

A Really Helpful Student Guide to Music Reference Works

The present slender volume is designed to help students writing papers to find the most useful reference books in our library. The project grew out of the Bibliography class (MUS 300), and most of the work included here was done by the students themselves. Our model was the definitive musical bibliography reference work **Music Reference and Research Materials**, 4th ed., rev., by Duckles and Keller (ML 113 .D83 1994 Ref.). This book provided us with our overall plan and order of presentation, as well as some of the content, but it is not necessary for students to use it to benefit from our work.

We have looked at most of the books found in the music reference and reference sections of the library, as well as some useful reference works found in the general music collection, and have prepared our own annotated list of what there is. Our catalogue is not meant to be exhaustive, but we hope that students will find it helpful in tracking down and selecting the best reference books to use for their essays.

The guide is arranged by the categories of work used in Duckles and Keller. The different categories are explained below in the Introduction. It would be useful to glance over this section before using the guide.

We hope you will keep this booklet at hand, and use it to save time and energy while doing your assignments.

The Music 300 Class
April 1995 - November 2005

INTRODUCTION - CONTENTS

I. DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS:

A. General

A general dictionary or encyclopedia contains entries on various musical subjects: composers, performers, and musical personalities; terms; genres; individual works; institutions and important places, etc. They can be either very brief (useful for a quick confirmation of a biographical or musical fact) or very detailed (and thus an important resource for essay research).

B. Biography - International

A biographical dictionary contains entries only on people, whether composers, performers, critics, theorists, poets, librettists, historians, or others associated with the subject of music. Biographical dictionaries in this category are international in scope.

C. Biography - National

Although largely biographical, the entries in this category may also include places, institutions, and in some cases terms or instruments, if they are peculiar to a given nation.

D. Jazz, Pop, and Folk

These are specialized encyclopedias that deal with different popular musical traditions. They often combine biographical information (notably of performers and performing groups) with information on style and history. Although of limited use for most music courses, some of them are not only well-documented and well-written, but also full of interesting information.

E. Musical Instruments

These encyclopedias define, describe, give the history of, and often illustrate, musical instruments from around the world.

F. Terms

These are dictionaries of musical terms, which means they do not include persons as entries. They may be very specialized in what they define or may be almost encyclopedic in scope.

G. Church Music and Hymnology

This is a specialized, and not very large, category of encyclopedia, useful for research in the field of sacred music.

H. Opera and Theatre Music

This might be either a "dictionary", covering terms related to the history or production of theatrical music, or an alphabetical listing of operatic works (by title), composers, cities, opera houses, performers, characters, etc. For any history or genre course that touches on opera, some of these books can be very useful.

I. Miscellaneous

Encyclopedias that do not fall into any of the above categories will be found in this section.

II. HISTORIES

History reference works include single volumes which attempt to cover the entire history of western music, or more commonly, a series of volumes which specialize in separate eras. There are a number of such series found upstairs in the stacks (not usually in the reference room): the most important and reliable will be found in this list. They should be consulted automatically for almost any music history or literature assignment that falls into the period they cover.

There is a separate category of "Music History in Pictures", where the text is limited, on the principle that a picture is worth a thousand words. It often is and these volumes are useful (and interesting) to consult.

III. CHRONOLOGIES

What distinguishes a history from a chronology is that the latter is usually a kind of historical catalogue, in which events are listed in chronological order, with no explanation or discussion attached. Their usefulness increases with the degree of information presented in each entry.

IV. GUIDES TO HISTORICAL MUSICOLOGY

This is a category of limited interest to most students. In it are found books that explain the philosophy and methods of the music historian. Anyone seriously interested in music history as a field of study will find these books a useful resource, but they are not research material for history essays.

V. BIBLIOGRAPHIES OF MUSIC LITERATURE

Bibliographies are lists of books and articles, etc., arranged according to subject. Students often bypass them as being too complicated or of little value, yet they are extremely useful in researching for an essay since the right bibliography can give you, in one place, a list of books or articles on a given subject that you might have to work very hard to assemble on your own. In short, they can be great time-savers. The next concern is whether that book or article found in a bibliography (the one that's just what you want), can be found at Bishop's. In fact, although our library is small, it is well-selected, and you can almost always find something on your list here, whether book or periodical. In a pinch there is inter-library loan, or a visit to a library in Montreal or elsewhere (if you can get there)--a bibliography is only a starting point!

VI. BIBLIOGRAPHIES OF MUSIC

These are usually catalogues of music, normally dealing with a single genre—such as music for piano, for voice, for orchestra, etc. They are useful to give you an idea of the "repertoire" in any one genre, and may help you with your recital programme, but are of restricted value for essays. The more useful ones provide information on the works beyond details of publication--i.e. annotated bibliographies. Only a few from our library are listed here; others are found in the reference section of the library and upstairs, mostly under the call numbers ML 113 to ML 128.

VII. DISCOGRAPHIES

Discographies are catalogues of recordings. There are a surprising number of such catalogues, normally devoted to a single composer, performer, group, or conductor. They are not particularly useful for research, except at an advanced level or for the enthusiast.

VIII. YEARBOOKS AND DIRECTORIES.

These are publications of useful practical information that are normally issued annually or periodically. They might list ephemeral information like addresses, phone numbers, and the like, of people in the music or music education business. They are not meant for research purposes.

IX. WOMEN IN MUSIC

This is a special category devised by Duckles into which all the recent publications that deal with women in music are thrown together in one place. Many of our holdings in this area are not found in the reference section, but in the General collection where they belong, by subject category. Use Duckles for more leads.

X. MISCELLANEOUS

Anything left over. There are, in fact, a few treats in this category.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Each book we have examined has been given a separate entry. The format of each entry includes the following information:

ML 105 .C39 1970 Ref.

1) Call number = where to find the volume. N.B. If there is no "Ref." at the end, the book is found in the General Music collection. RefM indicates the book is found on the Index Stand on the mezzanine above the Reference Room.

2) Arlson, Effie B. **A Bio-Bibliographical Dictionary**. . .

This part gives you the full reference--title, author, publication details--that you must use in your bibliography. It also tells you how big the book is.

[Square brackets] indicate the new or revised edition is not yet in the library.

3) The notes that follow explain what you can expect to find in the book: what it is; what sort of information it contains; degree of detail; whether there are pictures, tables, lists, bibliographies, index, etc.

4) Remarks: usually a judgement of the book; often personal, but perhaps because of this, quite useful.

5) ☐♥ = If you see this sign, it means that, as a group, we have decided that this book is not only good, but entertaining, so enjoy it. But beware--you could waste a lot of time if you get hooked.

6) Evaluation:

*** = an excellent source, highly recommended as reliable, up-to-date, scholarly. If it touches on your topic you should use this source.

** = a good book that does well what it sets out to do. Most books we looked at fit into this category. These books are reliable, if not perhaps so detailed or up-to-date as others in the category, and students would do well to check them out if they touch on their assignments.

* = lousy, useless, or very out-of-date. We weeded most of these out of our final catalogue, but left a few in as a warning.

7) Audience:

◇ = this book can be used, at least in part, by non-musicians or those with only a limited knowledge of music

◇◇ = first-year music students should be able to use this book with no problem

◇◇◇ = this book is useful more for advanced music students than beginners

◇◇◇◇ = a graduate student or professor doing research would benefit from this book

Most books serve a range of readers, and we have indicated this in our ratings.

I. DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS:

A. General

ML 100 .N5 1983 Ref.

Arnold, Denis, ed. **The New Oxford Companion to Music**. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1983. 2 vol., 2000 p.

- desk-top encyclopedia; articles on terms, composers, musicians, related subjects
- wide coverage; some entries with considerable detail
- some pictures, works lists, charts, etc.
- good recent English scholarship; most articles signed, some bibliographies "further reading")

Remarks: briefer than New Grove, but reliable

Evaluation: *** Audience: ◇ to ◇◇◇

ML 100 .B47 Ref.

