

From the ground to top floor: Music Library History Exhibition

Opened in 1982, the Music Library is one of the branches of the University Libraries providing the primary repository of musical materials at HKU. The Music Library has been set up along with the establishment of the Department of Music. This year the Library is celebrating the 30th anniversary together with the Department of Music.

Music can be regarded as a leisure activity if one is playing the piano for a personal interest. It can also provide much stimulus when one is listening to some Anita Mui or Madonna's albums. With music as one of the academic studies at the University, music scholars pursue intellectual approaches and exercise their critical minds to fathom at great depths in the discipline. Dr. Rayson Huang, then Vice-Chancellor and a violinist, saw the significance of building up music collections in support of the curriculum and research needs of music in higher education. His vision to music at HKU has become a notable treasure in the Music Library.

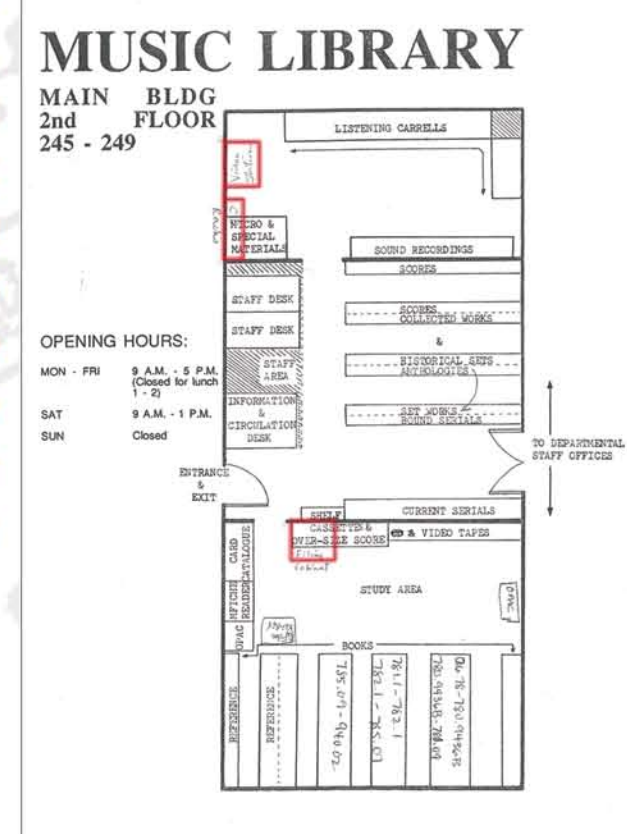
The Music Library started with two rooms in the Main Building. Over the years, the growth of collection size and usage in the Music Library has been remarkable in order to meet the rapid expansion of Department of Music and the HKU community. In August 2012, the Music Library moved to the top floor of Run Run Shaw Tower. This exhibition aims to share with you the musical journey from ground floor to top floor. In this journey, you will witness the transformation of the Library's physical layouts and gain an overview of the collections and salient events illustrating the challenges and assiduous efforts that the generations of Music Librarians and support staff have experienced and asserting the Library's commitment in meeting the needs of its users.

Locations

1982 - November 1996

MB 245-249

The Department of Music and the Music Library were first located in the Main Building 245-249, the second floor of the Main Building. Once moved in, insufficient space was found immediately as 26 square meters could not house stacks of scores, journals and audio-visual materials, as well as listening carrels, study tables, card catalogue drawers. In the late 1980s, MB 249 was made to the Music Library space, which was a music seminar room originally. The addition space enabled music books located in the Main Library could be moved to the Music Library. The uniting of the music collections for the first time since the Music Library was established.



