

PERCUSSION

Fr. instruments à percussion, batterie; Ger. Perkussion, Schlagzeug; It. percussione

FINDING MUSIC FOR PERCUSSION in the Western Libraries MUSIC LIBRARY

Much music for percussion ensemble and percussion instruments in combination with other instruments may be found in the Western Libraries Music Library. Some of this music will be found in obvious locations while other important repertoire is scattered throughout the collection. Finding music for percussion instruments can present special problems for the user because of the large number of instruments which fall under the category "percussion."

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" in-between your keywords (to link desired terms).

E.g. musser and marimba and part

should retrieve *all* performing editions of marimba music - edited/composed by Clair Omar Musser - as owned by Western's Music Library.

If you are unsure of titles, opus or thematic catalogue numbers, refer to the various repertoire guides listed below, or consult the "Works" list at the end of an article on an 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 (it is cheaper and more convenient for the Library to buy all the sonatas of a composer in one volume than to purchase single sonatas, etc.) – this is why we recommend using our CLASSIC CATALOGUE, and the KEYWORD search to find rep!

The **Western Libraries Shared Library Catalogue** is accessible to everyone at:

www.lib.uwo.ca

However, your Western Identity (username and password) are **REQUIRED** to access our licensed online resources (i.e. e-books, e-journals, online indexes, *Opera In Video Online* and *NAXOS MUSIC LIBRARY*).

2. BROWSING on the shelf for music

Browsing is a legitimate means of finding repertoire. (How can you tell whether a work is playable, without looking at it?!)

Most music for percussion instruments is neither classified nor shelved together. Percussionists must search the library catalogue by composer (i.e. author), title, keyword, or by Subject Headings to locate likely repertoire.

Some music can be found in the following areas:

a. Solo instruments

M 146	timpani, side drum, and similar instruments
M 147	bells, glockenspiel, etc.
M 175	.C35 castanets
	.C44 celesta
	.X6 xylophone, marimba, vibraphone

b. Two instruments

M 284-5 piano and other instrument, including percussion:

- .B4 bells
- .C4 celesta
- .C94 cymbals
- .D8 drums
- .G65 glockenspiel
- .K4 kettledrum (timpani)
- .P4 percussion
- .X9 xylophone, marimba, vibraphone

M 298 other combinations of specified instruments

c. Three instruments

M 340-4 piano and two other instruments

M 385 other combinations of specified instruments

d. Four to nine instruments

M 445-9 piano and three other instruments

M 485 other combinations of specified instruments

M 545-9 as above (piano + four)

M 585 other combinations of specified instruments

to

M 945-9 as above (piano + 4, 5, 7, etc.)

M 985 other combinations of specified instruments

e. Percussion with orchestra or string orchestra

M 1038-9 (one or more percussion instruments)

M 1039.4 (other instruments, A-Z)

M 1138-9 (as above with string orchestra)

M 1139.4 (as above with string orchestra)

f. Method books, etc.

MT 655 (percussion - general methods)

|

MT 655.8

MT 660- 660.8 (timpani)

MT 662- 662.8 (side drum, small drum, etc.)

MT 719- 719.8 (xylophone, marimba, vibraphone)

MT 801 (systems and methods by instrument, A-Z):
.D7 drum
.C9 xylophone, marimba

3. Searching by “SUBJECT” (Library of Congress) to find music for percussion ensembles

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!

a. Percussion-only in ensemble

Examples of Subject Headings for percussion-only ensembles to be used in a **Subject search** of **Western Libraries Catalogue** are:

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLES

PERCUSSION MUSIC

PERCUSSION SEXTETS

MARIMBA WITH PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

SUITES (PERCUSSION)

SEXTETS (GLOCKENSPIEL, MARIMBA, PERCUSSION)

The instrumentation for mixed ensembles is listed in alphabetical order, **NOT** in score order, after each heading, e.g.:

**SEXTETS (GLOCKENSPIEL, MARIMBA,
PERCUSSION)**

b. Percussion with other instruments in ensemble

Ensembles consisting of one or more percussion instruments in combination with non-percussion instruments are considered to be *mixed ensembles*. The basic Subject Headings for such ensembles are: **TRIOS, QUARTETS, ... NONETS**.

Exception: brass instruments with woodwind instruments **only** are found under the basic headings:

**WIND TRIOS
WIND QUARTETS
.
.
WIND NONETS,
etc.**

After each basic Subject Heading (e.g. **QUARTETS**, etc.), instruments are listed in the following order:

keyboard

winds (includes woodwinds and brasses) – **these are sub-arranged alphabetically**

percussion

strings arranged in score order

**** IMPORTANT ****

When searching by **SUBJECT** on the **Western Libraries Catalogue**, you **must** be very careful to input the instrumentation of the ensemble in the order explained above.

