Finding music for the clarinet in Western’s Music Library

With a little patience and ingenuity, much clarinet music can be located in the Western Libraries Music Library. Some of it will be found in obvious locations, while other important repertoire is scattered throughout the collection. Of special importance to clarinetists is the SOLO MUSIC REFERENCE COLLECTION (see no. 5 below).

1. Finding a KNOWN piece of music

Any piece of music for which you know the composer and the title may be found by looking in the Western Libraries Catalogue:

www.lib.uwo.ca

Choose the Advanced Search - KEYWORD (a.k.a. “Boolean”) option of the Catalogue: combine the composer’s name with a unique title, opus number, and/or thematic catalogue number, remembering to use “AND” in-between your keywords (to link desired terms).

E.g.
Mozart and clarinet and 622 and part

should retrieve the piano reduction (with the clarinet part) for Mozart’s Clarinet Concerto, K. 622

If you are unsure of titles, opus or thematic catalogue numbers, refer to the various repertoire guides listed below, or consult “Works” lists in articles on Individual composers as found in The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, 2nd ed., (29 vols.).

Don’t forget to look in collections of music by your composer (the library finds it cheaper and more convenient to buy all the sonatas of a composer in one volume than to purchase single sonatas, etc.)

The Western Libraries Catalogue is accessible from home, via a PC and modem (via Firefox or Internet Explorer) through your Internet service provider.

Each student registered at Western is given a UWO Computing Account, through which address (ONLY) the University and the Western Libraries communicate with you. Your login name and password are REQUIRED to access our licensed electronic indexes and database subscriptions. If you are connected to the Internet off-campus, you will likely need to configure your “proxy server” to access electronic resources at home. See the following address for details and instructions:

http://www.lib.uwo.ca/offcampus

2. BROWSING on the shelf for music

Most, BUT NOT ALL clarinet music can be found in the following areas:

M 70-74 (clarinet alone, no accompaniment)
M 248-252 (clarinet with piano, sonatas, etc.)
M 1024 (clarinet with full orchestra, concertos, etc.)
M 1025 (clarinet with piano reduction, concertos, etc.)
M 1124 (clarinet with string orchestra, concertos, etc.)
M 1125 (clarinet with piano reduction of string orchestra)
MT 380-392.8 (studies and methods for the clarinet)
MT 386 (orchestral excerpts)

(For a complete explanation of these call numbers and others, see the book LC Classification/Class M, Music located near the Reference Desk.)
3. **Searching by SUBJECT**

Particular types of clarinet music will be easily-found using the Subject index of the Western Libraries Catalogue.

***WARNING***

If you use the Subject Heading "CLARINET MUSIC" you will find miscellaneous solo works only.

Most music will be found under the specific genre, *e.g.*

- **SONATAS (CLARINET AND PIANO)**
- **SUITES (CLARINET AND FLUTE)**
- **CONCERTOS (CLARINET)** [full scores and recordings – no books!]
- **CONCERTOS (CLARINET) – SOLO WITH PIANO**
- **CONCERTOS (CLARINET WITH STRING ORCHESTRA)**

Other useful Subject Headings are:

- **CLARINET – INSTRUCTION AND STUDY**
- **CLARINET – METHODS**
- **CLARINET – ORCHESTRA STUDIES**
- **CLARINET – STUDIES AND EXERCISES, etc.**

Accustom yourself to looking for the specific genre and instrumentation when searching by SUBJECT – this will help you find music for a specific instrumentation VERY quickly.

For a complete listing of the Subject Headings employed in the Western libraries, see *Library of Congress Subject Headings* (5 large red volumes) located near the Reference Desk.

4. **ENSEMBLES with Clarinet**

For information on this topic, please consult the Music Library’s handout *Woodwind Ensembles*.

5. **CLARINET Music found in the Solo Music Reference Collection**

A veritable “trove” of unusual and twentieth-century music for the clarinet may be found in the Solo Music Reference Collection (SMRC) – housed in the Choral/Band/Orchestral Music Library (a.k.a. "The CBO", located in Room 134, Talbot College).

This collection IS NOT listed on the Western Libraries Catalogue (i.e. ‘the computers’), but rather on a microfiche catalogue. For access to this collection, see the handout *Using the Solo Music Reference Collection*. The SMRC code for clarinet music is:

**MUS 4070**

The scores are arranged alphabetically, by composer's surname, if you wish to browse the shelves.

**REPERTOIRE LISTS**

For assistance in identifying appropriate repertoire for the clarinet (alone and in combination with other instruments), the following reference sources are very useful:


The most extensive list of clarinet music. Includes citations for clarinet alone (Klarinette allein), and in combination with other instruments, and a bibliography.


Less comprehensive than Brixel, this work includes some vocal music with clarinet.


The author indicates that this volume contains an "extensive" but not "all-encompassing" bibliography of music for solo clarinet, multiple clarinets, the clarinet with one other instrument, and the clarinet with larger ensemble combinations.


Descriptions of twentieth-century solo clarinet literature include performance times and commentary on style and performance considerations of works published up to 1972.


Lists more than three hundred early published and unpublished clarinet concertos. Many items are not included in Brixel (presumably because of lack of availability).


