General music cataloging resources

MLA Cataloging and Metadata Committee (CMC) Blog

Q & A columns by Jay Weitz from the MOUG Newsletter


Columns after this date, from newsletters more than a year old, are online at musicoclcusers.org/publications/newsletters/

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When is a flute not a flute [5], by David Lasocki

Musical instrument ranges [6]


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| Music terminology [19]

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Notation

Table of musical pitches [21]

Early music notation:

- Neume notation through history [22]
- Evolution of noteshapes [23]
- Rhythmic modes in medieval polyphony [24]

Lute tablature: How to read Elizabethan [25] and German [26] lute tablature


When to create a new bibliographic record for music [28]

Guidelines for determining proper format for scores and score-like material [29]

Classical theme music in radio, TV and film [30]

Basic glossary of musical forms

Music Cataloging at Yale [1] ? General music cataloging resources [31]

air/ayre: (1) an English song or melody from the 16th to the 19th century; (2) a 16th-century solo song with lute accompanied.

aleatory music: music in which chance or indeterminacy are compositional elements.

anthem: a choral setting (often with solo voice parts and organ accompaniment) of an English language religious or moral text, usually for performance during Protestant services.

antiphon: a liturgical chant sung as the response to the verses of a psalm.
arabesque: a short piece of music featuring various melodic, contrapuntal, or harmonic decorations.

bagatelle: a short, light instrumental piece of music of no specified form, usually for piano.

ballade: (1) a 14th-15th-century French song form which set poetry to music; (2) an instrumental (usually piano) piece with dramatic narrative qualities.

barcarolle: song or instrumental piece in a swaying 6/8 time (i.e., suggesting the lilting motion of a Venetian gondola).

berceuse: a soft instrumental piece or lullaby, usually in a moderate 6/8 tempo; a lullaby.

canon: a contrapuntal form in two or more (voice or instrumental) parts in which the melody is introduced by one part and then repeated by the next before each previous part has finished (i.e., such that overlapping of parts occurs).

cantata: term applied to a 17th-18th-century multi-movement non-theatrical and non-liturgical vocal genre; subsequently used to describe large-scale vocal works in the same spirit, generally for soloists, chorus and orchestra; may also be for solo voice and accompaniment.

canzone: (1) 16th-17th-century instrumental genre in the manner of a French polyphonic chanson, characterized by the juxtaposition of short contrasting sections; (2) term applied to any of several types of secular vocal music.

caprice/capriccio: term describing a variety of short composition types characterized by lightness, fancy, or improvisational manner.

carol: since the 19th century, generally a song that is in four-part harmony, simple form, and having to do with the Virgin Mary or Christmas.

chaconne: a slow, stately instrumental work in duple meter employing variations.

chanson: French for song; in particular, a style of 14th- to 16th-century French song for voice or voices, often with instrumental accompaniment.

chant/plainchant: monophonic music used in Christian liturgical services sung in unison and in a free rhythm.

concertante: (1) a term used to modify another form or genre, suggesting that all parts should be regarded as equal in status (18th century) or indicating a virtuoso first violin part (19th century); (2) a work with solo parts in the nature of, but not the form of, a concerto.

concerto: (1) ensemble music for voice(s) and instrument(s) (17th century); (2) extended piece of music in which a solo instrument or instruments is contrasted with an orchestral ensemble (post-17th century).

concerto grosso: orchestral form especially popular in the 17th and 18th centuries in which the contrasting lines of a smaller and a larger group of instruments are featured.


divertimento/divertissement: a style of light, often occasion-specific, instrumental music arranged in several movements.

etude/study: especially, a piece written for purposes of practicing or displaying technique.

fancy/fantasie/fantasie/fantasy/phantasie: an instrumental piece in which the formal and stylistic characteristics may vary from free, improvisatory types to strictly contrapuntal; form is of secondary importance.

fugue: contrapuntal form in which a subject theme ("part" or "voice") is introduced and then extended and developed through some number of successive imitations.
galliard: a lively court dance of Italian origin, usually in triple time.

gigue (jig): a quick, springy dance often used as the concluding movement to 18th century instrumental suites.


impromptu: a short instrumental piece of a free, casual nature suggesting improvisation.

incidental music: music composed for atmospheric effect or to accompany the action in a predominantly spoken play; the music is not integral to the work even though it may have dramatic significance.