TRIOS (PIANO, CLARINET, PERCUSSION)
[e.g. keyboard, winds, percussion]

TRIOS (PIANO, PERCUSSION, VIOLIN)

TRIOS (PIANO, PERCUSSION, VIOLA)
[e.g. keyboard, percussion, strings]

QUARTETS (PIANO, FLUTE, PERCUSSION, VIOLA)

These next two demonstrate the rule, “**winds preceding percussion**” in Subject Headings:

FLUTE AND PERCUSSION MUSIC

SAXOPHONE AND PERCUSSION MUSIC

However, when piano is one of two instruments, it is always listed **LAST**:

PERCUSSION AND PIANO MUSIC

MARIMBA AND PIANO MUSIC

XYLOPHONE AND PIANO MUSIC

And, percussion with larger ensembles:

PERCUSSION WITH ORCHESTRA

CONCERTOS (PERCUSSION WITH ORCHESTRA)

For a complete explanation of these call numbers and others (strings in combination with other instruments), refer to **LC Classification/Class M, Music** located near the Music Library's service desk.

REPERTOIRE LISTS

For assistance in identifying appropriate repertoire for percussion, both for soloists and ensembles, the following reference sources are very useful:

Siwe, Thomas. *Percussion Solo Literature*.
Champaign, Ill. : Media Press, c1995.
Ref ML 128.P23P47 1995

Siwe, Thomas. *Percussion Ensemble Literature*.
Champaign, Ill. : Media Press, c1998.
Ref ML 128.P23S62 1998

Larrick, Gary. *Bibliographic Analysis of Percussion Literature*. Lewiston, NY : E. Mellen Press, c2003.
Ref ML128.P23L363 2003

Meyer, Dirk. *Chamber Orchestra and Ensemble Repertoire: A Catalog of Modern Music*.
Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 2011.
Ref ML 128.O5M49 2011

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

Includes brief description, degree of difficulty, duration, **etc.** This work also lists solo works for instrumentalists.

Cohn, Arthur. *The Literature of Chamber Music*. Chapel Hill, N.C. : Hinshaw Music, 1997.
Ref ML128.C4C6 1997 v. 1-4

Impressive listing of chamber repertoire for two to 9 players, intended to be performed by one player per part. Clear, accessible, with commentaries, essays and special notes (suitable for use in programme notes). Organized alphabetically, by composer. Highly-recommended.

Scott, William. *A Conductor's Repertory of Chamber Music: Compositions for Nine to Fifteen Solo Instruments*. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1993.
Ref ML 128.C4 S37 1993

Works are listed by composer, by combination of similar instruments, and by title.

Rangel-Ribiero, Victor and Robert Markel. *Chamber Music: An International Guide to Works and Their Instrumentation*. New York: Facts on File, 1993.
REF ML128.C4R3 1993

A useful listing divided into three sections: composers before Haydn/Mozart; composers from Beethoven to our time: Master Quick-Reference Index. Organized by composer and title, instrumentation is listed in a grid.

Much ensemble literature may also be found using the repertoire lists for individual instruments.

PERIODICALS for percussionists

The Music Library, Western Libraries, subscribes to several periodicals of interest to percussionists:

e.g.

Early Music *The Instrumentalist*

Percussive Notes

*NACWPI Bulletin *NACWPI Journal

Newsletter / Percussive Arts Society, Ontario Chapter.

*National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instrument Instructors

HISTORY of percussion music

For detailed and scholarly information on the history of the percussion family and its repertory, consult the article in the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, 2nd ed. (29 vols.) (London: Macmillan, 2001). [Ref ML 100.G8 2001 located

on the Dictionary Table - and available online.] The extensive **bibliography** lists additional books and articles on the topic; the Western Libraries Music Library has many of the cited works.

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 this:

Hornbostel, E.M. von and C. Sachs, 'Systematik der Musikinstrumente', *Zeitschrift für Ethnologie*, xlvii (1914), 553-90; English translation in **GSJ**, xiv (1961), 3-29.

The italicized **GSJ** is an abbreviation for the title of a journal. You need to figure out the full title, in order to find it in **The Western Libraries Catalogue**.

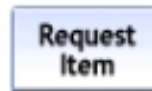
Once you have identified the full title (*Galpin Society Journal*), simply do a JOURNAL TITLE search, note the call number and locations - find the volume you require - and note the location: Music, WWW, or from storage. If the journal is available online, you may click on the appropriate link - scroll down on the bibliographic record display in order to see which database offers the volume/year that you require.

When you search in **The Western Libraries Catalogue** by **TITLE** for a periodical, journal, newspaper or magazine title, you will notice that **the call number is the same for ALL of the volumes**: the volume number/year will then identify the particular bound volume you require - be sure to note the location (STORAGE, WWW, or MUSIC) of the volume(s) you seek.

Older volumes have a LOCATION of:

STORAGE - Use "Request Item"

Simply click-on this button for next-business-day delivery of available volumes:



You will find this button located above the "search" box - after you have clicked on a title. Follow the instructions given on the **The Western Libraries Catalogue** screen. You will receive an email notification once the item has been delivered to the Music Library.