Blom, Eric, ed., rev. David Cummings. **New Everyman Dictionary of Music**, 6th ed. New York: Wiedefeld & Nicolson, 1989. 876 p.

- desk-top dictionary of terms, composers, performers, etc.
- concise entries

- some works lists; separate index of operatic characters
- 6th ed. has many contributors

Remarks: reliable and amazingly inclusive for so short a volume

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 100 .M92 1989 Ref.

Blume, Friedrich, ed. **Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart**. Kassel & Basel: Bärenreiter Verlag, 1949-86. 17 vol. (Rep. ed., 1989)

- the first major music encyclopedia, for German-speakers; covers almost everything related to music
- many subjects treated in great depth, still unrivalled on some topics
- many pictures, facsimiles, charts, excellent works lists
- the model for the New Grove, best international scholarship; parts now dated; excellent bibliographies
- we don't have the new edition . . .

Remarks: hard to read (many abbreviations), but worth the effort if you are able.

Evaluation: *** Audience: (German) **◇ to ◇◇◇◇**

ML 100 .E85 1959 Ref.

Ewen, David, ed. **Encyclopedia of Concert Music**. New York: Hill and Wang, 1959. 566 p.

- compilation of instrumental concert music
- subjects: music, composers, performers, terms, histories, theories, sources, and special articles
- uses easy-to-understand musical language--for general use
- relatively lengthy articles; somewhat in-depth

Remarks: a pretty basic introduction to the subject

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 100 .J3 1962 Ref.

Jacobs, A. **A New Dictionary of Music**. Rev. ed. London: Penguin, 1960; Chicago: Aldine, 1962. 416 p.

[N.B. The new Penguin dictionary of music. Rev. ed. Harmondsworth: Penguin, 1978]

- a small musical dictionary of terms, composers, etc.

Remarks: not the first choice for research

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 100 .K35 2006 Ref.

Kennedy, Michael. **The Oxford Dictionary of Music**. 2nd ed. rev. Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 2006. 985 p.

- desk-top dictionary; terms, composers
- most entries are quite brief
- a few musical examples, some lists of works
- this is a brief version of the Oxford Companion

Remarks: a handy reference work; reliable, concise

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 100 .K2714 1962 Ref.

Klein, Pierre, ed. **Orbis-Lexikon Manuel de la Musique**. Paris : Edition du Centurion, 1962. 602 p.

- chronological listing of events, personages of music history with parallel listing of socio-political history
- also theoretical adjunct to a music encyclopedia
- entries on composers, performers, and a theory dictionary
- comprehensive coverage, but entries too brief
- good pictures, synoptic tables
- some typographical errors!

Remarks: Français, good section on acoustical theory, but dated.

Evaluation: * Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 100. L76 1968 Ref.

Lloyd, Norman. **The Golden Encyclopedia of Music**. New York: Golden Press, 1968. 720 p.

- one-volume desktop encyclopedia, designed for general public
- lots of good pictures, examples
- non-academic approach

Remarks: not recommended for research purposes

Evaluation: * Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 100 .R695 1981 Ref.

Roche, J. & E. Roche. **A Dictionary of Early Music: from the Troubadors to Monteverdi**. New York:
Oxford University Press, 1981. 208 p.

- a short dictionary specializing in instruments, forms, terms, and composers of the period ca. 1200 to 1600
- entries are brief
- some illustrations, examples, some modern editions

Remarks: Handy for the shelf, but not detailed enough for research

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 100 .G885 2001 Ref.

Sadie, S., ed. **The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians**. Rev. ed.
London:
MacMillan, 2001. 29 vol.

- the best available music encyclopedia; covers almost everything related to music
- of any reference work, this is the most thorough and all-encompassing, with many long articles
- pictures, facsimiles, charts, works lists
- the best of international scholarship (N.B. signed articles), excellent bibliographies

Remarks: This is the best. It should be the first stop on almost any subject you are looking up.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇◇**

ML 100 .S25 1963 Ref.

Sandved, K.B. **The World of Music**. New York: Abradale Press; London: Waverly, 1963. 4 vol.,
2,239 p. [Trans. from Danish]

- "super-market" genre encyclopedia; articles on terms, composers, musicians, etc.
- some items treated in detail, others very brief
- excellent pictures, some examples, opera summaries, analyses of selected works
- some cross-references, unsigned articles, no bibliography

Remarks: popular in tone, dated, not for research

Evaluation: * Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 100 .S637 1989 Ref.

Slonimsky, Nicolas, ed. **Lectionary of Music**. New York: McGraw Hill, 1989. 521 p.

- a dictionary of selected musical terms
- includes composers, works and musical styles
- uses clear and straight-forward language for Slonimsky
- for general use

Remarks: interesting, a good introduction

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 100 .T47 1964 Ref.

Thompson, Oscar, ed. **The International Cyclopedia of Music and Musicians**,
9th ed .
New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1964. 2476 p. [11th ed., 1985. 2,609 p.]

- a large desk-top encyclopedia of terms, musicians, composers, etc.
- includes good biographies, works lists, chronologies
- signed articles (American scholars), bibliographies

Remarks: this edition is out-of-date, otherwise an excellent source.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 100 .W48 1960 Ref.

Westrup, J.A., and F.L. Harrison. **The New College Encyclopedia of Music**. New York: W.W. Norton, 1960. 39 p. [Revised ed. Norton, 1976. 608 p.]

- a concise desk-top reference with entries on terms, musicians and composers, etc.
- includes musical examples, pronunciation guide
- unsigned articles, good on British subjects

Remarks: fine, but not the first place to go

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 100 .D65 1999

Vignal, Marc, ed. **Dictionnaire de la Musique**. Paris: Larousse-Bordas, ca. 1999, 923 pp.

- 20 sections des photos en couleurs
- environs 5000 articles des compositeurs, historiens, musicologues, critiques, technique, nouvelles technologies, etc.
- really an encyclopedia

Remarks : It covers a wide variety of topics in music and is one of the few French books in the music reference section.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

I. DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS:

B. Biography-International

ML 105 .B16 1992 Ref.

Baker, T., rev. N. Slonimsky. **Baker's Biographical Dictionary of Musicians**, 8th ed. New York: Schirmer Books, 1992. 2115 p.

- dictionary of people only: composers, performers, etc., both classical and popular; many articles in depth
- includes works lists, excellent bibliographies
- Slonimsky is as reliable as they come and always chooses just the right words

Remarks: ♥☐ Authoritative for biographical information, but dangerous if you are in a hurry--it's hard to put down!

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

ML 105 .C39 1970 Ref.

Carlson, Effie B. **A Bio-Bibliographical Dictionary of Twelve Tone and Serial Composers.**

Metuchen, N.J.: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1970. 233 p.

- alphabetical listing by composer
- biographical information, bibliography of writings and articles by and about the composers, and good works lists
- selective coverage of 80 composers, entries quite detailed
- extensive bibliographies, scholarly approach

Remarks: Pretty dated, and better information is available elsewhere

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦♦♦

ML 385 .C7 1962 Ref.

Cross, Milton and David Ewen. **Encyclopedia of Great Composers and their music.**

Rev. ed. New York:Doubleday, 1962. 2 vol.

- encyclopedia of major composers
- biographies of the narrative sort
- description of a few selected works
- not a particularly scholarly work, and out-of-date

Remarks: designed for general public, not research

Evaluation: * Audience: ♦ to ♦

CT 100 .C8 Ref.

Current Biography. New York: H.W. Wilson, 1940- .

- an annual compilation of the monthly periodical of the same name
- in-depth biographies of living persons (and obits.)

- wide-ranging; indexed by profession, including music
- a good bibliographical section
- cumulative indexes; 1940-1970, 1980, 1990

Remarks: In-depth, up-to-date, reliable, a great source for contemporary musicians; only source for some.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 105 .E944 1966 Ref.

Ewen, David, ed. **Great Composers, 1300-1900: a Biographical and Critical Guide.**

New York: H.W. Wilson Co., 1966. 429 p.