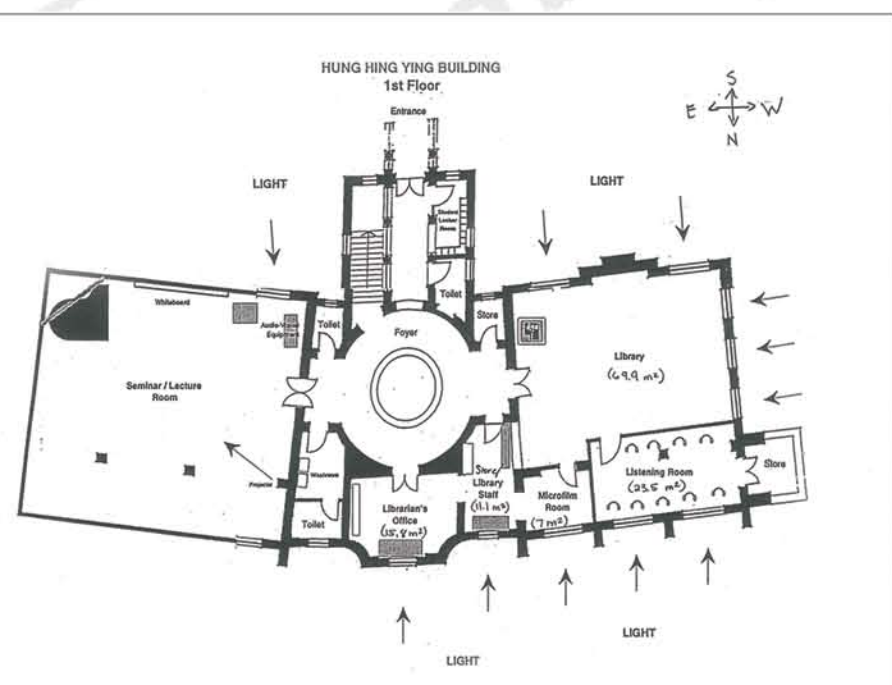
The first look



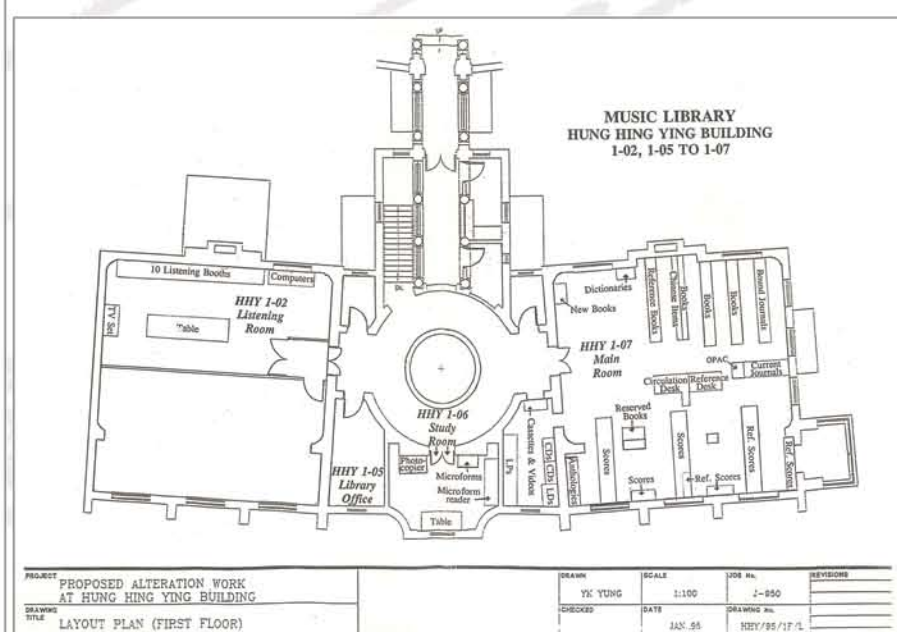
December 1996 - July 1999

1-02, 1-05 to 1-07 Hung Hing Ying Building

The Music Department planned to move in the Hung Hing Ying Building in mid-1995. The Music Library would move with the Department. The Hung Hing Ying is a listed building opened in 1919. The University Librarian and the Head of the Music Department requested that the Music Library would be located on the west side of the building, which was the Senior Common Room. On 27th December 1997, the Music Library moved in. The new space was 175 square meters, nearly twice the size of the previous location in MB 245-249. As it was not planned for being a library, the inter designs and settings were different from other libraries. It consisted of five rooms which were not combined into a single space for structural reasons.