Recommended titles include:

Montagu, Jeremy. *Timpani and Percussion*. New Haven ; London : Yale University Press, c2002. **ML1035.M66 2002**

Blades, James. *Percussion Instruments and their History*. London : Faber, 1975. **ML1030.B6 1975**

CHAMBER MUSIC

Interested in the history of chamber music? Some particularly useful titles are:

Baron, John H. *Chamber Music: A Research and Information Guide*. New York: Garland, 1987. **Ref ML 128.C4 B37 1987**

Baron, John H. *Intimate Music : a history of the idea of chamber music*. Stuyvesant, NY : Pendragon Press, 1998. **ML 1100.B36 1998**

Hefling, Stephen E. *Nineteenth-century Chamber Music*. New York: Schirmer Books, 1998. **ML 1104.N56 1998**

King, A. Hyatt. *Chamber Music*. London: Chanticleer Press, 1943. **ML 1100.K4**

Fiske, Roger. *Chamber Music*. London: BBC, [1969]. **ML 1120.F48**

Ulrich, Homer. *Chamber Music*. New York: Columbia University Press, 1966. **ML 1100.U57 1966**

Bibliographies of chamber music repertoire will be found under the heading **REPertoire LISTS** (above).

PERFORMING PRACTICE

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

Cyr, Mary. *Performing Baroque Music*. Portland, Or. : Amadeus Press, 1992. **ML 457.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. **ML 437.H43 1993**

Carter, Stewart (ed.) *A Performer's Guide to Seventeenth-century Music*. New York : Schirmer Books, c1997. **ML 457.P477 1997**

Brown, Clive. *Classical and Romantic Performing Practice 1750-1900*. New York : Oxford University Press, 1999. **ML 457.B76 1999**

This next title may also provide offer insights into the use of recordings (both historical and contemporary) as resources for performing practice considerations, given that you may occasionally find the "composer conducting/performing" on certain recordings.

Philip, Robert. *Performing Music in the Age of Recording*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2004. **ML 457.P52 2004**

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.

The History of Musical Instruments [microform] : manuals, tutors and méthodes. Reading, England ; Woodbridge, CT : Research Publications, 1988 **Ref MT 172.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 6 & 10 of Part 1, contain treatises dealing with percussion instruments: see reel 26 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). A timpani tutor by Kastner will be found on **reel #6** of this series; *Rawson's Band Primo* (**reel #10**) includes a section for drums.

Part 2. Tutors and Méthodes from the F.J. Fétilis Collection at the Bibliotheque Royale Albert Ier, Brussels (26 reels). Seven percussion tutors will be found on reel **#26** of this series.

RECORDINGS & Videos of Percussionists and Percussion Ensembles

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

- type single, significant keywords (e.g. the composer's surname)
- include a significant word from the name of the performing ensemble (e.g. Nexus)

- include a significant word from the title of the work (preferably in the original language of composition)
- include the opus number (numerals only)
- include "sound" or "compact" or "video**"
- be sure to type "AND" between each keyword
-

To find those commercial recordings which ARE NOT listed in the Western Libraries Catalogue, please check with the Reference Librarian - very recent recordings may not yet be ordered.

If you are looking for every recording by a particular performer (or ensemble) you may type his/her name as an Author:

e.g.

Glennie, Evelyn

- OR -

NEXUS

- OR -

Robert Hohner Percussion Ensemble

- OR -

Kite, Rebecca

The Music Library now has a subscription to **NAXOS MUSIC LIBRARY** (online). Registered students, staff and faculty can access this service from home, by logging-in to OFF-CAMPUS ACCESS at www.lib.uwo.ca - at the upper L.H. side of the screen - and then using the Shared Library Catalogue to search for NAXOS MUSIC LIBRARY.

Don Wright Faculty of Music RECITALS

In addition to commercially-produced recordings, there are hundreds of **Western's Don Wright / Faculty of Music Student/Faculty/Guest Artist Recitals**, which were recorded 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 Don Wright Faculty of Music performance. Access to this collection is provided by computer-generated indexes housed in pale blue covers. You will find these indexes on a Dictionary Table – near the Reference Section. Should you find a performance you wish 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 148th recital taped that year

c = the 3rd work on the recital

and ask that he place the recording in the Music Library. He will then leave the tape at the Music Library's Circulation Desk – you may listen to same, upon surrender of appropriate identification.

Dubbing is NOT encouraged in the Library, but you can make arrangements to purchase copies (of recital tapes ONLY) by applying at the Faculty of Music Main Office (T.C. 210).

RELATED HANDOUTS

PIANO ENSEMBLES

WOODWIND ENSEMBLES

Prepared by: **Jane A. Pearce Baldwin**
Music Reference Librarian
rev. September 1988

Revised by: **Lisa Rae Philpott**
Music Reference Librarian
rev. 2012-04-25



Western
Libraries