- biographical sketches of selected composers, 1300-1900
- includes lists of principal works, bibliographies
- fairly wide coverage (app. 200 composers), detailed entries, chronological index

Remarks: Probably supersedes Composers of Yesterday, 1937, but not for research.

Evaluation: * Audience: **◆**

ML 113 .G4 1978 Ref.

Gilder, Eric. **The Dictionary of Composers and Their Music.** New York: Paddington Press Ltd.,

1978. 431 p. [N.B. Revised edition, 1986]

- alphabetical list of composers with each of their compositions dated
- survey of compositions between 1554 and 1975; time line of when composers were born and died

Remarks: Limited information

Evaluation: * Audience: **◆**

ML 100 .G7 Ref.

Griffiths, Paul. **The Thames and Hudson Encyclopaedia of 20th-Century Music.** London:

Thames and Hudson, 1986. 207 p.

- dictionary of contemporary composers, musical terms, and miscellaneous entries
- short entries - very
- includes a general bibliography and a chronology of works and their composers from 1901 to 1985

Remarks: not too much detail for research but reliable; interesting chronology

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 105 .C7 1987 Ref.

Morton, Brian. **Contemporary Composers**. Chicago: St James Press, 1992. 1019 p.

- gives brief summaries of composers from the 20th century and lists their works
- not very in-depth but the lists are quite extensive
- the summaries are signed

Remarks: For many composers this is the only place they are listed

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 105 .H38 1996 Ref.

Randel, Don Michael, ed. **The Harvard Biographical Dictionary of Music**.
Cambridge, Mass.:
Harvard University Press, 1996. 1013 p.

- dictionary of terms, performers, composers
- mostly very short entries
- some pictures, some bibliographies

Remarks: Brief but thorough and reliable. This is a good place to start.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇◇**

ML 100 .V55 1974 Ref.

Vinton, John. **Dictionary of Contemporary Music**. New York: E.P. Dutton and Company, 1974. 834 p.

- deals exclusively with contemporary composers, terms and musical concepts; also articles on countries
- covers composers born after 1880, or who lived after 1930
- quick overviews of subjects, works lists

- bibliographical cross-references, musical examples
- some information supplied by composers themselves

Remarks: interesting but superseded by the New Grove

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

I. DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS: C. Biography - National

ML 106 .C3 D598 Ref.

Beatty, Carolyn, ed. **Directory of Associate Composers**. Trans. Michael Finn.
Toronto:
Canadian Music Centre, 1989.

- covers all the members of the Canadian League of Composers
- thorough directory - most articles full page long
- includes selected works, life and works description

Remarks: Reliable and interesting, but we would need an updated version of this reference work.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇◇**

ML 101 .A9 D53 1998 Ref.

Bebbington, Warren, ed. **A Dictionary of Australian Music**. Melbourne: Oxford
University
Press, 1998, 361 p.

- list of performers, composers, name of institutions in Australian music
- ranges from pop-rock to opera
- concise, short to medium-size entries

Remarks: the only book we have that focuses on Australian music - it tells you all you need to know.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇◇**

ML 101 .U6 N48 1986 Ref.

Hitchcock, H. Wiley, and S. Sadie, eds. **The New Grove Dictionary of American Music**. London:

MacMillan, 1986. 4 vol.

- American composers, performers, publishers, musical genres, techniques, unique American instruments, etc.
- some articles from New Grove, others new or expanded
- works lists, illustrations, etc.
- signed articles, bibliographies

Remarks: Excellent, as usual, from New Grove

Evaluation: *** Audience: **♦ to ♦♦♦♦**

ML 106 .C36 E52 1992 Ref.

Kallman, H., and Gilles Potvin, eds. **Encyclopedia of Music in Canada**, 2nd ed. Toronto:

University of Toronto Press, 1992. 1524 p.

- encyclopedia of Canadian music and musicians
- alphabetical listing of composers, performers, compositions, recordings, etc.
- comprehensive coverage
- pictures, facsimiles, etc.
- signed articles, good scholarship, bibliography

Remarks: An excellent and up-to-date source for Canadian music

NOW ONLINE (2003 ed.):

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/index.cfm?PgNm=EMCSubjects&Params=U2>

Evaluation: *** Audience **♦ to ♦♦♦♦**

ML 106 .C3 D53 1935 Ref.

Soeurs de Saint-Anne. **Dictionnaire Biographique des Musiciens Canadiens**.

Lachine:

Mont-Sainte-Anne, 1935, 299 p.

- short, concise dictionary of Canadian musicians, popular in 1935
- very limited; almost exclusively Quebec musicians
- limited bibliography, not surprisingly

Remarks: Written by nuns so possibly biased and not quite reliable, but the only source for some musicians; of historical interest.

Evaluation: * Audience: ♦ to ♦♦

I. DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS:

D. Jazz, Pop, Folk

ML 106 .U3 C5 1985 Ref.

Chilton, John. **Who's Who of Jazz**. London: Bloomsbury Book Shop, 1972, 135 p.

- alphabetical dictionary of jazz musicians and composers - especially British
- some pictures, unsigned articles, no bibliographies
- brief, very basic information

Remarks: Good base, but very little depth, and old. New Grove would be much more useful and complete.

Evaluation: * Audience: ♦ to ♦♦

ML 3561 .J3 E55 1960 Ref.

Feather, Leonard. **The Encyclopedia of Jazz**. New York: Horizon Press, 1960. 2 vol., 705 p.

- encyclopedia style, but the entries are very brief
- lists birth and death dates as well as birth place
- lists jazz schools, recording companies and books and periodicals
- includes a chronological historical survey from 1900-1960
- also discusses jazz overseas

Remarks: Good for its time, but really superceded by New Grove.

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦

ML 3561 .J3 F35 1966 Ref.

Feather, Leonard. **The Encyclopedia of Jazz in the Sixties**. New York: Horizon Press, 1966. 312 p.

- portraits of performers and composers

- various essays; results of critics' and readers' polls and recordings of the sixties
- many pictures
- not very in-depth, but representative of the times

Remarks: superseded by **New Grove** but still very interesting for its point of view.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 3561 .J3 F36 1976 Ref.

Feather, Leonard, and Ira Gitler. **The Encyclopedia of Jazz in the Seventies**. New York:

Horizon Press, 1976. 393 p.

- an update of the previous volume; the same information about jazz in the 1970s
- very good preface by Quincy Jones
- many pictures

Remarks: the preface and the pictures are worth it, but again superseded by New Grove.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 106 .C3 G55 1989 ChamC

Gilmore, John. **Who's Who of Jazz in Montreal**. Montreal: Véhicule Press, 1989, 318 p.

- brief articles on Montreal's jazz musicians.
- some pictures, articles are unsigned

Remarks: Very limited in scope; little value unless Montreal is your thing.

Evaluation: * Audience: **◇**

ML 102 .R6 J37 1985 Ref.

Jasper, Tony. **The International Encyclopedia of Hard Rock and Heavy Metal**. New York:

Facts on File Pub., 1983. 400 p. [Revised edition, London: Sidgwick & Jackson, 1986.]

- entries on groups, individual artists, followed by a short text
- discographies (incomplete)
- out-of-date

Remarks: if you really need this information, I guess this is where you go

Evaluation: * Audience: ♦

ML 102 .J3 N48 1988 Ref.

Kernfeld, Barry, ed. **The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz**. New York and London: Grove's Dictionaries of Music; London: MacMillan, 1988. 2 vol.

- articles on instruments, terms, theory, record labels, festivals, films, institutions, performers, non-performers, ensembles, and jazz styles
- lists of recordings, illustrated, many countries represented
- signed articles, many contributors, scholarly

Remarks: Another of the excellent Grove spin-offs

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

ML 102 .P66 G84 1992 Ref.

Larkin, C., ed. **The Guinness Encyclopedia of Popular Music**. Enfield, Middlesex: Guinness Publishing, 1992. 4 vol.

- alphabetical listing of performers, composers, record companies, etc.
- notes on main contributors
- bibliography

Remarks: ♥ very interesting articles

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

ML 3550 .L4 1965 Ref.