Lied(er): German for song(s); in particular, a style of 19th-century German song distinguished by the setting of texts from the literary tradition and by the elaboration of the instrumental accompaniment.

madrigal: (1) a 14th-century Italian style of setting secular verse for two or three unaccompanied voices; (2) a 16th/17th-century contrapuntal setting of verse (usually secular) for several equally important voice parts, usually unaccompanied.

magnificat: a setting of the Biblical hymn of the Virgin Mary (as given in St. Luke) for use in Roman Catholic and Anglican services.

march: instrumental music in duple meter with a repeated and regular rhythm usually used to accompany military movements and processions.

masque: an aristocratic 16th-17th-century English theater form integrating poetry, dance, music, and elaborate sets.

mass [11]: the principal religious service of the Catholic Church, with musical parts that either vary according to Church calendar (the Proper) or do not (the Ordinary).

mazurka: a moderately fast Polish country dance in triple meter in which the accent is shifted to the weak beats.

microtonal music: music which makes use of intervals smaller than a semitone (a half step).

minuet: a graceful French dance of moderate 3/4 tempo often appearing as a section of extended works (especially dance suites).

motet: (1) to ca. 1400, a piece with one or more voices, often with different but related sacred or secular texts, singing over a fragment of chant in longer note-values; (2) after 1400, a polyphonic setting of a short sacred text.

nocturne: a moderately slow piece, usually for piano, of dreamy, contemplative character and song-like melody.

ode: cantata-like musical setting of the lyric poetry form so called.

opera: theatrically staged story set to instrumental and vocal music such that most or all of the acted parts are sung. a drama set to music sung by singers usually in costume, with instrumental accompaniment; the music is integral and is not incidental.

operetta: a light opera with spoken dialogue, songs, and dances.

oratorio: originally setting of an extended religious narrative (and since ca. 1800, non-religious ones as well) for vocal soloists, chorus, and orchestra, intended for concert or church performance without costumes or stage settings.

ostinato: a short melodic, rhythmic, or chordal phrase repeated continuously throughout a piece or section while other musical elements are generally changing.

partita: term initially applied as a synonym for "set of variations" (17th century), then as a synonym for "suite" (ca.
passacaglia: an instrumental dance form usually in triple meter in which there are ground-bass or ostinato variations.

pavan(e): a stately court dance in duple meter, from the 16th and 17th centuries, and remaining popular in the 17th century as an instrumental form.

polka: an energetic Bohemian dance performed in the round in 2/4 time.

polonaise: a stately Polish processional dance in 3/4 time.

prelude: (1) an instrumental section or movement preceding or introducing a larger piece or group of pieces; (2) a self-contained short piece usually for piano.

psalm: a vocal work set to text from the Book of Psalms.

quadrille: a lively, rhythmic 19th-century French country couple dance that incorporates popular tunes, usually in duple meter.

requiem: a musical composition honoring the dead; specially the Roman Catholic Mass for the dead, but also other commemorative pieces of analogous intent.

rhapsody: term similar to "fantasia" applied to pieces inspired by extroverted romantic notions.

romance: (1) a song with a simple vocal line and a simple accompaniment; especially popular in late 18th-19th-century France and Italy; (2) a short instrumental piece with the lyrical character of a vocal romance.

rondo: an instrumental form in which one section intermittently recurs between subsidiary sections and which concludes the piece.

scherzo: term designating lively and usually lighthearted instrumental music; most commonly used to label the fast-tempo movement of a symphony, sonata, etc.

serenade: a light and/or intimate piece of no specific form such as might be played in an open-air evening setting.

sinfonia: term applied in a variety of contexts in different periods; e.g., as a near synonym for "instrumental canzona," "prelude," "overture," and "symphony."

sonata: an extended piece for instrumental soloist with or without instrumental accompaniment), usually in several movements.

sonatina: a short sonata, or one of modest intent; especially popular during the Classical Period.

song cycle: a group of songs performed in an order establishing a musical continuity related to some underlying (conceptual) theme.