When it was the Senior Common Room



Later it became the Music Library



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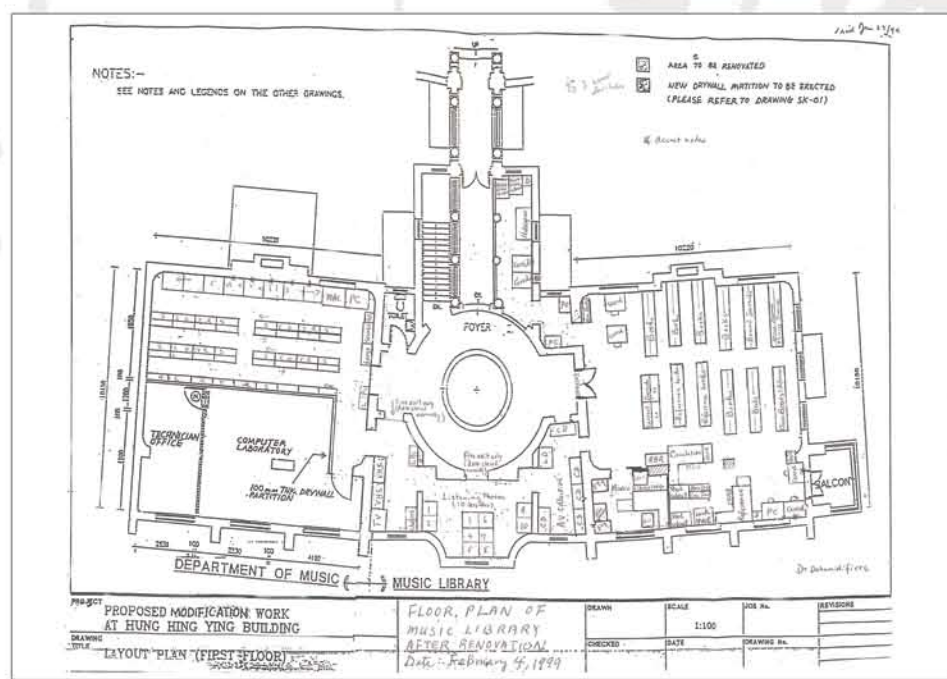


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August 1999 - July 2012

1st floor Hung Hing Ying Building

A few years later, an additional 100 square feet of space (from the former Information Bureau and washrooms) facilitated the rearrangement of the entire collection. The four separate rooms were interconnected. Users no longer had to sign out library materials to go to the Photocopier Room to make photocopies. They also no longer needed to obtain a card key to enter the locked Listening Room to use the audio-visual equipment, search the online catalogue or use the study carrels. Then, the Music Library had print materials in one room and a score room. The audio-visual collection was placed on open access for the greater convenience of users. Additional OPAC terminals and ACENet nodes were installed. The Computer Laboratory & Technician Office was managed by the Department of Music.