Lawless, Ray M. **Folksingers and Folksongs in America**, 2nd ed. New York: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1965. 750 p.

- a handbook of information on folk music in North America
- detailed biographies of folk singers, information on song collections, books, societies,

- festivals, recordings, periodicals, performers, instruments, etc.
- comprehensive coverage
- photos, good footnotes, excellent indices

Remarks: dated

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 3534 .R64 1980

Miller, Jim, ed. **The Rolling Stone Illustrated History of Rock & Roll**. Jim New York:

Random House-Rolling Stone Press, 1980. 474 p.

- a series of articles on the evolution of rock & roll and all of its branches
- many contributors, signed entries
- discography after each article, index
- great pictures

Remarks: as scholarly as you can get in the field--Rolling Stone has been the journal of rock music for decades.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 102 .P66 S8 1989 Ref.

Stambler, Irwin. **The Encyclopedia of Pop, Rock and Soul**. 2nd ed. New York: St. Martin's Press,

1989. 887 p.

- biographical entries of performers and composers
- list is preceded by essays on the three styles
- includes a list of various prize winners from 1958 to 1989
- American bias

Remarks: ♥ a fun book, but not a very useful source

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 102 .J3 S78 1969 Ref.

Stambler, Irwin, and Grulun Lanson. **Encyclopedia of Folk, Country, and Western Music**. New York:

St. Martin's Press, 1969. 396 p. [New edition, New York: St. Martin's Press, 1984. 902 p.]

- alphabetical by group or composer
- very brief biographies
- there is a bibliography

Remarks: Historical value, maybe?

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

I. DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS:

E. Instruments

ML 102 .I5 M37 1964 Ref.

Marcuse, Sybill. **Musical Instruments: a Comprehensive Dictionary**. New York: Doubleday, 1964. 608 p
[Corr. edition, **A Survey of Musical Instruments**. New York: Harper and Row, 1975, 863 p.,
is found upstairs at ML 460 .M365 S94]

- dictionary of old and new musical instruments
- incomplete for non-European and folk instruments
- cross-references
- few illustrations

Remarks: A classic, but old and superseded, go to **New Grove**.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 102 .I5 D5 Ref.

Musical Instruments of the World: an Illustrated Encyclopedia. London: Paddington Press Ltd., Diagram Visual Information Ltd., 1976. 320 p.

- a general encyclopedia of musical instruments
- listing by classification (aerophone, idiophone, membranophone, chordophone, mechanical and electrical instruments)
- comprehensive, international coverage, detailed entries
- excellent pictures, prints, diagrams
- bibliography, listings of museums and collections

Remarks: ♥☐ An excellent source for general information

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦

ML 102 .I5 N48 1984 Ref.

Sadie, S., ed. **The New Grove Dictionary of Musical Instruments**. London and New York:

Macmillan Press Limited, 1984. 3 vol.

- alphabetical; covers western and non-western instruments
- very in-depth, signed articles
- good pictures, cross-references, bibliographies

Remarks: Excellent reference

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

I. DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS:

F. Terms

ML 108.B6413 1982 Ref.

Brossard, Sebastien de. **Dictionnaire de Musique**. Paris: 1703; trans. A. Gruber, Henryville, Pa.:

Institute of Medieval Music, 1982. 252 p.

- dictionary of musical terms (alphabetical, in Italian, Latin), all translated into English in this edition
- of considerable historical importance; useful to discover the meanings of various terms
300 years ago
- musical examples, glossary of names, bibliography of authors

Remarks: of specialized value for French music of this period

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦♦♦ to ♦♦♦♦

ML 100 .T37 1978 Ref.

Leuchtman, Horst, ed. **Terminorum Musicae Index Septem Linguis Redactus**.

Project of the International Association of Music Libraries. Budapest: Akadémiai

kiadó and Kassel:

Bärenreiter-Verlag, 1978, 798 p.

- musical terminology translated into seven different languages: French, English, German,
- Italian, Spanish, Russian and Hungarian
- drawings of instruments with the name of all the parts
- a little difficult to follow

Remarks: useful for very specific needs (Hungarian scores for example) but not for general research purposes

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 100 .N49 1986 Ref.

Randel, Don Michael, ed. **The New Harvard Dictionary of Music**. Cambridge, Mass.:

Harvard University Press, 1986. 942 p.

- encyclopedic in scale
- many articles in considerable depth
- illustrations, charts, examples, etc.
- mostly signed articles, best American scholarship
- bibliographies

Remarks: this is the best English language dictionary; the first place to look for terms.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 102 .V6 R4 1983 Ref.

Reid, C.L. **A Dictionary of Vocal Terminology**. New York: Joseph Patelson Music House, 1983. 457 p.

- terms related in any way to the voice and the art of singing
- shocking illustrations, some anatomy
- cross-references, index, bibliography

Remarks: for singers interested in physiology or singing anatomists

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

PQ 2030 1885 v.6-7

Rousseau, Jean-Jacques. **Dictionnaire de Musique**. Paris: Duchesne, 1763 (and many reprints).

2 vol., 556 p. [N.B. now found only in rare book room]

- dictionary of musical terms
- great historical importance; the author was a musical amateur, but a professional philosopher
- definitions coloured by his own aesthetic views
- very influential in its time, in all of Europe

Remarks: for any discussion of late-18th century musical aesthetics, this is of both great interest and importance

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 108 .S88 1995 Ref.

Strahle, Graham. **An Early Music Dictionary: Musical Terms from British Sources, 1499-1740**.

Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995. 469 p.

- the historical meanings of musical terms in Britain from 1500-1740.
- entries show how definitions evolved over time
- of historical interest and useful for studying Renaissance and Baroque eras.

Remarks: accurate and up-to-date.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

I. DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS: G. Church Music and Hymnology

BV 305 .D5 1957 Ref.

Julian, John. **A Dictionary of Hymnology**. New York: Dover Publications, 1957 (rep. of 1907).

2 vol., 1768 p.

- dictionary of hymnology
- alphabetical listing of composers, poems, texts, tune titles, etc.
- exhaustive coverage, detailed entries
- signed entries, very scholarly language, bibliographies

Remarks: Although not recent, this is the authoritative dictionary of hymnology. Excellent information on history of individual hymns.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 3186 .M22 1957 Ref.

McCutchan, R.G. **Hymn Tune Names: Their Sources and Significance**. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1957. 204 p.

- alphabetical listing of hymn tunes
- historical notes re. hymn tunes, composers
- comprehensive coverage, fairly detailed entries
- includes metre and sol-fa rendering of first lines
- cross-references, scholarly entries, but no bibliography

Remarks: Highly specialized subject matter

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 102 .C3 S9 1985 Ref.

Studwell, William. **Christmas Carols: a Reference Guide**. New York & London: Garland Publishing, 1985. 278 p.

- alphabetical listing of carols by title
- international, many languages
- each entry includes information on lyrics and melody, collections where found, and a brief discussion
- indexes of titles, author/composers/arrangers etc.

Remarks: very specialized information

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

I. DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS:
H. Opera and Theatre Music

ML 102.06 .A6 1993 Ref.

Anderson, James. **The Complete Dictionary of Opera & Operetta**. New York: Wings Books, 1993. 691 p.
Rpt. of **Bloomsbury Dictionary of Opera and Operetta**. London : Bloomsbury Pub., 1989.

- a brief coverage of opera and operetta
- a selection of material on the most significant modern operas
- easy-to-use

- over 520 plot summaries
- contains an interesting chronology of the 900 operas and operettas contained in the dictionary.

Remarks: The author wrote this book with a less sophisticated audience in mind.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 1711 .E9 1970 Ref.

Ewen, David. **New Complete Book of the American Musical Theater**. New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1970. 800 p.

- performance information on American musical theater productions: brief historical overview; information on each musical's performers, first performances, composers, librettists, lyricists
- comprehensive coverage, detailed entries
- pictures
- additional sections on composers, librettists, lyricists - no bibliography

Remarks: Accurate for what it covers, but could be updated

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 102 .O6 F7 1977 Ref.