Stabat Mater: a sequence in the Roman Catholic liturgy regarding the crucifixion, and used in several Divine offices.

suite: a set of unrelated and usually short instrumental pieces, movements or sections played as a group, and usually in a specific order.

symphonic poem/tone poem: a descriptive orchestral piece in which the music conveys a scene or relates a story.

symphony: an extended piece for full orchestra, usually serious in nature and in several movements.

tango: an Argentinian couple dance in duple meter characterized by strong syncopation and dotted rhythms.
**Te Deum**: (from the Latin, "We praise Thee, O God") lengthy hymn of praise to God in the Roman Catholic, Anglican, and other Christian liturgies.

**toccata**: a piece for keyboard intended to display virtuosity.

**trio sonata**: a 17th-18th-century sonata for two or three melody instruments and continuo accompaniment

**variations**: composition form in the theme is repeated several or many times with various modifications.

**waltz**: a popular ballroom dance in 3/4 time.

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**Guidelines for determining proper format for scores and score-like material**

[Music Cataloging at Yale](https://web.library.yale.edu) ? [General music cataloging resources](https://web.library.yale.edu) [31]

**Note**: this page was created with music cataloging in mind.

See also [When to create a new bibliographic record for music](https://web.library.yale.edu) [28]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Input in Scores (type code c)</th>
<th>Input in Books (type code a)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Publications of printed music (scores, scores and parts, solo instrumental music). An item with extensive musical examples that are not complete pieces intended for performance (in concert or for instructional purposes) may qualify as a book, not a score.</td>
<td>Thematic catalogs; textbooks with extensive musical examples not intended for performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opera scores (full scores, vocal scores, collections of arias, etc.)</td>
<td>Opera libretti (may contain music of principal arias, but if the principal intent of the publication is presentation of text of the opera, input in books)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hymnals with music (either harmonized or melody only) Art songs (music as well as text)</td>
<td>Hymnals consisting of text only Art song texts, no music (class in M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other songs that would be classed in LC M1627-1998 (popular, patriotic, national songs, etc.)</td>
<td>Texts for popular, patriotic, national songs, etc., no music (class in M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musical compositions written in chord diagrams or a chord diagram book with enough music in it to be considered a score</td>
<td>Chord diagram books that are not intended as musical compositions but as information on playing an instrument</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For resources classed MT170-MT950, catalog resources that are predominantly music as scores. Use [subject heading subdivisions](https://web.library.yale.edu) [32] as a tool in determining the correct format:

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Subject subdivision</th>
<th>Form</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instruction and study</td>
<td>a or c</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methods</td>
<td>c</td>
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<tr>
<td>Studies and exercises</td>
<td>c</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orchestra studies</td>
<td>c</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching pieces</td>
<td>c</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CD-ROM publications of scores (add 006 and 007 for the computer file aspects)

Methods, instrumental and vocal, consisting largely of studies and exercises and/or teaching pieces

Musical studies and exercises

Theses that are scores

Manuscripts of music and published facsimiles of music manuscripts

Microform publications of the types of materials listed above

Microform publications of the types of materials listed above

In all other cases when resources contain a substantial amount of both text and music, the cataloger should make...
General music cataloging resources
Published on Yale University Library (https://web.library.yale.edu)

a judgment as to the primary intent of the resource (exposition with musical examples or presentation of the musical score itself) to determine which is more appropriate.

SOURCES: RLIN Update, vol. 5, p. 2 (1981), (rev., M. Koth, 8-17-95); MOUG Newsletter, no. 69, p. 16, no. 80, 23.

