

## Searching for music in the Library Catalogue

This guide gives extra help and advice for those wishing to find music scores and recordings in the Library's collections.

The skills and methods used are the same as those you need to search for books. If you find this difficult, use the guide '**Introduction to the Library Catalogue**'. But this guide has purpose-made tips for musicians.

- **Music special:** points out something especially useful for finding music items.

### BASIC SEARCH

To find the Library's holdings of a musical work, use the search **Any (field)** which covers keywords from all parts of the catalogue record. It is the first search which the catalogue offers you.

Type in the author/composer's last name and a word from the title of the work, then click the *Go* button or press *Return/Enter*. Capital letters and punctuation can be ignored, but spelling is crucial, so check it if necessary. Try

**verdi requiem**  
**davis blue**

The *Results* screen will display all the library records which contain your search words, showing them in a numbered list. This screen also includes classification number, location (most music is at Cambridge, but Chelmsford also has some) and collection (Book, Score, CD etc.)

Click on the title of an item to check availability and number of copies and the length of time they may be borrowed (most recordings are 7 day loans, books 3 weeks and scores 70 days). There is also a *Full view* button giving the complete catalogue record for the item. When you have looked at the details of one item, go back to *Results List* and try another, noting similarities and differences.

**For practice:** You are studying Haydn's oratorio 'Creation'. Does the Library have a miniature score, a vocal score, a recording, and a book about the work ?

- **Music special: use NUMBERS**

There are not many books called *Persuasion* or films called *Stagecoach*, but there are a great many pieces of music called *Symphony*, *Cantata* or *Quartet*, and you may well be looking for just one of them.

If you want to find a particular Haydn symphony, for example, the words

**haydn symphony**

will give you a list of 127 records to look through. To save time, try

**haydn symphony 103**

**For practice:** Your class of 20 students is studying Bach's Cantata 140. Does the Library have a set of miniature scores for class study? Does it have a set of vocal scores your choir could use in a concert?

## **SUBJECT SEARCH**

To find out the Library's holdings of a particular type of music, you can search using subject keywords. You may choose to stay in the **Any (field)** search, or specify **Subject** from the drop-down menu. Use one or more keywords to obtain a numbered list from which to choose items, e.g.

**flute music**  
**flute duets**  
**bassoon music**  
**piano tutors**

**N.B.** If you are unsure whether a keyword should be singular or plural, then remember that you can use the asterisk to search for both at the same time. Typing **quartet\*** will find both **quartet** and **quartets**.

**For practice:** You are looking for a clarinet quintet to play with friends. How much choice does the Library have?

(You will need to look at the *Full View* of a record to see whether the item is a single score or a set of parts.)

- **Music special: find COMPOSERS**

The subject search

**flute music**

finds 348 items. If you want to find flute music by Mozart, repeat the search in **Any (field)** including his name.

**flute music Mozart**

For shorter lists, you can click on the word *Author* at the head of the *Author* column to arrange results in alphabetical order of composer, then scan down the list

**For practice:** You want to practise Liszt's piano studies. Are they in the Library?

## **RECORDINGS**

The format of a recording – **compact disc, audiotape** or **lp** – is searchable as a subject keyword. So you can do a search for

**beatles compact disc (or cd)**  
**wagner lp**

**For practice:** Does the Library have any CDs or LPs of Duke Ellington?

- **Music special: find ARTISTES**

For recordings, the catalogue lists the composer as author, but the principal performer(s) are also included as added entries, so they can be found by the **Any (field)** search. You can see whether we have any recordings of Wagner conducted by Sir Georg Solti by doing a search for

## wagner solti

**For practice:** Can you find recordings in the Library of Schubert's 'Winterreise' to compare Peter Pears's interpretation to that of Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau?

### • Music special: the ROMAN NUMERALS

We classify recordings and scores into five main types, using Roman numerals:

I	Orchestral
II	Chamber
III	Solo
IV	Choral/vocal
V	Staged (Operas and ballets)

Where a composer has a large and varied range of works in the library, the numerals give them a consistent pattern, so that, for example, all Beethoven's chamber music scores are kept together at 780 BEE(II) and are not scattered among the orchestral works.

**For practice:** Miniature (study) scores are shelved at 780. At what number would you expect to find scores of Mozart's symphonies? Bartok's string quartets? Stravinsky's ballets? See whether you are right.

### WIDE OR NARROW SEARCHES?

You can do a simple search, casting the net wide, and have a large number of catalogue records to examine: you may waste time going through irrelevant material.

You can refine and combine your search words to narrow their range, and have fewer records to examine; but narrow it too much and you may miss relevant material.

Practice and experience will soon show you the best way of finding what you need.

### • Music special: check the FORMAT

One musical work may be in the Library in several different forms. To see the possibilities, do the search **mozart figaro** and look at the 28 catalogue items found. You will find the Mozart opera, The Marriage of Figaro, in the form of:

- compact disc
- DVD
- videotape
- books about the opera
- scores

Among the scores, you may need to check the *Full View* of an item to see if it is a:

- full score
- vocal score
- miniature score
- set of orchestral parts
- libretto (book of words, but kept in scores collection)

Before you go to the shelf to find something, make sure from its catalogue record that it really is the item you want.

## **CLASSIFICATION (A rough guide to Dewey for music)**

You don't need to understand the numbers to find music items successfully, but if you sometimes wonder why scores are arranged in this particular order, here is an outline of the classification system:

780	Scores for study (miniature) or performance (full)
780.7	Teaching materials
781	Jazz and improvisation
781.65	Jazz (sets of parts)
782	Music for voices
.1	Operas
.2	Bigger choral works
.5	Smaller choral works (chamber choir)
	Collections of small works (madrigals, carols etc.)
783.2	Music for solo voice (songs)
784	Orchestral music (sets of parts)
785	Chamber music (sets of parts for small groups)
786	Keyboard and percussion solo music
787	Strings solo music
788	Wind & brass solo music
789	Composers' collected works (study scores)