Forbes, E. **Opera from A to Z**. London: Kaye & Ward; South Brunswick, New Jersey: A.S. Barnes, 1977. 153 p.

- dictionary of opera terms, composers, performers, synopses
- part I: history of opera to WWII; part II: alphabetical entries; part III: opera from WWII to 1977
- recommends recordings and texts

Remarks: exceedingly brief, obnoxious colored pages

Evaluation: * Audience: ♦

ML 102 .O6 K52 1976 Ref.

Kobbé, Gustav., ed. and rev. George Harewood. **The New Kobbé's Complete Opera Book.**

New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1919, reprinted with new material, 1976. 1694 p.

- a synopsis of plots of, and information on, selected operas
- alphabetical listing by composer of works, plots, historical and biographical notes, casts of characters, etc.
- selective, but detailed coverage
- four different contributors, entries attributed

Remarks: Good for this sort of thing

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

ML 102 .O6 L6 1955 Ref.

Loewenberg, Alfred. **Annals of Opera, 1597-1940.** Rev. ed. Geneva: Societas Bibliographica,

1955. 2 vol. [3rd ed., rev., Totowa, NJ: Rowman and Littlefield, 1978]

- vol. 1 is a skeletal history of operas, chronological by first performance; vol. 2 is indexes
- includes dates and facts; where it was, name of theatre etc.
- used with index, it can be a dictionary of opera
- English translation except for German, French, Italian
- information taken from first sources: makes it reliable for research

Remarks: an efficient, reliable source

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

ML 102 .06 E6 Ref.

Orrey, Leslie, ed. **The Encyclopedia of Opera**. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1976. 376 p.

- alphabetical by opera, composer, characters, etc.
- gives a little description about the composers
- brief plot summaries
- signed articles

Remarks: Not very in-depth but you might find a composer in here that would not be anywhere else

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 102 .06 O8 1983 Ref.

Osborne, C. **The Dictionary of the Opera**. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1983. 382 p.

- brief entries: 300 composers, 800 singers, designers, conductors, directors, etc.
- brief synopses of 570 operas (includes place and date of first performance)
- separate section on opera houses
- illustrated, no bibliography

Remarks: for a general audience

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 102 .06 R67 1975 Ref.

Rosenthal, Harold, and John Warrack. **Concise Oxford Dictionary of Opera**. London: Oxford

University Press, 1964, reprinted with corrections 1972, 1975. 446 p. [N.B. Revised edition 1986]

- pocket dictionary with alphabetical listing of performers, theaters, operas, characters, terms, composers, schools, etc.
- thorough coverage, although some entries very brief
- cross-referenced, brief bibliography

Remarks: go to **New Grove Dictionary of Opera**

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇**

ML 102 .06 N5 1992 Ref.

Sadie, Stanley, ed. **New Grove Dictionary of Opera**. London: MacMillan, 1992. 4 vol.

- includes descriptions of plays and plots
- covers all kinds of operas
- detailed articles on opera singers, composers, houses, etc.
- pictures, signed articles, bibliographies

Remarks: as always a reliable source, with extensive articles, up-to-date

Evaluation: *** Audience: **♦ to ♦♦♦♦**

I. DICTIONARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIAS:

I. Miscellaneous

ML 128 .I65 B3 1948 Ref.

Barlow, H. and H. and S. Morgenstern. **A Dictionary of Musical Themes**. New York: Crown Publishers, 1948; (reprint 1966). [Rev. ed. New York: Crown Publishers, 1975]. 642 p.

- a listing of themes and thematic material found in instrumental music
- alphabetical listing by composer of themes
- selective coverage by necessity
- indexed by scale degree, note name, title of work
- everything transposed to C major or minor for the notation index

Remarks: Pretty strange. Only useful for identification of unknown themes if the note names are known in correct sequence.

Evaluation: * Audience: **♦♦♦♦**

ML 128 .V7 B3 1966 Ref.

Barlow, H. and S. Morgenstern. **A Dictionary of Opera and Song Themes**. New York: Crown Publishers, 1966.[N.B. rev. ed. 1976]

- excerpts from scores give the major themes from cantatas, oratorios, Lieder, and art-songs
- themes listed alphabetically by composer

- indexes by scale degree (everything is transposed to C major or C minor), title, and first line

Remarks: notation index is very confusing; if you liked the other one, you'll like this one.

Evaluation: * Audience: ◆◆◆◆

ML 1100 .C7 Ref.

Cobbett, Walter W. **Cyclopedic Survey of Chamber Music**, 2nd ed. London: Oxford University Press, 1963. 3 vol.

- biographical information on composers, alphabetically; plus dictionary of terms and lists of chamber works, by composer.
- vol. 3 is music since 1929, by continent.
- discussion of works is critical and analytical
- signed articles, bibliography, no index

Remarks: could be useful for finding repertoire.

Evaluation: ** Audience: ◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆

II. HISTORIES

ML 159 .B96 1957

Burney, Charles. **A General History of Music**. London: 1776-1789, rep. New York: Dover, 1957. 4 vol. (in 2 in reprint)

- the first important, all-inclusive history of European music: a pioneer work of great historical importance
- useful especially for music of the 18th century, much of which Burney describes at first hand.
- the model for all music histories to follow

Remarks: Use this to get an 18th-century view of the world, which is not always the same as our own.

Evaluation: ** Audience: ◆ to ◆◆◆◆

ML 160 .L25 M8

Lang, Paul Henry. **Music in Western Civilization**. New York: Norton, 1941. 1107 p.

- a single-volume history of music that set the standard for historical writing for decades
 - after its first appearance
- good overview
- excellent bibliography (but old)
- published in association with the older Norton series, discussed below

Remarks: still reads well and worth a look - Lang was a great scholar

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇◇**

ML 160 .N44 vol. 1-10

The New Oxford History of Music. London and New York: Oxford University Press, 1954-.
10 vol. to date.

This is a series of historical reference works, representing post-war British scholarship, that is often overlooked by students. Rather than a straight-forward chronological approach, each volume tends to give a series of chapters by different authors on specific topics.

Some of the earlier volumes are already being revised--note which edition you are using.

Vol. 1: "Ancient and Oriental Music". Wellesz, Egon, ed. 1957. 530 p.

Vol. 2: "Early Middle Ages to 1300". 2nd ed. Crocker, Richard and David Hiley, eds. 1990. 434 p.

Vol. 3: "Ars Nova and the Renaissance (1300-1540)". Hughes, Anselm and Gerald Abraham, eds. 1960. 565 p.

Vol. 4: "The Age of Humanism (1540-1630)". Abraham, Gerald, ed. 1968, 978 p.

Vol. 5: "Opera and Church Music (1630-1750)". Lewis, Anthony and Nigel Fortune, eds. 1975. 869 p.

Vol. 6: "Concert Music (1630-1750)". Abraham, Gerald, ed., 1986, 786 p.

Vol. 7: "The Age of Enlightenment (1745-1790)". Wellesz, Egon and Frederick Sternfeld, eds. 1973. 724 p.

Vol. 8: "The Age of Beethoven (1790-1830)". Abraham, Gerald, ed. 1985. 747 p.

Vol. 9: "Romanticism (1830-1890)". Abraham, Gerald, ed. 1990. 935 p.

Vol 10: "The Modern Age (1890-1960)". Cooper, Martin, ed. 1974. 764 p.

Remarks: Essential to any historical research project.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇◇**

ML 160 .T18 2005 Ref.

Taruskin, Richard. **The Oxford History of Western Music**. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press, 2005. 6 vol.

- a very extensive history – all by the same author!
- covers every period from early medieval until the end of the 20th century
- a major scholarly achievement
- contains, pictures, graphs, charts, etc.
- the final volume contains chronology, index, bibliography

Remarks: an important new historical resource - use it!

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇◇**

The **Norton History of Music Series**. [series title supplied by the compilers of this document].

New York: W.W. Norton, 1940-1966. 6 vol.