Musical biographical resources on the Web

See also Printed biographical sources for composers and their works held in the Yale University Music Library [33] and Biographical resources [34] (from Authority Control at Yale)

General resources | Composer biographies | by time period | Women composers and musicians | Performer biographies
Birth and death indexes | Online music publishers' catalogs [14]

Multiple composer biographical sources by city, country, or geographic area | instrument or genre

General resources

- **Biographie-Portal** [35]
  - Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie (ADB)
  - Neue Deutsche Biographie (NDB)
  - Österreichisches Biographisches Lexikon 1815-1950 (ÖBL)
  - Historisches Lexikon der Schweiz (HLS)
  - **Oesterreichisches Musiklexikon** [36] (OeML)
  - Rheinland-Pfälzische Personendatenbank (RPPD)
  - Sächsische Biografie (SäBi)
  - Slovenska biografiá (SBI)

Music:

- **MGG** [37] (Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart)
- **ASCAP, 2nd ed.** [38]
- **Authority tools for audiovisual and music catalogers** [39]: an annotated list of useful resources
- **Eitner**: Biographisch-bibliographisches Quellen-Lexikon der Musiker und Musikgelehrten [40]
- **DW3** [51] from Duke University; note: this is an archived version of the page; it is no longer being maintained
- **Internet Broadway database** [52]
- **Internet movie database** [53]

Composer biographies

- **Afrocentric voices in classical music** [54] (focus on African American performers and composers)
- **Composers of African Descent** [55]
- **AMS composer home pages** [56]
- **American Composers Alliance** [57]
- **American Composers Forum** [58]
- **ccm composers-classical-music.com** [59] includes 7494 composers
The Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers
Classical and contemporary composers
Classical composers
Classical composers database
Classical music on the web: British and Irish composers | Non-British composers
Composer birth & death dates from the University of Illinois Bands, current through 1/1/2006
Composer pages from Stanford University
Composers from Indiana University
Composers from T. Moore
Composers biographies from The Gaudeamus Foundation
Composers' homepages from Simmons College
Composers-classical-music
Composer homepages from Duke University
Les compositeurs from CDMC (Centre de documentation de la musique contemporaine)
Contemporary classical music
Dichter und Komponisten (Poets and composers)
Directory of composers on the net from Center for the Promotion of Contemporary Composers
IRCAM Alphabetical list of composers
Jewish Music WebCenter | Milken Archive: American Jewish music
Komponisten-Daten
Lexikon verfolgter Musiker und Musikerinnen der NS-Zeit
Library of Congress copyright search: books, music, etc.
Library of Congress Catalogue of copyright entries 1906 | 1907 | 1908 | 1909 | 1910 | 1911
The living composers project
Meet the composer
MusicMoz: Contemporary composers | Early 20th-century composers
Musiques actuelles: Les compositeurs classiques
Notamorn
On music dictionary: composers
Russian Jewish encyclopedia; not specific to music
Society of Composers
Amati violin and bow makers
Les compositoras españolas de obras con guitarra
Contributions of Jewish Women to music and of Women to Jewish music
Early music women composers, from Ancient & Byzantine to Late baroque & early classical
Women's early music chronology
Early Women masters
Ebel, Otto. Les femmes compositeurs de musique : dictionnaire biographique, 1910; PDF
Archiv Frau und Musik
Hildegard Publishing Company a music publisher devoted to "promot[ing] and preserv[ing] the music of women composers of the past and present"
Leonarda Productions
Composer biographies by time period
Women composers and musicians biographies
By country: Czech | Dutch Foundation for Women in Music | Japan | New York
Brass music of Women composers database
Las compositoras españolas de obras con guitarra
Contributions of Jewish Women to music and of Women to Jewish music
Early music women composers, from Ancient & Byzantine to Late baroque & early classical
Women's early music chronology
Early Women masters
Ebel, Otto. Les femmes compositeurs de musique : dictionnaire biographique, 1910; PDF
Archiv Frau und Musik
Hildegard Publishing Company
Leonarda Productions
• Meisterinnen der Töne [121]
• Mujer y guitarra española [122]
• Musik und Gender im Internet [123]

**Sigma Alpha Iota Composer Bureau** [124]: SAI is an international music fraternity for women in the United States. This web site includes information about American composers (and some Canadian), both female and male.

