Finding music for the horn in Western’s Music Library

Western’s Music Library contains a wealth of music for the horn major. Some of this repertoire will be found in obvious locations, while other important repertoire is scattered throughout the collection. Of special importance to hornists is the Solo Music Reference Collection (see 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 Shared Library Catalogue: www.lib.uwo.ca

Choose the 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. Using a SPACE = Boolean AND in-between your KEYWORDS helps to narrow your search, and find desired items quickly:

e.g. Hindemith sonatas horn

should retrieve Hindemith's horn sonata - both scores and recordings (note the use of the PLURAL OF THE GENRE - sonataS - you must use the plural to find scores and recordings!).

e.g. concertos horn part

will retrieve those editions (i.e. piano reductions) which come with a separate horn part

If you are unsure of titles, opus or thematic catalogue numbers, refer to the repertoire guides listed below or consult "Works" lists in articles on individual composers in The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians (29 vols.). (This product is available online to currently-registered Western students, faculty, and staff.)

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 Shared Library Catalogue is accessible to everyone at:

www.lib.uwo.ca

However, your Western Identity and password are REQUIRED to access our licensed electronic resources (i.e. e-books, e-journals and their online indexes, Opera In Video Online, NAXOS Music Library, and DRAM (20th - 21st century art music)).

Please remember to check your Western EMAIL regularly for notification of items coming-due, and overdue and/or fine notices.

2. BROWSING on the shelf for music

Most, but not all, horn music can be found in the following areas:

M 80 - 84 (horn alone – no accompaniment)
M 255 - 259 (horn with piano or continuo)
M 1028 (horn with full orchestra, concertos, etc.)
M 1029 (horn with piano reduction of concertos, etc.)
M 1128 (horn with string orchestra, concertos, etc.)
M 1129 (horn with piano reduction of music for horn and strings)
MT 420 - 432 (studies and methods for horn)
MT 426 (orchestral excerpts)

For a complete explanation of these and other useful call numbers, see the book LC Classification: Class M, Music located at the Reference Desk.
3. Using the SUBJECT index

Particular types of horn music will be easily found using the Subject index of the catalogues.

***WARNING***

IF you use the Subject Heading "HORN MUSIC" you will find miscellaneous solo works only. Most music will be found under the specific genre, e.g.:

SONATAS (HORN AND PIANO)

SUITES (HORN AND TUBA)

CONCERTOS (HORN) for recordings and full orchestral scores

CONCERTOS (HORN) – [SOLO WITH PIANO [orchestral reduction]

CONCERTOS (HORN WITH STRING ORCHESTRA)

Other useful Subject Headings include:

HORN (MUSICAL INSTRUMENT) – ORCHESTRA STUDIES

HORN (MUSICAL INSTRUMENT) – STUDIES AND EXERCISES etc.

Accustom yourself to looking for the specific genre and instrumentation when using the subject index. For a more complete listing of the Subject Headings employed in the Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue, see Library of Congress Subject Headings (5 large red volumes) located on the "Quick Reference" shelf – beside the Reference Desk.

N.B. Use the KEYWORD search function of the Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue to combine terms from Subject Headings with authors' names and/or unique words from titles, publishers, and opus numbers, etc.

The general classification for horn music held in the SMRC is

MUS 4080

and the works are “cuttered” (alphabetically arranged) by the composers’ surnames, so do plan to make time to peruse this collection in-person!

REPERTOIRE LISTS

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


An extensive list, this work cites music for horn alone and in combination with other instruments. Do not worry that it’s in German; all of the important details are there, and are easy to understand.


Another extensive work, this book includes a bibliography for books about the horn, as well as lists of horn repertoire.


This dealer's catalogue lists music for horn alone and in combination with other instruments. The Music Library does not always have the most recent edition. See also: https://robertkingmusic.com/


Lists methods, studies, sonatas, and concertos, etc. for horn, with or without accompaniment.


Lists works for: solo horn; horn and keyboard; horn and tape; horn and percussion; horn and mixer. Separate indexes for titles, composers and publishers. Devotes a page to each cited work, noting: duration, style, difficulty, technical challenges or difficulties and effectiveness in performance.

4. ENSEMBLES using the Horn

For information on horn in brass ensembles, consult the handout Brass Ensembles; to find wind quintets (flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn) use the sheet for Woodwind Ensembles.