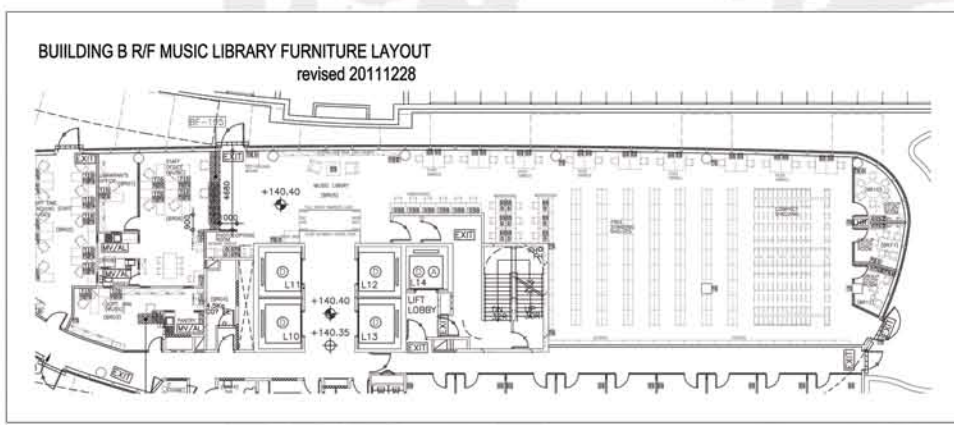


The entire project was meticulously planned

August 2012 -

11th floor Run Run Shaw Tower

In the light of the new four-year curriculum, a Centennial Campus, adjoining the existing Main Campus to the west, was developed in the past five years. The Music Library was an integral part of the relocation of the Faculty of Arts. In August 2012, the Music Library moved in the new faculty complexes with a larger space provision. Today, the library locates at a rooftop garden, which appears like an open and transparent place from the sky. The new location has provided an extraordinary place for study, group discussion, wonder and more.



Before & After



Main entrance

Multimedia Collection



Centennial Campus under construction
July 2009, March 2010



Discussion Rooms
A Victoria harbour view



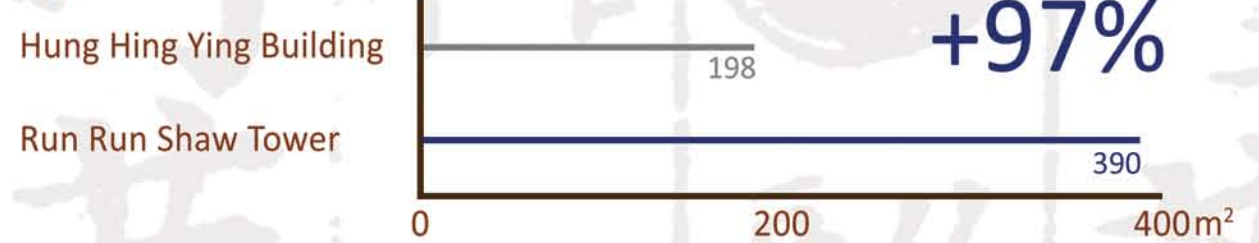
Daily Life

Moving Snapshots (August 1-3, 2012)

