Recording numeric designation for musical works (RDA 6.16)

Use in conjunction with Best practices for music cataloging [3] and MARC 383 [4].
The numeric designation of a musical work is a serial number, opus number, or thematic index number assigned to
a musical work by a composer, publisher, or a musicologist.

(6.16.1.2) Sources of information
Take information on numeric designations of musical works from any source.

(6.16.1.3) Recording numeric designations
Record as many of the following numeric designations of musical works as can readily be ascertained. Use the
following abbreviations found in appendix B.5.4:
° number, in any language: n., no, no., Nr.
° opus: opus

Use inclusive numbering for an aggregate work that is identified by consecutive serial numbers or thematic index
numbers in music reference sources and/or thematic indexes [5].

Record numeric designations of musical works as separate elements, as parts of access points, or as both. For
instructions on recording a numeric designation of a musical work as part of the authorized access point, see
6.28.1.9 [6]-6.28.1.10 [7].

Best practices for music cataloging [3]: If giving numeric designation as a component of an access point,
routinely also give that numeric designation in 383 [4] field. For all works, give all numeric designations that are

(6.16.1.3.1) Serial number
For works with the same title and same medium of performance are consecutively numbered in music reference
sources different works in a consecutively numbered series have different forms of numeric designation, or different
words introducing the number
and the different forms or words are in the same sources from which the numeric designations for the individual works
are taken

LC-PCC PS: For a serial number that is accompanied in the source by a term such as "number," "book,
"collection," etc., apply the following:

Term: the term is the English word "number" or its abbreviation, or an equivalent word or abbreviation in another
language:
the term is a non-English term not meaning "number" and substitute the English equivalent of the term and use an
the preferred title is in English:

In all other cases:
If no term appears with the number: the number as a cardinal number and precede it by the
English abbreviation "no."
° use Arabic numerals

(6.16.1.3.2) Opus number
Record the opus number, if any, and the number within the opus, if any.

° Best practices for music cataloging [9]: use "op.", "no.", and Arabic numerals
If there is a conflict in opus numbering among works of the same title and medium
or
If the overall opus numbering of a composer's works is confused and conflicting
Add to the opus number the name of the publisher originally using the number chosen.
  ° add the publisher's name in parentheses

(6.16.1.3.3) Thematic index number
In the case of certain composers, record the number assigned to a work in a recognized thematic index [5].
Precede the number by.
  ° the initial letter or letters of the musicologist's name (e.g., K. 453)
  or
  ° a generally accepted abbreviation (e.g., BWV 232).

WoO (Werke ohne Opus) numbers should also be taken from a recognized thematic index.

LC-PCC PS: A bibliography of thematic indexes used in the Library of Congress/NACO Authority File [10]
See also Work numbers for composers [11]
Best practices for music cataloging [12]: Follow LC-PCC PS. Note that there is no restriction on thematic index numbers that may be used in variant access points or 383 [4] fields.

Source URL: https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/numbers

Links
[1] http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music
[7] http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/accpointsadd#6.28.1.10