Discussion of an extremely important section of the clarinet repertoire, much of which can be found in the Western Libraries Music Library (specifically in the Solo Music Reference Collection - see #5 above).


Includes a section on music for voice and clarinet.


One must be a member of the International Clarinet Society, in order to use this collection.


Provides an index to orchestral excerpts for all standard orchestral instruments, including the clarinet.


This work also includes solo works for instrumentalists.

**PERIODICALS FOR CLARINETTISTS**

The Music Library subscribes to many periodicals of interest to clarinettists, some of which are:

- Clarinet
- Historical Performance
- Early Music
- Instrumentalist
- Galpin Society Journal
- International Musician

For holdings and call numbers of these and other periodicals consult the Western Libraries Catalogue.

**HISTORY of the CLARINET and CLARINET MUSIC**


The extensive bibliography (listed in chronological order) cites books and journal articles on the clarinet – the Western Music Library has many of the books and articles cited in this bibliography.

When using a bibliography, please be sure to distinguish between books (titles always listed in italics) and periodical or journal articles (“titles always listed within quotation marks”) to save yourself valuable time. Remember that journal titles are often abbreviated in a bibliography – and that a list of abbreviations will give the FULL TITLE of the journal or periodical. Look up the journal’s FULL TITLE on the Western Libraries Catalogue.

Call numbers for books may be found by searching by either AUTHOR or TITLE, or by using a KEYWORD search to combine author and title words.

Call numbers for journal articles may be found by searching for the title of the periodical (**NOT** the title of the article!!) in the Western Libraries Catalogue:

*e.g. Galpin Society Journal*

Information about important clarinettists (i.e. Mozart’s Stadler, Brahms’s Mühlfeld, etc.) can be found in Pamela Weston’s *Clarinet Virtuosi of the Past*; check also her *More Clarinet Virtuosi of the Past*.

Clarinetists may also be interested in the following books:


**PERFORMING PRACTICE**

Historically-informed performance is an ongoing consideration for all performers. Following are titles which may prove useful to clarinettists:


Wide-ranging essays on all aspects of clarinet performance, from playing the clarinet’s precursors, to modern-day performance on today’s instruments. Tutors are recommended for those who wish to explore the world of the early clarinet. Contains fingering charts and recommendations for studies and orchestral excerpts.


Great tips for rapid tonguing, coordination and tuning. Be sure to ask for the accompanying CD with the audio examples!
...PERFORMING PRACTICE
(...continued...)


A practical guide to all aspects of Baroque music performance.


One can often gain a useful perspective on performing practice, by consulting the tutors and methods of past eras. These historical sources provide valuable information on fingerings, and on how to perform figures, ornaments, crescendos, etc.

Sources of particular interest to clarinettists, held at the Western Music Library include:


A 36-reel microfilm set of tutors and methods, many of which were written by the leading virtuosi of their day. While many of the sources will contain material of interest, reels 2 & 7 of Part 1, contain treatises dealing with the clarinet: see reel 24 of Part 2. Each Part has its own printed index, located in the Music Reference area (call number listed above).

**Part 1.** Instrumental tutors from the Bate Collection of Musical Instruments, Oxford and the private library of Philip Bate (10 reels). Clarinet tutors will be found on reels # 2 and # 7 of this series.

**Part 2.** Tutors and méthodes from the F.J. Fétis Collection at the Bibliothèque Royale Albert Ier, Brussels (26 reels). Clarinet tutors will be found on reel # 24 of this series.

**CLARINET RECORDINGS**

Although most of the Music Library's sound recordings can be found via the Western Libraries Catalogue, many others cannot. Most commercially-recorded clarinet music for which you know the composer and the title may be found via a **KEYWORD** search:

- include the opus number (numerals/digits only)
- include "sound" or "compact"
- be sure to type "AND" between each keyword

Very recent recordings may not yet be ordered – please check with the Reference Librarian.

If you are looking for all recordings by a particular performer, you may type his/her name as an **AUTHOR**:

- Meyer, Sabine
- Leister, Karl
- Prinz, Alfred
- Campbell, James
- Riseling, Robert
- Summers, Jerome

In addition to commercially-produced recordings, there are hundreds of Western's Don Wright Faculty of Music Student/Faculty/Guest Artist Recitals, which were taped during the period 1965 - the present. Until 1988, or so, recitals were automatically taped for archival purposes. After that time, the process became much more selective – so that one cannot rely upon finding a tape for every Western Faculty of Music performance. Access to this collection is provided by computer-generated indexes – found in the Quick Reference area nearest the Service Desk (below the Conservatory syllabi). Should you find a performance you would like to hear, you must:

- **make note of the appropriate reference number – from the left-hand column!**

Then, leave a note for Mr. Mike Godwin – in his mailbox in the Main Office (T.C. 210) stating your name, the recording reference number, and ask that he place the tape in the Library. He will then leave the recording at the Music Library’s Service Desk – you may listen to same, upon surrender of appropriate identification. **Dubbing is NOT permitted in the Library**, but you can make arrangements to purchase copies by applying at the Don Wright Faculty of Music’s Main Office (T.C. 210).

**RELATED HANDOUTS**

*Using the Solo Music Reference Catalogue*

*Woodwind Ensembles*

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