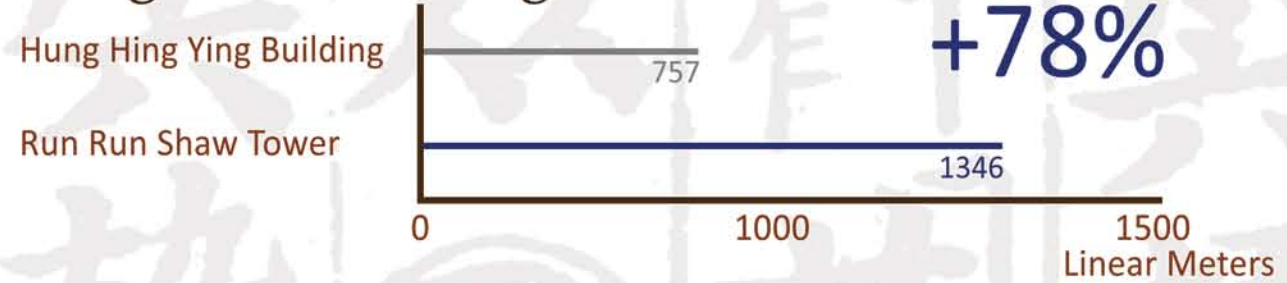


Facts & Figures

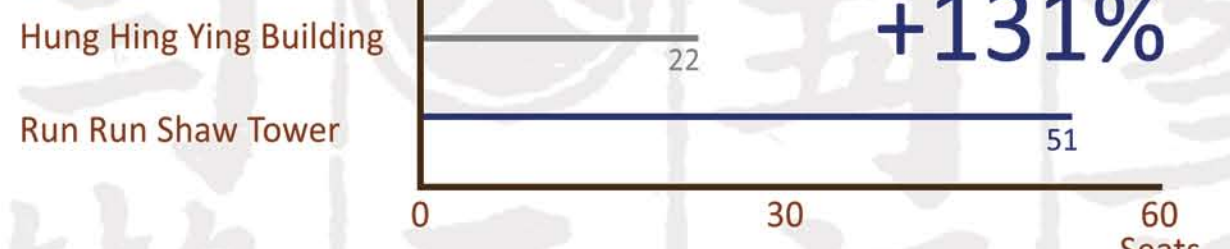
Space



Length of shelving



Seat



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Significant events

- 1981
Planning for a Music Library when Department of Music would commence the beginning of the academic year 1982-83.
- 1982
Opened in the Main Building.
- 1993
From a manual circulation system to a computerized system, the DRA Circulation Module was implemented. The connection of the Music Library's PC to the Main Library network was made.
- 1994
Acquired the first public access CD-ROM drive, together with a subscription to MUSE, a music index on CD-ROM.
- 1996
The migration to Innopac, a new integrated library system, was successfully completed. The Main, Fung Ping Shaw, Law and Music Libraries were recabled from Ethernet to Fast Ethernet yielding a much improved speed of 100mbs/sec.
- 1999
With the introduction of the credit-based system, many students from other departments have selected subjects offered by the Department of Music, resulting in a dramatic 200% increased in the number of students taking music as general education courses.

Received donation of Cantonese opera materials from the Kwan Fong Charitable Foundation Ltd including LPs, CDs, opera scripts and opera scores.

A Chopin exhibition was held to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the death of Chopin.
- 2000
Received a donation of over 6,000 items of books, scores, multimedia materials, archival materials from Professor Liu Ching-chih.
- 2001
The Music Library and the Department of Music jointly organized an exhibition on New Music from Around the World held in the Main Library Lobby.

- 2002
To acknowledge the donation of Doming Lam, the Library and Department of Music co-organized a Doming Lam Manuscripts Collection turnover ceremony, a mini-concert performing his representative works and a Doming Lam and His Works Exhibition.

Li Yundi & the Frederic Chopin International Piano Competition Exhibition was presented in the Main Library Lobby.

- 2004
An exhibition of 20th Century Scores was held.
- 2005
The C.C. Liu Collection Turnover and New Book Launching Ceremony was held in collaboration with the Department of Music.
- 2011
The entire collection was tagged with RFID technology to enable self-service check-ins and check-outs. With the launch of self-check kiosks, date due slips and stamps were gone.
- 2012
Moved in Run Run Shaw Tower, Centennial Campus.

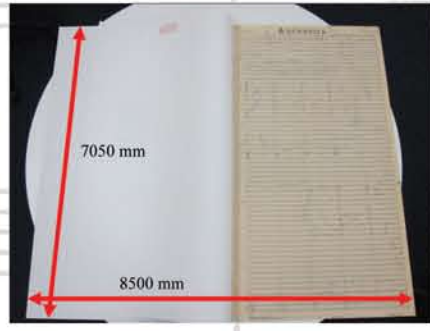
(喜儿唱)

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Scores

Scores Collection is the primary material for the study of music. Various editions and sizes of printed scores reflect different views of performance practice. For instance, facsimile editions provide the original views of composers' works by replicating size, colour and binding. These are useful reference tools for study when users might not have access to original versions.

The largest score in the Music Library is a facsimile edition of *Iannis Xenakis (1922-2001) Anemoessa* (for mixed choir and orchestra, 1979)



The shelf arrangement of Western regular scores is first by the alphabetical order of the composer's last name, then by call number within the same composer. It brings all the works of the same composer together. Anthologies, collections of pieces in similar topics, are arranged by call number only. These arrangements were a collective decision involved Music Faculty, Library Catalogers and Music Librarians.



