International Bibliography of Discographies

A Worldwide Collaborative Project
Initiated by the IASA Discography Committee

Peter Laurence and Filip Šír
BAAC Conference, Vilnius, November 2016
IASA Discography Committee, September 2015
(Bibliothèque nationale de France, Paris)

- Bring institutions and collectors together in a collaborative project to build an online International Bibliography of Discographies
- Reach out for cooperation from related associations all around the world
- “Connect, Collect and Collaborate” chosen as the goal of the committee and our project
- Publish the Bibliography on the IASA website and make it available to everyone
Predecessors in Print

- Carl Bruun and John Gray’s “A Bibliography of Discographies” from the Journal of the British Institute of Recorded Sound in July, 1962

- Lewis Foreman’s Discographies: A Bibliography of Catalogues of Recordings, Mainly Relating to Specific Musical Subjects, Composers and Performers in 1973

- David Edwin Cooper’s International Bibliography of Discographies, Classical Music and Jazz and Blues, 1962-1972 in 1975


- Tim Brooks’ coverage of new discographies in the “Current Bibliography” section of the ARSC Journal

Definition/What to include... exclude?

- **Bibliography**: the literature of a subject (Oxford English Dictionary)
- **Discography**: a catalogue of published sound recordings enriched with historical content, often by specific artists or record labels, or within identified musical genres.
- Discographies have appeared in article and book form, as CD-ROMs, and now frequently reside online in electronic form as PDFs, websites or databases. We will include all of these forms, as well as discographies published as part of larger works and unpublished work in progress.
- **Formats**: Book, Article, CD-ROM, Website, Database, Other
- **Coverage**: Discographies of Commercial Recordings, Buyer’s Guides, Label Catalogs, Collector’s Guide
Discographies from every era, and in every subject, language and format... (Print I)
Discographies from every era, and in every subject, language and format... (Print II)
Discographies from every era, and in every subject, language and format... (Print III)
Discographies from every era, and in every subject, language and format... (Print IV)
CD-ROMs, Websites, Online Databases (II)
Karel Čapek calls for establishment of "...a national discotheque in every country, acquiring and preserving both national folklore and exceptional works of local composers or performers and ensembles, when recorded on gramophone records. That way, a real archive of national music in authentic and peak performance are archived, serving to promote the national art, broadcast by the radio, research etc. – certainly a desirable thing."

Karel Čapek

About the project

Content and objectives of VNF

Virtual National Phonotheque of the Czech Republic aims to provide information about the existence, location and content of audio documents published or located on the territory of the Czech republic.
International Bibliography of Discographies: A Worldwide Collaborative Project

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Efforts to compile bibliographies which focus specifically on published discographies can be traced back to an article by Carl Bruun and John Gray from the *Journal of the British Institute of Recorded Sound* in 1962. During the next 20 years several other significant print bibliographies appeared, culminating in the publication of the *Bibliography of Discographies* series from 1977-1983 (vol. 1: Classical Music, 1925-1975 by Michael Gray and Gerald D. Gibson; vol. 2: Jazz by Daniel Allen; and vol. 3: Popular Music by Michael Gray). Michael Gray later provided an update of classical music discographies for the years 1976-1988, and Tim Brooks has included new discographies in the “Current Bibliography” section of the *ARSC Journal* for many years.
How to Participate...

If you would like to add a submission to the Bibliography, please use the link below:

▶  http://goo.gl/forms/7CSLvQCKYl

If you would like to contribute a pdf version of your article- or book-length discography to the Bibliography, please use the following link (up to 2 GB):

▶  https://www.wetransfer.com/?to=discography@mzk.cz
Submitting Entries to the Bibliography

