! Ach, dass ich wüsste,

[cresc.]

p

VOCAL
SCORE

Heav - en, I'm in Heav - en.

And my heart beats so that I can hard - ly speak.

Dm7 C/G G7 C G7/D D#dim7 Em7 Bb9#11

The image shows a page of sheet music. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of two staves (treble and bass clef). Above the vocal line, there are guitar chord diagrams for the first system. Below the piano accompaniment, there are guitar chord diagrams for the second system. The lyrics are: "Heav - en, I'm in Heav - en." and "And my heart beats so that I can hard - ly speak." The chords listed are: Dm7, C/G, G7, C, G7/D, D#dim7, Em7, and Bb9#11.

SHEET
MUSIC

HERE COMES THE SUN

Words and Music by
GEORGE HARRISON

Copyright © 1969, 1981 HARRISONSONGS LIMITED

Moderately

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It features a melody line with guitar chords indicated above the staff. The chords are: A, D, E7, A, D, E7, A, Dmaj7, B7/D#, A, D, A/C#, Bm7, A, E7, A, D, E7, A.

Lyrics:
Here Comes The Sun, doo da doo doo,
Here Comes The Sun, and I say "It's all right."
Lit - tie dar - ling, it's been a long time since I
Lit - tie dar - ling, the smile has been on your face
Lit - tie dar - ling, I feel that love is back on its way

LEAD SHEET / FAKE BOOK

FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS IF THE USER ASKS FOR A RECORDING:

- You may need to ask what type of recording is needed:
 - User: I need a recording of *Marriage of Figaro*.
 - Follow Up: Would you prefer to listen to a sound recording, or would you like a DVD so you can watch the production?
- If the recording circulates outside of the library, does the user have the appropriate playback equipment to listen or view the material at home?

UNIQUE CHALLENGE:
INSTRUMENTATION/PERFORMING FORCES



UNIQUE CHALLENGE: GENRE OR
MUSICAL FORM



SEARCHING THE “CLASSIC” CATALOG FOR MUSIC – THE BASICS

- Use keyword searching.
- Include the composer’s name and title elements as keywords.
- Limit your search by format.



THREE COMMON PROBLEMS

- Musical works often lack distinct titles.
- Music exists in multiple formats.
- A smaller work may be part of a larger work.

PROBLEM ONE: MUSICAL WORKS OFTEN LACK DISTINCT TITLES

- Solution: use the preferred title (formerly known as the uniform title).
- The preferred title links multiple manifestations of the same work within the library catalog.
- Used when the content is the same or similar but the wording of the title page is not.
- Even when a piece of music has a distinct title, the preferred title is helpful.

Sonata quasi una Fantasia.

To Countess JULIA GUICCIARDI.

(MOONLIGHT)
Op. 27, No. 2

Abbreviations: M. T. signifies Main Theme; S. T., Sub-Theme; Cl. T., Closing Theme; D. G., Development-Group; R., Return; Tr., Transition; M^d. T., M^d-Theme; Ep., Episode.

I. Adagio sostenuto. (♩ = 52.)
sempre pp e con sordini.

L. van BEETHOVEN.

14.

una corda.

- The “Moonlight” Sonata
- Sonata quasi una Fantasia
- Piano Sonata in C# Minor
- Sonata, Opus 27, No. 2

FORMULA FOR PREFERRED TITLES OF
INSTRUMENTAL WORKS:

- Genre (form of piece)
- Medium of performance
(instrumentation)
- Number
- Key

“MOONLIGHT” SONATA

Sonata quasi una Fantasia.
To Countess JULIA GUICCIARDI. (MOONLIGHT)
Op. 27, No. 2

Abbreviations: M. T. signifies Main Theme; S. T., Sub-Theme; Cl. T., Closing Theme; D. G., Development-Group; R., Return; Tr., Transition; M^d. T., Mid-Theme; Ep., Episode.

I. Adagio sostenuto. (♩ = 52.) L. van BEETHOVEN.
sempre pp e con sordini.

14. *una corda.*

Medium of
performance

Key

Sonatas, piano, no. 14, op. 27, no. 2, C# minor

Genre

Number

LET'S TRY CONSTRUCTING SOME
PREFERRED TITLES...

