TEI for Indexing a 19th-c. Handwritten Music Inventory

Laurent Pugin



Répertoire International des Sources Musicales Schweiz - Suisse - Svizzera - Switzerland



1 - Manuscript

- The Benedictine abbey of Einsiedeln in Switzerland holds an uncommon handwritten music inventory, the Kapellmeisterbuch, in which each piece of music performed at the abbey on Sundays and other feasts between 1813 and 1852, and fragmentary from 1805 to 1884, were registered by the Kapellmeister.
- o The traditional repertoire comprised monastic composers from Einsiedeln itself (e.g., Markus Zech and Marianus Landwing), and music from Northern Italy Milanese composers as Fioroni, Sammartini, Galimberti are listed, while ,Bach' means primarily Johann Christian, also known as the ,Milanese'.
- During the years in which the Kapellmeisterbuch was compiled, we can see that the collection of music
 was greatly enlarged. Many composers from Southern Germany or Austria came for the first time into the
 repertoire, through purchases from closed monasteries, music trade, or loans.
- The book, which contains about 350 pages, is an extremely valuable resource for musicologists for the study of musical life in the 19th century in Switzerland.
- The project is a collaboration between the Musicology Department of the University of Fribourg (Prof. Luca Zoppelli, together with Claudio Bacciagaluppi and Luigi Collarile) and the Swiss RISM Office.





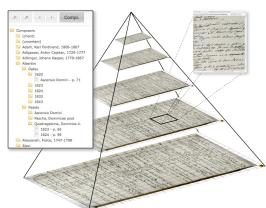
Page no. 15 with events listed chronologically

Page no. 55 with events listed in a table (one year per column)

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TEI transcription for the beginning of page no. 15 and resulting representation

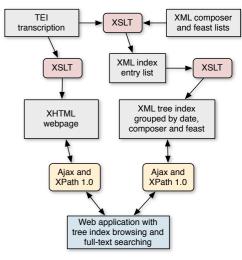


Tree indexes and pyramid TIFF images loaded asynchronously



3 — Web application

- The web interface is a simple javascript application in jQuery which integrates a browsing and searching panel together with the original images and the transcription.
- The server back-end is very light, with Apache 2 with mod_transform and PHP 5 providing XPath 1.0 support.
- Because it is a handwritten manuscript which it might be difficult to read, having high-resolution images of the manuscript together with the transcription was a key requirement of the project.
- The image viewer in ExtJS connects to an IIPImage server for pyramid TIFF images, which enables the entire manuscript (approx. 6 GB) to be displayed continuously at high-resolution.
- The indexes are loaded asynchronously, and selecting an entry scrolls to the original image, loads the transcription page, and highlights the corresponding paragraph or table cell.
- The user has the possibility to display or to hide the completions of the transcription.



Transformation flow

2 - Transcription and transformation

- The goal of the project was twofold, namely 1) provide the scholar with a searchable diplomatic transcription of the manuscript, and 2) create a tool for browsing the events listed in order to see easily which composer was played, in what year and for what feast, for example.
- One important challenge for the diplomatic transcription was the unnumbered abbreviations used throughout the manuscript that had to be completed to make that transcription more meaningful for the reader.
- In the manuscript, all the events are listed either chronologically or in tables with one year per column.
- For indexing the events, <name> elements with an @key referring to numbers from a list of composers and feasts maintained separately were inserted in each paragraph or table cell corresponding to that event
- Different XSL transformations performed statically enable an XHTML web page as well as a tree structured index - by composer, by feast and by year - to be obtained.