• Swedish music by women composers [125]
• Women composers, a scoreography [126] from the University of Oregon music library
• Women composers database [127]
• Women composers’ materials [128]: the collection of Hudební informacní středisko Ceský Hudební Fond
• Women composers web index [129]
• Women hymn composers before 1900 [130]
• Women of note [131]
• Women's music [132]

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**Performer biographies**

• For sound recordings [133]
• Performer biographies [134] from Thomas Moore

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**Birth and death indexes**

• Anybirthday.com [135] "relies on driver's license and voting registration for its information, with the hazards those sources entail"--Mark Scharff
• Necrology [136] from Gaylord Music Library, Washington University in St. Louis
• RootsWeb [137]
• Social Security death master file, free. [138]

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**By country or geographic area**

International Association of Music Information Centres [139]: 43 member organisations in 38 countries

See also Classical music country index [140]

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• Classical composers archive [141]: by country
• Argentina: Música Clásica Argentina [142] | Compositores & Intérpretes [143]
• Armenia: Armenian composers [144]
• Australia: Australian music centre [145] | Australasian Computer Music Association [146]
• Austria: Music Information Center Austria [147] | Österreichisches Musiklexikon Online [148] | Österreichischer Komponistenbund [149] | Interessengemeinschaft Niederösterreichische Komponisten [150] (Association of Composers of Lower Austria)
• Basque area (Pais Vasco): see Spain
• Brazil: Brazil Centro de Documentação de Música Contemporânea [154] Note: alphabetical by composer’s first name! | Multimusica [155] | Dicionário Cravo Albin da Música Popular Brasileira [156]
• Bulgaria: Union of Bulgarian composers [164] | Index of contemporary Bulgarian composers [165]
• Catalonia: see Spain
• Colombia: Compositores colombianos [171]
• Croatia: Croatian Composers’ Society [172] (English version)
• Czech Republic: Český hudební slovník osob a institucí [173] | Czech Music Information Center [174] | Czech composers [175] (from Wikipedia)
• Denmark: Det virtuelle musikbibliothek [176] (Online Music Research Library of Denmark) |
Værkfortegnelsen for danske komponister [177] (Worklists for Danish composers) | Samfundet til udgivelse af Dansk musik [178] (Society for the publication of Danish music: The composers) | Dansk Komponist Forening [179]

- Finland: Music Finland [183] | Society of Finnish Composers [184]
- France: CDMC [185] | Musica et memoria [186]
- Germany:
  - Allgemeine deutsche Biographie & Neue deutsche Biographie [188]
  - Deutsches Komponistenarchiv [189]
  - Deutscher Komponistenverband [190]
  - Deutsches Musikinformationszentrum [191]
  - Handbuch deutsche Musiker. 1933-1945 [192] by Fred K. Prieberg
  - Komponisten der Gegenwart [193]
  - Künstler im Kultur-Netz [194]
  - Lexikon verfolgter Musiker und Musikerinnen der NS-Zeit [83]
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    - Thüringer Komponisten & Bearbeiter [201]
- Greece: Greek Composers’ Union [202]
- Hungary: Contemporary Hungarian composers [203] | Hungarian composers [204] | Magyar zeneszerz listája [205] (List of Hungarian composers; from Wikipedia) | Kortárs magyar zeneszerzék kincsestára [206] (Treasury of contemporary Hungarian composers; note: Internet Archive version)
- Iceland: Icelandic composers [207] (from Wikipedia)
- Ireland: Contemporary Irish composers [208] | British and Irish composers [158]
- Israel: Israel Music Information Center [209] | Israel composers’ league [210]
- Italy: Banca dati dei compositori Italiani [211] | Italian composers whose songs have been recorded by or with the Trio Lescano A-C [212] | D-L [213] | D-L [214] | Q-Z [215] | Federazione CEMAT [216] (electroacoustic and computer music)
- Japan: Music from Japan [217]: composer index
- Latin America: Latin American Music Center catalog [218] (Catholic University) | Colegio de Compositores Latinoamericanos de Música de Arte [219] | Catálogo de obras para saxofón de compositores de América Latina [220]
- Latvia: Music in Latvia [221] (Latvian version [222])
- Lithuania: Lithuanian composers [223]
- Luxemburg: Luxemburg Society for Contempory Music [224]
- Macedonia: Composers Association of Macedonia [225]
- Mexico: Diccionario enciclopédico de música en Mexico [226] (PDF)
- New Zealand: New Zealand composers [227] from the Centre for New Zealand Music | Australasian Computer Music Association [146]
- Norway: Norwegian composers [228] (from Wikipedia)
- Poland: Polski Centrum Informacji Muzyckiej [229] | Polish composers [230], from USC | Culture.pl [231] | Polish composers from Middle Ages to Baroque [232]
- Romania: Romanian music information center [236]
  - Saint Petersburg Contemporary Music Center [241]
- Scotland: Scottish Music Centre [242] | Scottish composers [243]
- Slovakia: Hudobné Centrum Slovakia [244] | Slovak composers [245] (from Wikipedia)
- Sloveni: Society of Slovene composers [246]
• Soviet Union: Soviet composers [249] | A bibliography of trumpet concertos from the former Soviet Union [250] | see also Russia