This series of volumes represented the best available scholarship in the U.S., although most of the authors were Europeans who had fled the Nazis. Although monuments of scholarship when they first appeared, they are uneven as sources today; with the exception of the Austin, all are out-of-date. Still useful for research and bibliographies, they are being superseded by a new series from the same publisher.

They are found upstairs in the ML 410 section, in the appropriate historical period.

1. **The Rise of Music in the Ancient World, East and West**, by Curt Sachs, 1943, 324 p.
2. **Music in the Middle Ages**, by Gustave Reese, 1940, 502 p.
3. **Music in the Renaissance**, by Gustave Reese, 1954 (rev. 1959), 1022 p.

4. **Music in the Baroque Era**, by Manfred Bukofzer, 1947, 489 p.
5. **Music in the Romantic Era**, by Alfred Einstein, 1947, 371 p.
6. **Music in the 20th Century from Debussy Through Stravinsky**, by William Austen, 1966, 708 p.

Remarks: these should be used despite their age.

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

Norton Introduction to Music History. New York: W.W. Norton, 1978-. 5 vol. to date

This is the new Norton series, designed to replace the above. The texts are much more readable, and more concerned with overall trends and developments than with an encyclopedic summary of everything that happened. They are all highly recommended. They are also found upstairs in the ML 410 section, in the appropriate historical period.

1. **Medieval Music**, by Richard Hoppin, 1978, 566 p.
2. **Renaissance Music**, by Allan Atlas, 1998, 729 p.
3. **Baroque Music**, by John Walter Hill, 2005, 525 p.
3. **Classical Music: the Era of Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven**, by Philip Downs, 1992, 697 p.
3. **Romantic Music**, by Leon Plantinga, 1984, 523 p.
4. **Twentieth-Century Music**, by Robert P. Morgan, 1990, 554 p.

Remarks: Essential to any historical research project.

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

The Prentice-Hall History of Music Series. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall; 1965-. 11 vol. to date

The historical volumes in this series are somewhat shorter than their Norton counterparts, but well worth using for research. As with Norton, some of the original volumes are getting old and are being replaced, either with revised editions, or with

entirely new histories. Be aware of the edition of the book that you use. These are also found upstairs in the ML 410 section, in the appropriate historical period.

1. **Music in the Medieval World**, by Albert Seay, 1965, 182 p.; 2nd ed., 1975, 182 p.
[superseded by Yudkin]
2. **Music in Medieval Europe**, by Jeremy Yudkin, 1989, 612 p.
3. **Music in the Renaissance**, by Howard M. Brown, 1976, 384 p.; 2nd ed.
4. **Baroque Music**, by Claude Palisca, 1968, 230 p.; 2nd ed., 1981, 300 p. - 3rd ed., 1991, 356 p.
5. **Music in the Classic Period**, by Reinhard Pauly, 1965, 214 p.; 2nd ed., 1973, 199 p.
- 3rd ed., 1988, 265 p.
6. **Nineteenth-Century Romanticism in Music**, by Rey Longyear, 1969, 220 p.; 2nd ed., 1973, 289 p.- 3rd ed., 1988, 367 p.
7. **Twentieth-Century Music: an Introduction**, by Eric Salzman, 1967, 196 p.; 2nd ed., 1974, 242 p.- 3rd ed., 1988, 380 p.

Remarks: Essential to any historical research project.

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

Music History in Pictures

ML 160 .L34 1971 Ref.

Hindley, Geoffrey, ed. **Larousse Encyclopedia of Music**. New York: World Publishing Company, 1971. 555 p.

- translation from French
- topics covered: music of the oral tradition, monody and rhythm, the age of polyphony, the age of harmony, the Romantics, and music in the modern world
- excellent pictures
- quite in-depth

Remarks: ♥ This is not really an encyclopedia, it is a history of music.

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

ML 89 .H5 1937

Kinsky, Georg. **A History of Music in Pictures**. London: Dent, 1937; (trans. from German, 1929). 363 p.

- chronological history in pictures
- portraits, paintings, drawings, sculpture, facsimiles, pictures of instruments, photographs
- index

Remarks: ♥ fun, and useful too, to put a face to composers and musicians

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦

ML 89 .L3 1960

Lang, P.H., and Otto Bettmann. **A Pictorial History of Music**. New York: Norton, 1960. 242 p.

- based on P.H. Lang's Music in Western Civilization
- pictures in chronological order of eras
- good introduction, index

Remarks: interesting for all levels

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦

III. CHRONOLOGIES

ML 161 .E4 Ref.

Eisler, Paul E., ed. **World Chronology of Music History**. Dobbs Ferry, New York: Oceana Publication Inc., 1972. 6 vol. (had projected 8-10 volumes)

- a musical chronology from 4,000 B.C. to 1796
- includes significant dates, with compositions, performers, premieres, etc.
- vol.4 is index to previous volumes
- some pictures

Remarks: rather useless, not a source for research

Evaluation: * Audience: ♦

ML 128 .V7 M4 1962 Ref.

Mattfeld, Julius. **Variety Music Cavalcade, 1620-1961**. Rev. ed. Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey:

Prentice Hall Inc., 1962. 713 p. [N.B. 3rd edition in 1971]

- lists music that had some degree of popularity in the United States between 1620 and 1961
- very little information on each song--only who wrote it and when
- there is a social commentary after each year

Evaluation: * Audience: ♦ to ♦♦

ML 197 .S634 1971 Ref.

Slonimsky, Nicolas, ed. **Music Since 1900**. 4th ed. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1971.

1595 p. **Supplement to Music Since 1900**, 1986, 390 p.

- chronological list of events, composers, and compositions of the contemporary musical world
- includes dictionary of terms and an interesting appendix with letters and documents
- a good starting source for research
- Slonimsky language - be warned; dictionary needed

Remarks: good information

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦

IV. GUIDES TO HISTORICAL MUSICOLOGY

ML 3797 .S7 Ref.

Speiss, Lincoln B. **Historical Musicology**. Brooklyn, New York: Institute of Medieval Music,

1963 [Rep. 1980]

- reference manual for research and reference sources; lists research articles by era
- includes topics for seminars, papers, dissertations
- general and specific bibliographies; index of publishers, etc.

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦♦♦♦

V. BIBLIOGRAPHIES OF MUSIC LITERATURE

ML 128 .M8 A4 1984 Ref.

Adkins, Cecil, and A. Dickinson. **Doctoral Dissertations in Musicology.**

Philadelphia:

American Musicological Society, 1984. (and more recent supplements).

- listing by period and subject of dissertations in the field of musicology in Canadian and

American universities (and some "foreign" ones as well)

- you may find a dissertation on your essay topic, but may have trouble getting a copy

Remarks: for advanced research or for doctoral students seeing what's already been done.

N.B.: an update for dissertations between 1984 and 1996 can be found at ML 128 .M8 A41 1996 Ref.

NOW ONLINE: <http://www.music.indiana.edu/ddm/>

Evaluation: ** Audience: ◆◆◆◆

ML 113 .B43 1971 Ref.

Besterman, T. **Music and Drama.** Totowa, N.J.: Rowman and Littlefield, 1971. 365 p.

- a bibliography of bibliographies, mainly on opera

- reprints each work's self-description

- extracts from the author's World Bibliography of Bibliographies, 4th Edition.

Remarks: Outdated

Evaluation: * Audience: ◆◆◆◆

ML 120 .C2 B3 1976 Ref.

Bradley, Ian L., ed. **A Selected Bibliography of Musical Canadiana,** Rev. ed.

Victoria, B.C:

GLC Publishers Limited, 1976. 177 p.

- a bibliography of Canadian music publications, including unpublished theses
- contains over 2000 entries
- no index, rather vague subject headings; hard to use
- useful with some effort

Remark: somewhat out of date.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 105 .B9 Ref.

