

It. *Violoncello* ; Fr. *violoncelle* ; Ger. *Violoncell*

# VIOLONCELLO

## *Finding Music for Violoncello in the Western Libraries Music Library*

Western's Music Library contains a wealth of music for the 'cello major. Some of this repertoire will be found in obvious locations, while other important music is scattered throughout the collection. Of importance to 'cellists, is the **Solo Music Reference Collection** (titles in the SMRC are NOT listed/found on the Western Libraries Catalogue—please 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 Catalogue**:

[www.lib.uwo.ca](http://www.lib.uwo.ca) Choose the **CLASSIC CATALOGUE**, and then the **KEYWORD** (a.k.a. "Boolean") option: combine the composer's name with a unique title, opus number, and/or thematic catalogue number.

*E.g.* **Beethoven and violoncello and 102** should retrieve Beethoven's Violoncello Sonatas, op. 102.

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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 worldwide, via the Internet.

Each Western-registered student is given a Western Identity email address, through which address (ONLY) the University and the Western Libraries communicate with you. Your Western Identity username and password are REQUIRED to access our licensed electronic indexes and database subscriptions. If you are connected to the Internet off-campus, you will need to authenticate in order to access electronic resources at home. See the address

<http://www.lib.uwo.ca/services/loginhelp.html> for details and instructions.

### 2. *Browsing on the shelf for music*

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

M 50 - 54	(violoncello alone with no accompaniment)
M 229 - 236	(violoncello with piano or continuo)
M 231	(violoncello sonatas)
M 1016	(violoncello with full orchestra, concertos, <i>etc.</i> )
M 1017	(violoncello with piano reduction of orchestral part)
M 1116	(violoncello with string orchestra, concertos, <i>etc.</i> )
M 1117	(violoncello with piano reduction of string orchestra part)
MT 300 - 318	(studies, methods, and technique for violoncello)
MT 306	(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 violoncello 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 materials in our library, you must use the same Subject Headings that the cataloguers use!

#### **\*\*\*WARNING\*\*\***

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

SONATAS (VIOLONCELLO AND PIANO)

SUITES (VIOLONCELLO AND CONTINUO)

CONCERTOS (VIOLONCELLO)

CONCERTOS (VIOLONCELLO) – SOLO WITH PIANO

CONCERTOS (VIOLONCELLO WITH STRING ORCHESTRA)

Other useful Violoncello Subject Headings are:

VIOLONCELLO – INSTRUCTION AND STUDY

VIOLONCELLO – METHODS

VIOLONCELLO – STUDIES AND EXERCISES

VIOLONCELLO – ORCHESTRA STUDIES

**etc.**

Accustom yourself to looking for the specific genre and instrumentation when using a Subject search.

For a more complete listing of the Subject Headings employed in the Western Libraries, see either the abbreviated *Library of Congress Subject Headings* posted on the pillar nearest the Reference Desk – or – check the large 5-volume set, shelved at the LAST row of the Music Reference collection.

**N.B.** Words or terms from Subject Headings may be used in **KEYWORD** searches, as Subject Headings **ARE** searched during a **KEYWORD** search.

### 4. **Ensembles using the violoncello**

For information on this topic, please consult the Music Library's handouts *String Ensembles* and *Piano Ensembles*.

### 5. **Violoncello music found in the Solo Music Reference Collection**

Much unusual and twentieth-century music for the violoncello may be found in the **Solo Music Reference Collection** housed in the Choral/Band/Orchestral Library. For information on Catalogues and access to this collection see the handout *Using the Solo Music Reference Collection*. The general classification for 'cello music in the **SMRC** is

**MUS 4050**

## **REPertoire Lists**

For assistance in identifying appropriate repertoire for the violoncello (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 + Supplement 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.

Homuth, Donald. *Cello Music Since 1960: A Bibliography of Solo, Chamber & Orchestral Works for the Solo Cellist*. Berkeley, CA: Fallen Leaf Press, 1994. Ref ML 128.V5 H66 1994

A wealth of information: first performances, publishing details, all known recordings, annotations regarding performance techniques, number of movements, plus duration. (Serious cellists should own a copy of this!)