• Spain: Important Spanish composers of the twentieth century [251]
  - By city or region
    - Basque area (País Vasco): Musikagileak [252] (Association of Basque Navarrese composers)
    - Catalonia: Associació Catalana de Compositors [253] | Cat Música [254]
    - Valencia: Asociacion de compositores sinfonicos valencianos [255]


  - By city or region
    - Vaud: Musiciens vaudois [267]

• Ukraine: Music Information Center Ukraine [268]

• United States:
  - General:
    - American Composers Alliance [269]
    - Composers bureau [270] from Sigma Alpha Iota
    - National Association of Composers/USA: composer list [271] (with work lists) | links to members' homepage [272]
  - By state or city:
    - Cleveland Composers Guild [273]
    - Connecticut Composers, Inc. [274]
    - Iowa Composers Forum [275]
    - Long Island Composers Alliance [276]
    - New York Women Composers [110]
    - Oregon Composers [277]
    - Southeastern Composers League [278]

Multiple composers biographical sources by instrument or genre
Cello: A catalogue of twentieth-century cello ensemble music [281] (pdf)
Church music: Biographisch-bibliographisches Kirchenlexikon [282] (not music-specific)
Clarinet: Clarinet compositions [283]
The clarinet quintet [284]
Flute: Composers of flute music [285]
Claudia's flutepage [286] (composers and flutists)
Guitar: Compositores Guitarristas Catalanes, nacidos en el siglo XIX [287] | siglo XX [288] (Internet archive versions)
Classical guitar composers list - alphabetical [289]
Las compositoras españolas de obras con guitarra [112]
Dirks guitar page [290]
Max Eschig [291] guitar catalog, pdf, 2001
Guitar composers of the classical and early romantic period, circa 1780-1900 [292]
The guitar in Italy in the nineteenth century, sixty biographies of Italian composers and guitarists [293] (PDF; Internet archive version of 12/6/05)
Illuistrovannyi biograficheskii entsiklopedicheskii slovar' gitaristy i kompository [237] (illustrated biographical encyclopedic dictionary of guitarists and composers (in Russian (Cyrillic))
Master list of classical guitar composers [294] arranged by nationality
Mujer y guitarra española [122] (Spanish Women composers for guitar)
Partituras para guitarra clás [295] (use the list of composers along the right side of the page)
Select list of works written in the last 25 years for guitar [296] held at the Australian Music Centre library
Sheer pluck [297]

Three composers significant to nineteenth century Nordic guitar tradition [298]

Wikipedia list of composers for the classical guitar (nationality) [299]

**Hymns:**
- Hymnary [300]
- HymnTime.com [301]

**Jazz:**

**Opera:**
- Opera composers [305]
- Italian Opera [306]
- Opernführer [307] = Opera guide : 1001 Links zu Libretti und Inhaltsangaben in verschiedenen Sprachen
- Zarzuela [308]