- Mozart, String Quartet in D minor, K. 421
- Bach, BWV 1013, Partita for Flute in A minor
- Steve Reich, Sextet for 2 pianos and percussion

Mozart, String Quartet in D minor, K. 421

- Quartets, violins (2), viola, cello, K. 421, D minor

Bach, BWV 1013, Partita for Flute in A minor

- Partitas, flute, BWV 1013, A minor

Steve Reich, Sextet for 2 pianos and percussion

- Sextets, keyboard instruments (2), percussion

PROBLEM TWO: MUSIC EXISTS IN MULTIPLE FORMATS

- Solution – limit your search format.
- In “classic” catalogs, searches are typically limited in the advanced search.
- In “next-gen” catalogs (discovery layers) searches are limited by facets.

OTHER TIPS FOR DECODING A PREFERRED TITLE

Ten celebrated string quartets

Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus, 1756-1791.

[Go to Call Number, Holdings, and Location](#)

Held by: MUSIC

Author/Composer: [Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus, 1756-1791.](#)

Uniform title: [\[Quartets, violins \(2\), viola, cello. Selections\]](#)

Title: Ten celebrated string quartets / Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart ; edited by Alfred Einstein.

Edition: Novello edition.

Publication info.: Mineola, New York : Dover Publications, Inc. 2013.

Description: 1 score (li, 318 pages) ; 28 cm

Other title: 10 celebrated string quartets

ISBN: 0486491110



OTHER TIPS FOR DECODING A PREFERRED TITLE:

66 pieces for flute

Bach, Johann Sebastian, 1685-1750.

[Go to Call Number, Holdings, and Location](#)

Held by: MUSIC

Author/Composer: [Bach, Johann Sebastian, 1685-1750.](#)

Uniform title: [\[Instrumental music. Selections; arranged\]](#)

Title: 66 pieces for flute / Bach, J.S. ; [transcribed and edited by] Robert Stallman.

Publication info: New York : International Music Co., c1994.

Publisher no.: 3370 International Music Co.

Description: 104 p. of music ; 31 cm.

Other title: Sixty-six pieces for flute

Contributor: [Stallman, Robert, 1946-](#)

Includes: [Bach, Johann Sebastian, 1685-1750. Partitas, flute, BWV 1013, A minor. Allemande.](#)

Includes: [Bach, Johann Sebastian, 1685-1750. Preludes, lute, BWV 999, C minor; arranged](#)

Includes: [Bach, Johann Sebastian, 1685-1750. Partitas, BWV 997, C minor Gigue. Selections; arranged.](#)

Includes: [Bach, Johann Sebastian, 1685-1750. Sonaten und Partiten, violin, BWV 1001-1006. Sonata, no. 1 Presto; arranged.](#)

Includes: [Bach, Johann Sebastian, 1685-1750. Sonaten und Partiten, violin, BWV 1001-1006. Partita, no. 1 Courante. Selections; arranged.](#)

PROBLEM THREE: A SMALLER WORK MAY BE PART OF A LARGER WORK

- Solution – If you can't find the smaller part, search for the entire work.
- If you can't find a specific aria, look for the entire opera.
- If you can't find Op. 6, no. 1 individually, look for all of the Op. 6.

RELATED PROBLEM – FINDING A SINGLE WORK IN A COLLECTION

- Solution – Look at the contents notes for the item.
- Depending on the cataloger, there may be added entries for each work in a collection.

Dichterliebe : op. 48

Schumann, Robert, 1810-1856.

Summary: This edition is based on the original print of op. 48 and the first editions of the lieder subsequently published in opp. 127 and 142. The appendix includes four songs which Schumann may have cut from his original conception of the work; they were later published as parts of his Opp. 127 and 142.

- Contents:**
- Im wunderschönen Monat Mai
 - Aus meinen Tränen spriessen
 - Die Rose, die Lilie, die Taube, die Sonne
 - Wenn ich in deine Augen seh'
 - Ich will meine Seele tauchen
 - Im Rhein, im heiligen Strome
 - Ich grolle nicht
 - Und wüssten's die Blumen
 - Das ist ein Flöten und Geigen
 - Hör' ich das Liedchen klingen
 - Ein Jüngling liebt ein Mädchen
 - Am leuchtenden Sommermorgen
 - Ich hab' im Traum geweinet
 - Allnächtlich im Traume
 - Aus alten Märchen
 - Die alten bösen Lieder
 - Anhang: Dein Angesicht : op. 127, 2 ; Lehn' deine Wang' : op. 142, 2 ; Es leuchtet meine Liebe : op. 127, 3 ; Mein Wagen rollet langsam : op. 142, 4.