5. Horn music in the SOLO MUSIC REFERENCE COLLECTION

Much unusual and twentieth-century music for the horn may be found in the Solo Music Reference Collection housed in the Choral/Band/Orchestral Library. For information on catalogues and access to the collection see the handout Using the Solo Music Reference Collection.

Lists Canadian works for solo horn and for horn in ensembles.

Canadian Music Centre. [www.musiccentre.ca](http://www.musiccentre.ca)

The CMC's mandate is to promote Canadian Music. You can borrow music (for free), or purchase scores and parts for a nominal fee. Why not play music by living composers, for a change?

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**ORCHESTRAL EXCERPTS on CD-ROM**


Orchestral musicians may well wish to consider acquiring a personal copy of this set for themselves [as traditional “excerpt books” do NOT provide complete orchestral parts].

- v. 1. Beethoven, Schubert, and more
- v. 2. Debussy, Mahler and more
- v. 3. Brahms, Schumann and more
- v. 4. Tchaikovsky and more
- v. 5. Dvorák, Rimsky-Korsakov and more
- v. 6. Mozart and Haydn
- v. 7. Ravel, Elgar and more
- v. 8. Bartók, Rachmaninoff, Stravinsky, and more
- v. 9. Strauss, Sibelius and more
- v. 10. Bach, Handel and more
- v. 11. Wagner, pt. 1
- v. 12. Wagner, pt. 2

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**PERIODICALS for Hornists**

Periodicals? Serials? Journals? Magazines? The Music Library subscribes to many periodicals of interest to hornists. (**= online content)** Included are:

- *The Horn Call** (1972 - 1996; 2006 - online)
- *Instrumentalist* (1957 - present)
- *International Musician** (1966 - present)
- *Early Music** (1973 - present)
- *Galpin Society Journal** (1943 - present)

For holdings and the call numbers for these and other periodicals search by JOURNAL TITLE in the Western Libraries Catalogue.

Periodical literature, both recent and historical, on the horn and its music may be found by searching several online indexes: *The Music Index*, IIMP or RILM are recommended.

Also, remember to check the extensive BIBLIOGRAPHY given for the horn – in *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, 2nd edition (and online).

For library holdings and the call numbers of periodicals, consult the Western Libraries Catalogue - use a TITLE search (and search by the JOURNAL TITLE - not the title of the article)!

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**Finding ARTICLES...**

...for, about, and BY Horn Players

There are a myriad of options available to you for finding ARTICLES on any topic:

1. **BIBLIOGRAPHIES** provide the “shorthand” (and are also a fast shortcut) for finding articles.

You will find bibliographies (lists of books or articles consulted by an author) in/at:

- the back of a book about horns (or horn players).
- *The New Grove Dictionary*, 2nd ed. abounds
with bibliographies - you will find a bibliography at the end of EVERY article in the NG-II. Check the article entitled HORN

- the end of any scholarly article about any given topic, such as the horn.

2. You can also “browse” printed periodicals for horn players (see the preceding heading for titles of horn-interest).

3. **ONLINE INDEXES & FULL TEXT SOURCES** are relative newcomers to the study of music.

Again, there are several options available from the **RESEARCH TOOLS** tab at the Western Libraries home page www.lib.uwo.ca:

**RESEARCH TOOLS**

- Research Guides
  [then choose....MUSIC]
  - Music Performance
    OR
  - Instrumental Performance
    OR

- Search for Articles, Books, and more: (from the “generic” search box) found at the Western Libraries home page www.lib.uwo.ca:

  - enter your search terms
e.g. horn valves

Because so much music material is still available only in print, it’s best NOT to limit to “online-only” resources.

4. And, last but not least, are anthologies of articles - directed toward teachers and students, such as those published by *The Instrumentalist* magazine:

   MT 418.B73 1984

**HISTORY of the Horn and Horn Music**

For detailed and scholarly information the history of the horn and the horn repertory, consult the article in the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, 29 vols. (London: Macmillan, 2001). **[Located on the Dictionary Table, and online.]** The extensive bibliography lists books and journal articles on the horn – the Western Music Library has many of the books and articles cited.

What’s a bibliography? It’s a list of things, in this case, a list of books and articles on a particular topic. And, it can save you HOURS of research time!

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.

