

Istituto Superiore di Studi Musicali “Achille Peri”
Biblioteca “Armando Gentilucci”
Via Dante Alighieri, 11 – 42100 Reggio nell’Emilia – Italy

Institute profile

“Achille Peri” Music Institute, recognised in 1972 as a national Academy of Music, has been transformed in Higher School for Music Studies in 2006, becoming officially part of the Art, Music and Chorus High Education System. This context generated experimental three-years and two-years courses that allow graduation in the first or second level academic.

In addition to these courses, the Institute provides a very wide educational offer structured on various levels: from preparatory courses for children, to fundamental courses and partnerships with traditional schools of every level and kind.

The artistic and cultural activity of the Institute is very lively and many times gets out of national borders.

Learning exchanges, partnerships and participations within youth festivals and other initiatives are often organised for Institute students all around Europe. Among these partnerships stand up the cooperation with Music Feliska Nowowijskiego Academy of Bydgoszcz (Poland), twin town of Reggio Emilia since 2002. The exchanges with Music Academy of Schwerin (Germany), National Music Academy of Digione (France) and Fort Worth city (USA) already started some years ago.

Library profile

“Armando Gentilucci” library is a professional teaching service which always has supported music culture and widespread music education.

A sort of double soul, specialized and public, lives within the library, making it a daily destination of musicians, scholars, teachers involved in all degrees of school, students and amateurs. Free access at its collection is given from open-bookshelves organization of paper materials.

Sometimes, reading rooms of the library become theatre for music public initiatives, about which programs, pictures and some other details are to be found in web site.

Library collections

Printed Music

The high number of visitors from all over Italy, yearly estimated in about 9.000, has to be ascribed to national interest for twentieth-century and contemporary features of its collections, as well as a consistent availability of scores and useful music editions for an amount of 18.500 titles.

Nevertheless, library has never been considered in users opinion only for its paper collections. Whereas its well known richness in practice and theoretic music documents makes it one of the best provided music libraries in northern Italy, its owner interest in western music culture gets increasing objectives of library in all around directions.

Reference and other book materials about music

In consideration of the above, library sets itself a goal in collecting both historical and contemporary music items, in whatever material and codifying language have they ever been fixed, both sheet and recording.

Together with collected works of greatest composers, reference books and relevant musicological literature (about 10.500), music reviews are to be added finally, to complete the outline of the library through its documentary sources. In this way history of western music from early to updated expressions are in all probabilities to be founded either in score or in recording heritage of the library.

Sound recordings

In its sound recordings collection troubadours and Gregorian chant take place beside baroque, classic and romantic operas, as well as highlights of modern and contemporary compositions. Some outings towards jazz, popular and ethnic music have been slightly sketched so far, having the professional background of the library strongly conditioned the genres of music mostly supplied in it. The qualified care in choosing products of music, in whatever kind of supports and formats, has been the direct consequence of library aims: ancient 78 rpm, long playing, cassette recording, compact and digital video disc for a total amount of 12.734 audio materials are conserved in library. This is a number in constant progress for several gifts and purchases which yearly enrich this total amount.

Library 5.620 CDs collection cover the entire span of western history of music, that is European heritage of music according to its written tradition: from Gregorian chant to interesting experimental music of nowadays. Works of greatest composers are to be found in a dialectic relationship with less known contemporary authors, testifying, through twentieth and contemporary vocation of the library, the never-ending contribution that Europe, taken as a whole, is still devoting to music. An evidence of this is particularly pointed out in compositive and executive features of string quartet.

A unique CD collection

An excellent point within recording collections has to be marked as it issues from a fruitful relationship with local openings to international music context. The achievements obtained by string quartet groups which have taken part in Paolo Borciani International Competition during their career, together with a lot of music activities turning around that event, testify the special involvement of Reggio Emilia – seat of the prestigious competition since 1987 – in string quartet culture. So a private collection of one thousand compact discs, having only string quartet as monographic subject, has been given to the library on December 15th 2000, thanks to a generous contribution of a banking institute. Highlights of executive quartet expressions make the *string quartet CD collection* one of a kind for its organic unity and exhaustiveness, so that users can obtain a complete overview both on history of quartet as well as composition form and on development of taste and executive praxis involved in it during nineteenth and twentieth centuries. For catalogue link to: http://www.municipio.re.it/peri_biblioteca/TestoWebNuovo.pdf

Access to bibliographic and other information

Library's site: http://www.municipio.re.it/peri_biblioteca

Library's OPAC profile: <http://opacperi.comune.re.it/opacREA/Opac?sysb=REAPE&fromBiblio=REAPE>,

Local collective catalogue: <http://opacrea.comune.re.it/opacREA/Opac>

National collective catalogue (SBN): <http://opac.sbn.it/opacsbn/opac/icc/base.jsp> (through ICCU profile)

National collective catalogue (SBN): <http://www.internetculturale.it/moduli/opac/opac.jsp> (through

Bibliographic Search of *Internet Culturale* gateway)

Italian Meta-OPAC Azalai: <http://www.aib.it/aib/opac/mai.htm3>.