

VIOLIN

(Fr. *violon*; Ger. *Violine*, *Geige*; It. *violino*)

FINDING MUSIC FOR THE VIOLIN IN THE WESTERN LIBRARIES' MUSIC LIBRARY

The Western Libraries Music Library contains a wealth of music for the violin major. Some of this repertoire will be found in obvious locations, while other important repertoire is scattered throughout the collection.

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 **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" between your keywords.

E.g. **Mozart and violin and 207 and part** should retrieve Mozart's B-flat major Violin Concerto, K. 207

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 Netscape or Internet Explorer) through your Internet service provider.

Each Western-registered student is given a Western Personal 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/>

BROWSING on the shelf for music

Browsing is a legitimate searching technique...you just need to know the 'geography' of the classification system. Most, **but not** all, violin music can be found in the following areas:

M 40 - 44	(violin alone with no accompaniment)
M 217 - 223	(violin with piano or continuo)
M 219	(violin sonatas)
M 1012	(violin with full orchestra, concertos, <i>etc.</i>)
M 1013	(violin with piano reduction of orchestral part for concertos, <i>etc.</i>)
M 1112	(violin with string orchestra, concertos, <i>etc.</i>)
M 1113	(violin with piano reduction of string orchestra part)
MT 260 - 279	(studies, methods, and techniques for violin)
MT 266	(orchestral excerpts)

For a complete explanation of these call numbers and others, see the four large, red volumes: *LC Classification/Class M, Music* located near the Music Library's Reference Desk.

3. Using the SUBJECT index

Particular types of violin music will be easily found using the **Subject Search** of the Western Libraries Catalogue.

A **SUBJECT** search is **NOT** the same as a **KEYWORD** search. *Library of Congress Subject Headings* are assigned by cataloguers; therefore, to retrieve specific types of works (as in a distinctive instrumentation) in our library, you must use the same Subject Headings that the cataloguers use!

Collection. The general classification for violin music in the SMRC is

MUS 4040

REPERTOIRE LISTS

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

Farish, Margaret K. *String Music in Print*. 2nd ed. New York: Bowker, 1973. [Ref ML 128.S7 F4 1973 + Supplements at Ref ML 118.M956 v.6 suppl. + ML118.M956 v.6t suppl. 1998]

A classified list of solo, study, and chamber works. Includes stringed instruments with voice and stringed instruments with electronic tape.

Wilkins, Wayne. *The Index of Violin Music*. Magnolia, Ark.: The Music Register, 1973. Ref ML 128.V4 W5 +Supplements

Shand, Patricia Martin. *A guide to published Canadian violin music suitable for student performers*. Toronto: Canadian Music Centre in co-operation with the Canadian Music Educator, 1993. Ref ML132.V5S43 1993

Edlund, Harry. *Music for solo violin unaccompanied : a catalogue of published and unpublished works from seventeenth century to 1989*. High Wycombe, Bucks: Peter Marcan Publications, 1989. Ref ML 128.V4E44 1989

Landsman, Johnson, Rose-Marie. *Viloin music by women composers: a bio-biographical guide*. New York: Greenwood Press, 1989. Ref ML128.W7J63 1989

Geesaman, Virginia Harold. "Twentieth-Century Literature for Unaccompanied Violin: 1900-1970." Ph.D. diss., University of Iowa, 1973. Ref ML 128.V4 G44

Includes an annotated list with "brief remarks concerning the difficulty and general characteristics of each work."

*****WARNING*****

If you use the subject heading "**VIOLIN MUSIC**" you will find **miscellaneous** solo works only.

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

SONATAS (VIOLIN AND PIANO)

SUITES (VIOLIN AND CONTINUO)

CONCERTOS (VIOLIN) [full score and recordings]

CONCERTOS (VIOLIN) -- SOLO WITH PIANO

CONCERTOS (VIOLIN WITH STRING ORCHESTRA)

Other useful Subject Headings are:

VIOLIN -- INSTRUCTION AND STUDY

VIOLIN -- STUDIES AND EXERCISES

VIOLIN -- ORCHESTRA STUDIES
etc.

Accustom yourself to looking for the specific genre and instrumentation when using the subject index.

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

4. Ensembles using the violin

For information on this topic, consult the handouts *String ensembles* and *Piano ensembles*.