Bulls, S. **Index to Biographies of Contemporary Composers**. New York: Scarecrow Press, 1964-1987. 3 vol. [N.B. library has only vol. I (1964) and II (1974)]

- possibly useful as direction to other sources in contemporary music
- alphabetical by composer (basic information only)
- poor organization, overlap between vol. 1 and 2

Remarks: out-of-date

Evaluation: * Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

AI 3 .C25 RefM

Canadian Periodical Index. (1920-1992). Ottawa: Canadian Library Association.

- list of periodical articles published in Canada
- search under music, and then by category, to find information
- abbreviations, cross-references
- published as **Canadian Index to Periodicals and Documentary Films**, 1938-1947.

NOW ONLINE, 2000- under title: [CPI.Q](#)

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 113 .C68 1993 Ref.

Crabtree, Philip D. and Donald H. Foster. **Sourcebook for Research in Music**. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1993. Reprint 1999. 236 p.

- bibliographies of music sources, organized in chapters by type of source
- introductory chapter has a good glossary of bibliographic terms and explanation of Library of Congress classification system
- very concise.

Remarks: includes categories and comments on some of the sources, but is not annotated.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 113 .D83 1994 Ref.

Duckles, Vincent and Michael Keller. **Music Reference and Research Materials: an Annotated**

Bibliography, 4th ed., rev. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 1994. 740 p.

- an annotated bibliography
- wide variety of topics, lists of dictionaries and encyclopedias (Jazz, Popular and Folk Music), composers, performers, scholars, critics, musical instruments and current periodical listings
- very in-depth coverage

Remarks: the bibliography used as a basis for this project

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 120 .U5 E3 Ref.

Edmunds, J., and G. Boelzner. **Some Twentieth-Century American Composers: a Selective**

Bibliography. New York: The New York Public Library, 1959-1960. Vol. I: 57 p., Vol. II: 49 p.

- bibliography with alphabetical listing by composer of works by and about recent American composers
- selective coverage: vol. I covers 15 composers, vol. II covers 17
- photos, introductory essays of historical interest

Remarks: out-dated

Evaluation: * Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆**

ML 114 .H8 Z99 1974 Ref.

Hughes, Andrew. **Medieval Music: the Sixth Liberal Art.** Toronto: University of Toronto Press,
1974. [rev. ed. 1980]

- looks at old sources
- classified and annotated bibliography--evaluates references listed
- excellent section "Key to the Bibliography"
- indexes for authors, editors, general

Remarks: for the specialist in Medieval music. Should have the update.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 128 .J3 K45 1971 Ref.

Kennington, Donald. **The Literature of Jazz: a Critical Guide.** Chicago: American Library Association,
1971. 142 p. [2nd edition, 1980]

- very brief background of Jazz
- history of Jazz (swing era, traditional jazz and lives of jazzmen)
- gives reference sources and periodical literature
- bibliography at the end of each chapter

Remarks: Out of date

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆ to ◆◆◆**

ML 390 .C69814 1977 Ref.

Laplante, Louise, ed. **Compositeurs Contemporains Canadiens**, trans. Veronique Robert.
Montréal: Les Presses de l'Université de Montréal, 1977.

- the same book as below, en français, which may be useful to some
-

ML 390 .C698 1975 Ref.

MacMillan, K. and John Beckwith. **Contemporary Canadian Composers.** Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1975. 248 p.

- concise encyclopedia of composers only
- each entry includes brief biography, works list, bibliography
- some illustrations

Remarks: superseded by **Encyclopedia of Music in Canada**

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇ to ◇◇◇**

ML 113 .M33 Ref.

Marco, Guy A. **Information on Music: a Handbook of Reference Sources in European languages.**

Vol. I: "Basic & Universal Sources". Littleton, Col.: Public Libraries Unlimited, Inc., 1975. 164 p.

- handbook of reference sources
- entries for dictionaries, encyclopedias, bibliographies, biographies, works lists, etc.
- selective coverage
- cross-referenced to Duckles, language fairly simple.

Remarks: Indicates relative usefulness of sources covered; outdated; incomplete series. Use Duckles instead.

Evaluation: * Audience: **◇◇ to ◇◇◇◇**

ML 128 .O4 M28 1984

Marco, Guy. **Opera: A Research and Information Guide.** New York: Garland Publishing, 1984. 373 p.

- annotated bibliography of sources on the study of opera
- by category: encyclopedias and dictionaries; histories; editions; catalogues; etc.
- then by composer/opera, and by country
- helpful indexes

Remarks: relatively up-to-date, useful to have all this information in one place

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◇◇ to ◇◇◇◇**

ML 120 .C2 M67 1997 Ref.

Morey, Carl. **Music in Canada: a Research and Information Guide.** New York: Garland Publishing Inc., 1997.

- a bibliographical study of music in Canada (mainly post 1940)
- provides access to most subjects related to music and musicians in Canada, giving bibliographies under headings such as Reference, Catalogues and Directories, Bibliographies, History and Criticism, Musicians, Native music, Folk and Ethnic music, Popular music and Jazz, Education, Media, Commerce, Periodicals, Archives and Collections.

Remarks: Very helpful in finding resources when researching specific topics in Canadian music.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 118 .L76 Ref.

The Music Index. Detroit: Information Service, Inc., Jan. 1949- .

- a guide to articles on music found in the periodicals (over 500 now indexed)
- monthly guide, with annual accumulations
- index by subject and author, separate category for book reviews
- some abbreviations, cross-references
- N.B. there is a periodic listing of subject titles

Remarks: absolutely essential to track down recent periodicals articles--even in our library--worth learning how to use!

NOW ONLINE, 1978- [Music Index Online](#)

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 120 .C2 P7 1979 Ref.

Proctor, George A. **Sources in Canadian Music: a Bibliography of Bibliographies.** Sackville, N.B.: Ralph Pickard Bell Library, Mount Allison University, 1979.

- annotated bibliography of bibliographies divided into categories such as General and Music Bibliographies, Periodicals, Biography, Scores, Recordings, Music Education, Folk Music and Ethnomusicology, and thesis papers.
- available in both English and French.

Remarks: Somewhat hard to follow and out of date. Carl Morley's **A Research and Information Guide** provides similar information, but is much more user friendly.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 160 .R33 1970

Reese, G., ed. **Fourscore Classics of Music Literature**. New York: Liberal Arts Press, 1957. 91 p.

- "A guide to selected original sources on theory and other writings on music not available in English, with descriptive sketches and bibliographical references"
- lists 80 documents from antiquity to 20th century
- great if you don't know Latin, but we don't have many of the documents listed in our library

Remarks: useful in a limited way to advanced students

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

VI. BIBLIOGRAPHIES OF MUSIC

ML 113 .B86 1997 Ref.

Brook, Barry S. and Richard Viano, eds. **Thematic Catalogues in Music: An Annotated Bibliography**.

2nd ed. Annotated Reference Tools in Music no. 5. New York: Pendragon Press, 1997. 602 p.

- annotated list of thematic catalogues of composers (i.e. complete works)
- detailed, comprehensive and up-to-date.

Remarks: useful for in-depth study and graduate study

Evaluation: *** Audience **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 128 .O5 C36 1994 Ref.

Canadian Music Centre. **Canadian Music for Orchestra**. Toronto: Canadian Music Centre, 1994.

- lists Canadian orchestral works alphabetically, by composer
- gives orchestration, tempo, 1st performance, scores, degree of difficulty, and

recordings
- indexed by genre

Remarks: part of a series from CMC

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

Other titles in the series, arranged in the same fashion, are as follows:

1. **Catalogue of Canadian Keyboard Music**, 1971: ML 128 .K5 C35 1971 Ref.
 2. **Canadian Choral Music Catalogue**, 4th ed., 1993: ML 128 .C48 C35 1993 Ref.
 3. **Canadian Chamber Music**, 1980: ML 128 .C4 C36 1980
 4. **Canadian Vocal Music**, 1976: ML 128 .V7 C245 1976 Ref
-

ML 128 .V7 1960 Ref.

Coffin, Berton. **Singer's Repertoire**, 2nd ed. New York: Scarecrow Press, 1960. 5 vol.