Google Form Link found on IASA Project Page
### Sample Results from Google Form

<table>
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<th>#</th>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Subtitle or Edition</th>
<th>Author 1</th>
<th>Year of Publication</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Language of Publication</th>
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<td>Lange, Horst H.</td>
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<td>Panther-Verlag</td>
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<td>1985</td>
<td>Franz Heinrich, Redaktion</td>
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<td>University of California at</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bennett, J.R.</td>
<td>1953</td>
<td>The Record Collector</td>
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<td>Hipmeyer, Jean-Roland</td>
<td>1977</td>
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<td>Gronow, Perkko [ed.]</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Gesellschaft für</td>
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<td>Flesker, Jane</td>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Information Coordinators</td>
<td>English, Other</td>
<td>Genre</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Using WeTransfer to submit PDF versions of Discographies to the Bibliography

One massive file or many smaller ones. Make your 20GB monster.

discography@mzk.cz
Online PDF Versions of Discographies (I)

From the Gesellschaft für Historische Tonträger (GHT)
Online PDF Versions of Discographies (II)

Online Lee Konitz discography (University of Michigan Press)

Discography of Begum Akhtar (article in the 2008 issue of the Journal of the ‘Society of Indian Record Collectors’, Mumbai)
A page from a complete digital version of Delaunay’s 1936 version of Hot Discography

*Scan courtesy of GHT
OCR: Making Discographies Searchable within the Bibliography (II)
OCR: Making Discographies Searchable within the Bibliography (III)

Very Good Results... even with Czech Diacritics!
A Digital Library of Discographies...

Český katalog nahrávek gramofonové firmy Esta 1930-1946 • Czech catalogue of recordings issued by the record company ESTA, 1930-1947
by Gössel, Gabriel, 1943-; Štir, Filip; Esta (firma : 1930-1947)
...BUT, publishing in the 21st century is still important.
Sending Print Discographies to the Project for Processing/Scanning

Print discographies in book or article form may be sent directly to the project for processing or scanning, using one of two collection points:

From North & South America, Asia, Australia and Africa, please send to:

Peter Laurence  
Archive of World Music  
Loeb Music Library  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138 USA

From Europe, please send to:

Filip Šír  
National Museum  
Karmelitská 2/4  
118 00 Prague 1  
Czech Republic
ARSC Meeting in Bloomington, Indiana (May, 2016)

- Association for Recorded Sound Collections (ARSC)
  - Presented a paper on the Bibliography project
  - Met with many important members of ARSC who are pioneers in the field of discography
  - Received valuable feedback on the project
  - Michael Gray, chair of the ARSC Discography Committee, became part of our team
GHT Meeting in Barcelona, Spain (May, 2016)

- Gesellschaft für Historische Tönträger (GHT)
  - Presented a paper on the Bibliography project
  - Met with many important members of GHT who are pioneers in the field of discography
  - Claus Peter Gallenmiller, GHT vice-president, became part of our team
BAAC Meeting in Vilnius, Latvia (November, 2016)

- The Baltic Audiovisual Archival Council (BAAC)
- Will be presenting a paper on the Bibliography project
- Meetings with private collectors
Bibliography Project Team

- Advisory Team for the Bibliography Project
- Michael Gray (ARSC), Claus Peter Gallenmiller (GHT), Suresh Chandvankar (SIRC)
- Student in the Czech Republic - Michal Bílý (White) and in the USA - Mathew Rose
- We are still looking for others
Give us feedback, meet with us, participate...
“Join Us As We Create the International Bibliography of Discographies” (Tutorial)

- We are offering a participatory workshop on the project at the future conference
- Collaboration is key in building the Bibliography, and in order to be successful, we seek to create a network of partners who share our goals for such a resource. These will include representatives from peer associations, memory institutions, and individual collectors and discographers. We absolutely need the expertise of others who have studied and worked closely with the recorded output of specific labels, genres, artists, regions or countries.
Thank you/Děkuji!

- Peter Laurence
  Eda Kuhn Loeb Music Library
  Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, USA
  laurenc@fas.harvard.edu

- Filip Šír
  National Museum, Prague,
  Czech Republic
  filip_sir@nm.cz