5. Violin music found in the Solo Music Reference Collection

Much unusual and twentieth-century music for the violin 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*

Marcan, Peter. *Music for Solo Violin Unaccompanied: A Performer's Guide to the Published Literature of the Seventeenth, Eighteenth, Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*. [S.l.]: Peter Marcan Publications, 1983. Ref ML 128.V4 M3 1983

Toskey, Burnett R. *Concertos for Violin and Viola: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia*. Seattle: Writers Publishing Service, 1983. Ref ML 128.V4 T68 1983]

A mammoth work that lists 8400 concertos with brief formalized descriptions of 2600 concertos.

Canadian Music Centre. *Canadian Chamber Music=Musique de Chambre Canadienne*. [s.l.]: CMC, 1980. Ref ML 128.C4 C34 1980

This work also includes solo works for instrumentalists.

PERIODICALS FOR VIOLINISTS

The Music Library subscribes to many periodicals of interest to violinists. Included are:

The Strad
American String Teacher
International Musician
Early Music
Orchestra Canada
Historical Performance

For holdings and the call numbers of these and other periodicals consult the **Western Libraries Catalogue – www.lib.uwo.ca**. See the related Music Library print handout: *Periodical Literature* and also *How Do I Find Articles?* available online via this url:

<http://www.lib.uwo.ca/help/index.php?id=51>

HISTORY OF THE VIOLIN AND VIOLIN MUSIC

For detailed and scholarly information on the history of the violin, members of the violin family and the violin repertory, consult the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, 2nd ed. 29 vols. (London: Macmillan, 2001). [Located on the Dictionary Table, and on www.] The extensive bibliography (listed in chronological order) cites books and journal articles on the violin – the UWO 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.

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. Orchestra Canada

Another excellent starting-point for all manner of violin information is this recent bibliography:

Katz, Mark. *The Violin: A Research and Information Guide*. New York: Taylor & Francis, 2006. Ref ML128.V4 K38 2006

Through sensible divisions: Reference and General Studies; Acoustics and Construction; Playing and Performance Practice; Violin Music; Violinists, Violinist-Composers, and Violin Teachers, Katz tackles this mammoth project and organizes it admirably. Includes indexes: author, name, and subject.

The following book may also be of interest:

Stowell, Robin. *The Cambridge companion to the violin*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1992. ML800.C35 1992

Contains essays on history, acoustics, violin bows, fingerings, repertoire and performing practice. Also has an Appendix which lists principal violin treatises.

PERFORMING PRACTICE

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

Cyr, Mary. *Performing baroque music*. Portland, Or. : Amadeus Press, 1992. ML457.C9 1992

A practical guide to all aspects of Baroque music performance.

Hefling, Stephen E. *Rhythmic alteration in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century music : notes inégales and overdotting*. New York : Schirmer Books, 1993. ML437.H43 1993

Carter, Stewart (ed.) *A performer's guide to seventeenth-century music*. New York : Schirmer Books, c1997. ML457.P477 1997

Stowell, Robin. *Violin technique and performance practice in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985. ML855.S8 1985

...PERFORMING PRACTICE

(cont'd)

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 violinists, held at Western's Music Library include:

Mozart, Leopold. *A treatise on the fundamental principles of violin playing*, translated by Editha Knocker. Oxford ; Toronto : Oxford University Press, 1985, c1948. **MT262.M68 1985**

Stowell, Robin. *The early violin and viola : a practical guide*. Cambridge ; New York : Cambridge University Press, 2001. **ML855.S79 2001**

The history of musical instruments [microform] : manuals, tutors and méthodes. Reading, England ; Woodbridge, CT : Research Publications, 1988 **MT172.H477 1988**

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 2-4, Part 1, contain treatises dealing with bowed 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 methodes from the F.J. Fétis Collection at the Bibliothèque Royale Albert Ier, Brussels (26 reels).

RECORDINGS for violinists

Although most of the Music Library's sound recordings can be found via the **Western Libraries Catalogue**, many others cannot. Most commercially-recorded violin 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/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 a recording by a particular performer,

you may type his/her name as an **AUTHOR**:

e.g. **Heifetz, Jascha**

In addition to commercially-produced recordings, there are hundreds of Western 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 recording for each and every Western Faculty of Music performance.

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 recording's reference number - which will look like:

81-148c

81 = 1981

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

Mention that you wish to hear this item, and ask Mr. Godwin to place the recording in the Library. He will then leave the item at the Music Library's Circulation 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 Faculty of Music Main Office (T.C. 210).

RELATED HANDOUTS

Using the Solo Music Reference Catalogue
String ensembles
Piano ensembles

Prepared by: **Jane A. Pearce Baldwin**
Music Reference Librarian
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Revised by: **Lisa Rae Philpott**
Music Reference Librarian
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