**Organ:**
- Biographical dictionary of organists, composers for organ and organ builders [309]
- Composers for the organ [310]
- Liste von Organisten [311] (from German Wikipedia)

**Piano:**
- Pianopedia [312]: includes 894 composers, 5471 works (indicating 15748 movements or excerpt)
- Piano music for the left hand alone [313]

**Recorder:**
- Composers for recorder on the Web [314] (Internet archive version of 1/24/14)

**Saxophone:**
- Listes des compositeurs et leurs œuvres [315]
- Catálogo de obras para saxofón de compositores de América Latina [220]

**Song:**
- Index of composers of Lieder and art songs [316]
- Deutsches Lied [317]

**Stabat Mater:**
- www.stabatmater.info/composers.html [318]

**Trombone:**
- Canadian compositions for trombone

**Viola:**

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**Parts of the Mass**

Music Cataloging at Yale [1] ? General music cataloging resources [31]

The list [323] of uniform titles from IFLA's Working Group on Uniform Headings for Liturgical Works [324] includes useful explanations of liturgical terminology.

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<th>Proper</th>
<th>Ordinary</th>
<th>Proper</th>
<th>Ordinary</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17. Postcommunion</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
19. Last Gospel

The Gloria is omitted in seasons of Advent and Lent.

Song cycles

Music Cataloging at Yale [1] ? General music cataloging resources [31]

From the New Grove dictionary of music and musicians:

Song cycle:

- a composite form of vocal music consisting of a group of individually complete songs
- for solo or ensemble voices
- with or without instrumental accompaniment
- may relate a series of events, or a series of impressions, or may simply be a group of songs unified by mood
- the texts may be by a single author or from several sources

LC examples:

The form is stated explicitly in the title statement:

89-751995
245 10 An Mauern hin : a song-cycle based on the poetry by G. Trakl / Christoph Campestrini.

92-768274

90-753355

88-751683
245 10 Cäsar Flaischlen-Zyklus : für eine mittlere Singstimme und Klavier, komponiert 1926 / Karl Höller.

85-751907
245 10 --and waken green : a cycle of songs for medium voice and piano / seven poems by Douglas Worth ; music by David Ward-Steinman.

86-750135
245 10 Arcobaleno : a cycle of seven songs for bass / Rocco DiGiovanni ; poetry by Nicola Rossi-Lemeni.

94-702002
245 02 A cycle for voice and percussion / words by Emily Dickinson ; music by Dawn LaBuy.

92-752760

92-757398
245 10 Aftonland : sangsyklus til dikt av Pär Lagerkvist : for soprano (or tenor) and chamber ensemble / Arne
Nordheim.

95-702430
245 00 Concertino pre flautu a slá?. orchester ; Ako padajú hviezdy : *cyklus piesni* na slová P. Koyša, op. 31 ; Portréty : pre organ / A. O?enáš.

**The form is not stated in the title statement:**

When the word "cycle" or phrase "song cycle" or an equivalent is not stated in the title, generally LC adds a note to that effect and a corresponding subject heading.

84-760395
245 10 Five lyrics of Louise Bogan : for mezzo-soprano and flute / Warren Benson.
500 Song cycle.

92-753987
245 14 The Auden poems : for voice, violin, cello, and piano / Ned Rorem.
500 Song cycle.

92-753900
245 10 Between two worlds / [words by] Robert Bly and Jacob Boehme ; [music by] John Harbison.
500 Song cycle for soprano, 2 violoncellos, and 2 pianos.

97-701931
245 10 Afschied van een landschap : voor stem en (bas-)klarinet (1994) / Alex Manassen.
500 Song cycle for high voice and piano.

When the title a publisher has given to a collection of songs by one composer implies or states that it is a song cycle and it was not the intent of the composer for the songs to form a song cycle, do not use the subject heading "Song cycles."