Markevitch, Dimitry. *The Solo Cello: A Bibliography of the Unaccompanied Violoncello Literature*. Berkeley, CA: Fallen Leaf Press, 1989. Ref ML 128.V5 M28 1989

Contains published and mss. works, a chronological list of publication dates of the Bach solo cello suites, and a listing of 'effective transcriptions.'

Wilkins, Wayne. *The Index of Cello Music*. Magnolia, Ark.: The Music Register, 1979. Ref ML 128.V5 W54 1979

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.

**And, don't forget to check the Canadian Music Centre's Library, found at this website:**

<http://musiccentre.ca/>

The CMC is in the business of promoting music by Canadian composers, and will freely loan music to students and performers. You can also purchase repertoire at a nominal charge.

The CMC's collection of CDs does not circulate; however they recently uploaded their Ann Southern Recording Archive - so you may listen to those recordings via the CMC's CENTRESTREAMS service (see their webpage).

## **PERIODICALS for Violoncellists**

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

*The Strad*  
*American String Teacher*  
*International Musician*  
*Early Music*  
*Orchestra Canada*  
*Strings [online]*

For holdings and the call numbers of these and other periodicals consult the **Western Libraries Catalogue** – [www.lib.uwo.ca](http://www.lib.uwo.ca). See the related Music Library handout: *Periodical Literature* and also *FINDING NEWSPAPER, JOURNAL, AND MAGAZINE TITLES IN THE CATALOGUE*, which is available online via this url:

<http://www.lib.uwo.ca/elusivejournaltitles.shtml>

## **HISTORY of the Violoncello and its Music**

For detailed and scholarly information on the history of the violoncello and members of the violoncello family and the violoncello repertoire, consult the *New Grove Dictionary of Music*

*and Musicians*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 29 vols. (London: Macmillan, 2001). [Located on the Dictionary Table, and on www.] The extensive bibliography lists books and journal articles on the violoncello – the Western Libraries Music Library will have 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**

The following books may also be of interest:

Stowell, Robin. *The Cambridge companion to the cello*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1999. ML 910.C36 1999

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

Prieto, Carlos. *The adventures of a cello*. Austin : University of Texas Press, 2006. ML 910.P7513 2006

## **PERFORMING PRACTICE**

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

Cyr, Mary. *Performing baroque music*. Portland, Or. : Amadeus Press, 1992. ML 457.C9 1992

A practical guide to all aspects of Baroque music performance.

Laird, Paul. *The Baroque Cello Revival: An Oral History*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow, 2004. ML 910.L35 2004

Includes an index and a bibliography, plus interviews with baroque 'cellists.

## .....**PERFORMING PRACTICE**

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**

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 how to perform figures, ornaments, crescendos, *etc.* Sources of particular interest to violoncellists, held at the UWO Music Library include:

*Violoncelle : méthodes et traités ; dictionnaires ; préfaces des oeuvres*. Réalisée par Philippe Lescat et Jean Saint-Arroman. Courlay, France : Editions J. M. Fuzeau, 1998. **MT 300.V813 1998**

Includes works dating from 1703-1774 by: Brossard, Corrette, Ancelet, Lepin, Cupis, and Tilli.

*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. **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 methods from the F.J. Fétis Collection at the Bibliothèque Royale Albert I<sup>er</sup>, Brussels (26 reels).

## **RECORDINGS for Violoncellists**

Although most of the Music Library's sound recordings can be found via the **Western Libraries Catalogue**, many others cannot. Most commercially-recorded violoncello 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")
- 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. **Tsutsumi, Tsuyoshi**.

In addition to commercially-produced recordings, there are hundreds of **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 FoM 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. 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**

**81** = 1981

**148** = the 148<sup>th</sup> recital taped that year

**c** = the 3<sup>rd</sup> work on the program

Mention that you wish to hear this item, and ask Mr. Godwin to place the recording in the Music Library. He will then leave the tape with the staff at the 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 (of FoM performances *only*) 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**  
rev. September 1988

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**Music Reference /Collections  
& Instructional Librarian**

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