- catalogue of solo songs
- each volume is devoted to a particular voice range (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass)
- vol. 5 has translations and synopses
- good table of contents

Remarks: could be helpful in planning a recital

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 128 .S7 F4 1965 Ref.

Farish, Margaret K., ed. **String Music in Print**. New York: R.R Bowker Company, 1965. 420 p.
[2nd edition, 1973]

- a list of published music for string instruments
- very varied categories of genres; includes teaching methods
- for students, teachers and professionals
- includes old list of publishers

Remarks: good format, easy-to-use, but we should have the update

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦♦ to ♦♦♦♦

ML 113 .F8 1971 Ref.

Fuld, James J., ed. **The Book of World-Famous Music: Classical, Popular and Folk**. 2nd ed.

New York: Crown Publishers Inc., 1971. 688 p. [3rd ed. New York: Dover, 1985. 714 p.]

- a compilation of information on well-known melodies
- short histories and descriptions
- gives index of musical themes
- has appendix describing research methods

Remarks: lots of interesting but rather trivial information, not for research

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦

ML 113 .H52 1980 Ref.

Heyer, Anna Harriet. **Historical Sets, Collected Editions and Monuments of Music: a Guide**

to their Contents. 3rd ed. Chicago: American Library Association, 1980. 2 v.

- guide to collected editions published in the 19th and 20th century to 1980
- includes date of publication and publisher, brief descriptions of contents
- each entry in its respective language
- overlaps with and is continued by **Collected Editions, Historical Series & Sets & Monuments of Music: a Bibliography** by George R. Hill (see entry below)

Remarks: of great value for research since it is the only way to find your way into these publications.

Evaluation: *** Audience: ♦♦♦ to ♦♦♦♦

ML 113 .H55 1997 Ref.

Hill, George R., and Norris L. Stephens. **Collected Editions, Historical Series & Sets &**

Monuments of Music: a Bibliography. Berkeley, Cal.: Fallen Leaf Press, 1997. 1349 p.

- guide to collected editions published in the 20th century

- overlaps with and continues **Historical Sets, Collected Editions and Monuments**

of Music: a Guide to their Contents by Anna Heyer (see entry above), it does not completely replace Heyer's work, as older material published in the 19th century

is not included here

- includes date of publication and publisher, brief descriptions of contents
- each entry in its respective language

Remarks: of great value for research since it is the only way to find your way into these publications.

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 128 .O5 A6 1975 Ref.

Laughlin, James, comp. and ed. **The Alexander Broude, Inc. Comprehensive Guide to Orchestral**

Literature: a Catalogue. New York: Alexander Broude Inc., 1975.

- catalogue of orchestral works
- lists the instrumentation of each work, as well as the price of the music, however this is based in 1975 and is out-of-date.
- arranged alphabetically by composer

Remarks: Good for looking up orchestral compositions of specific composers and the instrumentation, however it is rather outdated.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 128 .S3 L5 1961a Ref.

Lewine, R, and S. Simon. **Encyclopedia of Theatre Music, 1900-1960.** New York: H.W. Wilson, 1961. 248 p.

[Superseded by Songs of the Theatre. New York: H.W. Wilson, 1984, 897 p., which covers 1891-1983]

- alphabetical listing by title of published songs from musicals on and off Broadway
- songs from motion pictures
- chronological listing of Broadway shows, index

Remarks: Limited use

Evaluation: * Audience: **◆ to ◆◆**

ML 128 .S3 S31 1966 Ref.

Sears, M. **Song Index and Supplement**. Rep. Hamden, Connecticut: Shoe String Press, 1966.

(Originally published in 1926, supplement in 1934)

- an index to more than 12,000 songs in 177 song collections
- lists titles, first lines, authors, and composers
- refers only to specific collections (listed by abbreviations)
- must look under title to find collection

Remarks: specific use; limited and out-dated.

Evaluation: * Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 120 .U5 P6 Ref.

Shapiro, Nat and Bruce Pollock (after vol. 6). **Popular Music**. Vol. 1- 6. New York: Adrian Press,

1964-73; Vol.7- Detroit: Gale Research Company, 1974-. 12 vol. [Library has vols. 1,2,3,6, and 7-10]

- chronological survey of popular songs (we have 1950-59, 40-49, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79, 80-84, and 1985)
- discusses briefly what is happening in each year in the popular music field
- lists songs alphabetically, with lyricists, composers, publishers, and recording artists

Remarks: This book is not very useful.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆ to ◆◆**

VII. DISCOGRAPHIES

ML 156.2 B49 v.1

Gray, M.H. and G.D. Gibson, eds. **Bibliography of Discographies, vol.1: Classical music, 1925-1975**.

New York & London: R.R. Bowker Co., 1976. 164 p. [Supplement: **Classical Music Discographies, 1976-1988: a Bibliography**. Gray, M.H. ed. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1989. 334 p.]

- an exhaustive list of discographies, plus index
- includes composers, performers, conductors, arranged alphabetically

Remarks: specialized information, getting out of date

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 156.4 .R6 H68 1987 Ref.

Hounsome, T., ed. **Rock Record**. 3rd ed. New York: Facts on File Publications, Blandford Press, 1987. 738 p.

- a directory of rock music
- alphabetical listing by performer or group of album titles, band members, studio musicians
- exhaustive coverage

Remarks: Out-dated, but information included is still accurate.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆**

ML 1055 .M8 Ref.

Moogk, E. **Roll Back the Years: a History of Canadian Recorded sound**. Ottawa: National Library of Canada, 1975. 443 p. (plus disc).

- partly a history of recording in Canada, from 1878-1930
- chapters on different manufacturers, recording companies
- then amazing (complete) discography of Canadian recordings: by performer, composer/lyricist, label
- pictures, bibliography

N.B.: **En Remontant les Années** (ML 1055 .M84 Ref) is exactly the same book in French.

Remarks: definitive study on the subject; ♥ for the enthusiast

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

VIII. YEARBOOKS AND DIRECTORIES

ML 13 .D57 Ref.

Directory of Music Faculties in Colleges and Universities, U.S.A. and Canada.
Missoula, Mt.: CMS Publications, 1972-

- lists all faculty members in all institutions, with coded list of subject areas taught by each

Remarks: could be useful if you are looking for somewhere else to go

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

IX. WOMEN IN MUSIC

ML 105 .C7 1987 Ref.

Cohen, Aaron. **International Encyclopedia of Women Composers.** New York: Books and Music Inc., 1987. 2 vol., 1151 p.

- biographical information; also lists compositions, publications and references on female composers
- quite in-depth but it does not give much information on the actual composer
- good pictures

Remarks: the only place for some of this information.

Evaluation: ** Audience: **◆◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

ML 105 .N66 1995 Ref.

SADIE, Julie Anne & Rhian Samuel, eds. **The Norton / Grove Dictionary of Women Composers.** New York: W.W. Norton & Co., 1994. 548 p.

- chronology; Dictionary of women composers
- includes some pictures and an index
- signed articles and bibliographies

Remarks: Most very brief but reliable

Evaluation: *** Audience: **◆ to ◆◆◆◆**

X. MISCELLANEOUS

ML 160 .D27 1976 Ref.

Dearling, Robert and Celia Dearling. **The Guinness Book of Music Facts and Feats**. Enfield, Middlesex:
Guinness Superlatives, 1976. 288 p.

- a collection of fascinating musical facts and trivia
- not organized in any particular fashion
- reputable bibliography, but don't go here for research

Remarks: ♥ Stay away from this book if you have a paper due

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

ML 3785 .S5 1969

Slonimsky, N. **Lexicon of Musical Invective**, 2nd ed. Seattle & London: University
of Washington
Press, 1969. 325 p.

- alphabetical survey of nasty reviews of famous composers since Beethoven
- entries in French and German given in original language and translation
- excellent introduction; index; N.B. supplement at end
- separate index of "vituperative, pejorative & deprecatory words and phrases"

Remarks: ♥ vastly entertaining and sobering at the same time

Evaluation: ** Audience: ♦ to ♦♦♦♦

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