The Department of Music regularly offers Chinese music courses. East Asian Scores, like Chinese opera and instrumental music are added on an ongoing basis.



Revolutionary model operas scores: these repertoires were popular during the Cultural Revolution (1966-76)

Different kinds of binding have been used to balance the ease of use and long-term preservation, as well as to best suit scores' individual formats.

Paperback Reinforcement

Most of the miniature study scores' front and back covers are reinforced by boards. It is a more durable binding for low use ephemeral collections.



Slipcase

The individual scores are held together between a custom folder and inserted into the five-sided box with open front or "slipcase".

Pamphlet Stitch

By sewing through the center of folded signatures, this type of binding allows a score to lay flat when open.



Pamphlet Binding

To facilitate the use of a score with parts, it has a clear-front pamphlet binder with a pocket at the back cover. Thus, individual copies of part(s) can be inserted.



Acknowledgements

HKU Archive
Preservation and Conservation, HKUL
Administrative Services Division, HKUL



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Collections & Facilities

Western and East Asian Collections

Notable strengths of the Collections feature various music areas ranging from classical music to Canto-pop music, as well as East Asian music and the world music in English and East Asian languages. Books and journals include writings in historical musicology, music theory, composition and ethnomusicology. Core reference materials were selected. With the advent technology, the Library has also offered electronic resources and databases in streaming audio/video on the web. The Library received generous and valuable donations over years.



1996 • *Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart (MGG)*, a 17-volume authoritative music encyclopedia in musicology.

1999 • Western composers' complete works began to be developed in support of research needs.

In 1999, a project was conducted to replace vinyl long-play records with CDs involving approximately 250 titles.

2000 • The Music Library placed subscriptions to the web version of two important indexes and abstracts -- *RILM Abstracts of Music Literature and International Index to Music Periodicals Full Text*.

2001 • *The New Grove Dictionary of Music & Musicians*, 2nd Edition, a 29-volume reference work, the most authoritative and comprehensive reference materials for musicologists.

Subscriptions were made to core electronic databases including *The New Grove Dictionary of Music & Musicians (via Oxford Music Online)* and *Music Index Online*.



Another significant web resource was added. *Music Index Online*, an important index for music researchers, went live.

2004 • *Naxos Music Library* audio streaming on the web was available.



2011 • Began a project to enhance the DVDs of operas featuring 38 Western composers' works.

2012 • The Department of Music offered a course Film Music. The Library began to acquire movie sound tracks and films from the Criterion Collection.

Staffing

Music Librarians

- Mrs. Josephine Hung
January 1983 - July 1984
- Mrs. Gayle Chan
September 1984 - July 1991
- Mrs. Jennifer Nason Davis
June 1992 - August 1998
- Ms. Irene Shieh
Acting from June to August 1997
- Ms. Irene Fung
Acting from 21 August to 13 September 1997
- Mrs. Helen Woo
October 1998 - September 2005
- Ms. Lucinda Wong
October 2005 - September 2008
- Ms. Amanda Harizan
October 2008 - August 2010
- Ms. Lucinda Wong
Acting from September 2010 to December 2011
- Ms. Kwan Yin Yee
January 2012 -

竖琴

唱腔
Qiang

小提琴

第二小提琴

中提琴

大提琴

低音提琴

LPs, VHS & Cassette tapes



Multimedia Collection

CDs, DVDs & Blu-ray discs



The Multimedia Collection includes the latest audio-visual formats and technology at the time. Time is flying; those once were most advanced models that have become obsolete formats.

A 2-in-1 model, turntable & cassette tape player (1990s)



Multimedia Equipment

A 2-in-1 model, VHS & DVD (2000s)



A Blu-ray player (2012)

A midi-disk player (1998)



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