Call number, Holdings, and Location

MUSIC LIBRARY — **Material Location**

M1521 .4 .S303 D5 2011 .S3035 .S3035

NEED MORE INFORMATION ON A WORK?

- *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, 2nd ed., edited by Stanley Sadie, (New York: Oxford University Press, 2001).
- The *New Grove* is available online as part of *Oxford Music Online*.



NOTEWORTHY
RESOURCES

NEED TO BROWSE? USE LC SUBJECT HEADINGS

Corporate author: [Connecticut Composers, Inc., sponsoring body.](#)

Subject (LC): [Piano music.](#)

Subject (LC): [Piano trios.](#)

Subject (LC): [Violin music.](#)

Subject (LC): [Double bass music.](#)

Subject (LC): [Monologues with music \(Piano\)](#)

Genre index term: Chamber music.

SUBJECT HEADINGS BY:

Type of Music

Folk music, Jazz, Popular music, New age music

Type of Musician

Composers, Conductors (Music), Jazz Musicians, Singers

Geographic Region

Music Africa, Music India, Music United States

Time Period

Music 15th Century, Music 17th Century

Music of Morocco : from the Library of Congress

Bowles, Paul, 1910-1999, recordist, writer of added text.

[Go to Call Number, Holdings, and Location](#)

Held by: MUSIC

Title: Music of Morocco : from the Library of Congress / recorded by Paul Bowles, 1959.

Publication info.: [Atlanta, Georgia] : Dust to Digital, 2016.

Publisher no.: DTD-46 Dust to Digital

Description: 4 audio discs : digital, CD audio ; 4 3/4 in. + 1 volume (120 pages : illustrations ; 14 x 20 cm)

Performer(s): Various Moroccan performers.

Language: Performed variously in Arabic, various Berber dialects, or Hebrew.

Note: Title from container.

Note: Booklet contains both the original liner notes by Paul Bowles as well as later commentary for the current release.

Date/place captured: Recorded in Morocco, 1959 August 8-December 14.

Contributor: [Bowles, Paul, 1910-1999, recordist, writer of added text.](#)

Contributor: [Ranaldo, Lee, writer of introduction.](#)

Contributor: [Schuyler, Philip Daniel, 1946- writer of added commentary.](#)

Subject (LC): [Folk music--Morocco.](#)

Subject (LC): [Berbers--Morocco--Music.](#)

Subject (LC): [Popular music--Morocco--1951-1960.](#)

FINDING WORKS IN ANTHOLOGIES:

- Title keyword search in local catalog or WorldCat
- Broaden to genre + composer name
- Read the contents notes carefully – individual pieces are often indexed here.
- Song indexes:
 - Sears, *Song Index and Supplement*
 - Ferguson, *Song Finder* (indexes popular songs by title)
 - De Charms, *Songs in Collections*

REFERENCE SOURCES:

- Dictionaries & Encyclopedias:
 - *New Grove Dictionary of Music & Musicians* (available in print or online as *part of Oxford Music Online*)
 - *New Harvard Dictionary of Music*
 - *Garland Encyclopedia of World Music* (print or online)
- Thematic catalogs
- Guides to research – bibliographies of composers, genres, instruments, etc.
- Discographies – lists of recordings

REFERENCE SOURCES:

- Song indexes
- Directories:
 - *Musical America* (festivals, agents, schools of music, etc.)
- Music databases – available by subscription:
 - *Music Periodicals Database* (formerly known as IIMP)
 - *RILM Abstracts*
 - *Music Index*
 - *JSTOR*

RECOMMENDED FREE ONLINE SOURCES:

- [Allmusic.com](https://www.allmusic.com)
- [WorldCat.org](https://www.worldcat.org)
- [Petrucci Music Library/IMSLP](https://imslp.org)

WHERE CAN I GO FOR MORE HELP?

- Ask me! Sara Manus, sara.manus@Vanderbilt.edu
- Music specialists in your area (city, state, or region)
- Music Library Association regional chapters – SEMLA covers North Carolina.
- Association listservs, like MLA-L.

- Access the PowerPoint slides and links to various resources on my Research Guide, http://researchguides.library.vanderbilt.edu/semla_reference_2016.
- Sara J. Beutter Manus, Vanderbilt University, Anne Potter Wilson Music Library, (615) 322-8686, sara.manus@Vanderbilt.edu.