93-722531
100 1 Rooth, Anna-Greta, 1901-1993.
240 10 Songs. Selections
245 10 4 sånger till dikter av Gabriela Mistral : röst och piano / Anna-Greta Rooth ; [tolkning, Hjalmar Gullberg].
650 0 Songs (Medium voice) with piano.

**Vocal Ranges**

[Music Cataloging at Yale](https://libguides.library.yale.edu/music) ? [General music cataloging resources](https://web.library.yale.edu)

**Vocal Ranges according to *The New Harvard Dictionary of Music***

**Definitions for use in music cataloging**

RDA does not define the ranges of vocal types. General practice is to follow the instructions given in the Subject Cataloging Manual: Subject Headings section H 1917.5: Base vocal range on the verbal indication on the item. If no vocal range is indicated, use the ranges specified in the New Harvard Dictionary of Music:
These ranges correspond to the following:

**High voice**
- Soprano: C4-A5
- Tenor: B2-G4

**Medium voice**
- Mezzo soprano: A3-F5
- Baritone: G2-E4

**Low voice**
- Alto: F3-D5
- Bass: E2-C4

*Note: these definitions, from the New Harvard Dictionary of Music, are used in music cataloging, using the Library of Congress Subject Headings [345] and RDA [346].*

Vocal ranges for solo or choral works may differ, as evidenced from the different ranges found in other sources. For example, see:
- The Wikipedia article on [vocal range][347], which gives different ranges for operatic works and choral works.
- Catherine Schmidt-Jones’ [article][348] and [chart][349].
- Grove Music Online definitions:
  - soprano: C4 to A5
  - mezzo-soprano: A3 to F#5
  - alto: G3 to E5 (and contralto as F3-D5)
  - tenor: roughly C3 to A4
  - baritone: A2 to F4
  - bass: F2 to E4

**Octave designation:** The International Standards Organization (ISO) system for register designations assigns "C4" to middle C (the first ledger line below the staff in treble clef). A commonly found British standard assigns "c1" to middle C.

### Octave designations

**International Standards Organization (ISO) system:**

- C1
- C2
- C3
- C4
- C5
- C6
- C7

**British system:**

- C2
- C1
- c
- c1
- c2
- c3
- c4

---

**When is a "flute" not a flute?**
The flute produces its sound from the flow of air across an opening. Modern flutes are usually made of metal and have keys that are depressed over the tone holes. Previously, the flute was called traverse flute (indicating how it was held), or included that word in other languages, e.g., traversa, traverso, etc.

The recorder has a fipple or whistle mouth piece, with a thumb hole and seven finger holes, rarely with keys. The recorder played an important role in the Renaissance and Baroque eras, and was revived in the 20th century. The use of the English word “recorder” (thought to be derived from the Latin recordari) dates back the 14th century. In other languages, the name for the recorder includes a cognate of the word “flute,” e.g., flûte, Flöte, flauto, or flauta, etc., which may make for confusion over which instrument is meant. Some of the names for recorder in French, German, Italian, and Spanish are:

- French: flûte douce, flûte à bec
- German: Blockflöte
- Italian: flauto dolce, flauto a becco, flauto diritto
- Spanish: flauta dulce, flauta de pico

David Lasocki, former music librarian and scholar in the field of historical woodwind playing, created this guide to pre-19th century English and French music publications. The chart indicates whether the word “flute” or its foreign language equivalent actually means “recorder” or “flute.”

### When is a "flute" not a flute

by David Lasocki, Indiana University

provisional version from 1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Recorder</th>
<th>Flute</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>England</td>
<td>France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1390-1673</td>
<td>recorder</td>
<td>flûte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>flûte douce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>flûte d'Angleterre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>flûte à neuf trous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1673-1700</td>
<td>flute</td>
<td>flûte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>flûte douce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>flûte à bec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1700-1750</td>
<td>flute</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>English flute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>common flute</td>
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<td></td>
<td>flauto</td>
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<tr>
<td>1750-1800</td>
<td>flute</td>
<td>German flute</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>flute d'Allemagne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>traversa</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>flauto traverso</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>German flute</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>flute</td>
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</table>

Source URL: https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/general-music-cataloging-resources

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