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 journal** (**NOT** the title of the article !!) in the Western Libraries **Shared Library Catalogue**. So, if your citation looks like:

   Snedeker, J.L.: 'Fetis and the 'Meifred' horn',
   *JAMIS*, xxiii (1997), 121-146.

   you must ascertain the full title represented by the acronym "JAMIS" and then search the Western Library Catalogue for the **JOURNAL TITLE**:

   **Journal of the American Musical Instrument Society**

Another useful resource for brass players is:

   Ref ML 128.B72 F3 1990

   Provides access to printed literature which may not be indexed in *The Music Index.*

   Ref ML 102.H67 P59 1986

   This quirky publication abounds with information about horn players/personnel of various orchestras, instrument makers, mutes, and illustrations of valves, instruments, performers and composers.
And, this book should be on every horn player's bookshelf!

PERFORMANCE PRACTICE

Early method books (a.k.a. “tutors”) are important sources of information regarding performance practice. The following microfilm set will be invaluable for this type of research:


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, Part 1, reels 4, 5 & 6, contains treatises dealing with the horn; Part 2, reel 25 contains methods for brass instruments.

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)

Part 2. Tutors and méthodes from the F.J. Fétis Collection at the Bibliotheque Royale Albert I", Brussels (26 reels).

You must consult the PRINT indexes for microfilms, as there are NO “Contents Notes” available to be searched on the Western Libraries Catalogue.

Additional information regarding Performing Practice can be found in a variety of sources, both online and print:

- www.grovemusic.com (see the articles on “Performing Practice” and “Ornamentation”)
- ML 457 is the classification section for performance practice - see the books by Donington, Kivy and Leppard
- Search the Libraries Catalogue by SUBJECT: performance practice
- Additional SUBJECT HEADINGS: embellishment, musica ficta

RECORDINGS of Horn Music

In a hurry? It's always handy to find a list of recordings (discography) compiled by a teacher or performer. Following are two titles which offer discographical information for the horn player:


KEYWORD searching is the most effective way to quickly find a desired recording: Although most of the Music Library's sound recordings can be found via the Western Libraries Catalogue, many others cannot. Most commercially-recorded horn music for which you know the composer and the title may be found via a KEYWORD search:

- type single, significant keywords (e.g. the performer's [or composer's] surname
- include a significant word from the title of the work
- include the opus number (numerals only)
- include “sound” or “compact” (“sound” retrieves ALL sound formats; “compact” retrieves ONLY CDs)
- a space = "AND" in a keyword search string
- if you are looking for older records (i.e. not CDs) put your search phrase in parentheses, and be sure to EXCLUDE CDs:

(BRAIN HORN) AND NOT COMPACT

Alternately, if you are looking for a recording by a particular performer, you may type his/her name following the AUTHOR command:

- e.g. BRAIN, DENNIS
- BAUMANN, HERMANN
- TUCKWELL, BARRY

To locate recent recordings (after first checking the Western Libraries Catalogue by AUTHOR (i.e. performer) or by KEYWORD), consult the Reference Librarian: we may wish to order a copy for the Music Library.
Older commercial recordings (i.e., records or black vinyl discs) which are listed in the Western Libraries Catalogue with the prefix MTR have been relocated to off-site storage, and can be retrieved upon request; turnaround-time will be a minimum of 3 business days.

If you do not know how to operate a turntable, PLEASE ASK FOR HELP at the Music Library’s Service Desk.

It is very easy to damage records (aka LPs) - and we are more than happy to demonstrate the appropriate and approved technique!

Don Wright Faculty of Music RECITALS

In addition to commercially-produced recordings, there are hundreds of Faculty of Music Student/Faculty/Guest Artist Recitals, which were taped during the period 1965 - the present.

Access to the Don Wright Faculty of Music’s recordings archive is provided by computer-generated indexes housed in the LAST row of the Reference Section – nearest the Reference Librarian. 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 and the tape reference number – which will look like:

81-148c

Where:

- 81 = 1981
- 148 = the 148th recital taped that year
- c = the 3rd work on the program

and ask that he place the recording (it may be a CD or other format) in the Library. He will then leave the item at the Music Library Circulation Desk – you may listen to same, upon surrender of appropriate identification.

As a matter of courtesy, please make arrangements to purchase copies (of recital tapes - ONLY) by applying at the Reception Desk, Faculty of Music Main Office (T.C. 210).

Given the recent changes to Canada’s Copyright Law, you are welcome to dub other recordings (CDs and LPs) for personal research and study.

RELATED HANDOUTS

Using the Solo Music Reference Collection

Woodwind Ensembles

Brass Ensembles

The online version of this Horn pathfinder is located at:

http://www.lib.uwo.ca/music/horn.html

The list of ALL the Music Library’s online pathfinders will be found at:

http://www.lib.uwo.ca/music/repertoire.html

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