

Documenting the Legacy of Mitrofan Petrovich Belyayev

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Goal/Purpose

The goal of the project is to create a previously unavailable bibliography of the output of music publisher Mitrofan Petrovich Belyayev (1836-1904) and scholarly paper in congruence with the project and present my work at the world convention of the International Association of Music Libraries in Naples, Italy in July 2008.

Importance of Project

This project is important for several reasons. First of all, it is an effort to preserve the legacy of a very important music publisher. Many of Russia's most famous composers had their works published under his label. In the special collections division of the Music and Dance Library we have rare access to many of Belyayev's original publications. As I seek to compile and make available a bibliography of the available documents here at BYU and at other institutions, the work and legacy of this important figure in Russian music history will not be forgotten. As the culminating event of this project I will be presenting my work in Naples, Italy for the International Association of Music Libraries convention. This will provide a unique opportunity to expose BYU's music library to the academic world and will promote the university and our unique and exceptional resources to a global audience.

Main Proposal Body

The Music and Dance Library found within the Harold B. Lee Library has treasure trove of rare documents and items which are found in its special collections division. These items are unique to BYU and we are lucky to have them in our possession in our own library. Recently I have been searching for and finding original rare music scores published by M.P. Belyayev, an important figure in the publication of Russian music in the late-19th and early-20th centuries. These scores stand as literal time capsules from this important era in the history of music. In my work with these scores, I have begun to compile a bibliography of Belyayev's output and explore the legacy of this particular publisher. In this process, I have also focused my research on the publisher's promotion of Russian composers and technical examination of the scores' plate numbers and dating.

In recognition of my work, I have been invited to be a presenter at the 2008 world convention of the International Association of Music Libraries to be held in Naples, Italy. At this convention I will be a featured presenter and will present my bibliography and a scholarly paper which explores my findings and the legacy of M.P. Belyayev. This conference will be attended by world-renowned scholars and librarians from around the globe. As an undergraduate student, this is indeed a great honor and rare opportunity and will inevitably act as a springboard for my professional future. It will also give me the opportunity to introduce a multitude of acknowledged and respected figures in the field of musicology and music libraries to the incredible resources and archives which are housed in the BYU library, thus helping to further BYU's already sterling reputation among the academic world. After the presentation of my work in Italy, I will seek publication of my work in a scholarly journal.

An ORCA grant would allow me the opportunity to travel to Italy and present my work to a worldwide audience, thus providing me with the incomparable chance to become established in the academic world while still a student and also promote Brigham Young University as an institution of scholarly excellence.

Anticipated Academic Outcome

The anticipated academic outcome will be a presentation of my work for scholars, academics, and librarians at the 2008 world convention of the International Association of Music Libraries in Naples, Italy. This will be followed most likely by a publication in a scholarly music journal.

Qualifications

I have had extensive experience working with the special collections of the Music and Dance Library under the guidance of Dr. David Day and am adept in the field of musicology and music research. I am also fluent in the Russian language, the primary language of the large majority of the materials with which I am and will continue to be working. Dr. Day is actively involved with the International Association of Music Libraries and is the ideal mentor for my project as I prepare to present my work at the IAML's convention in Italy.

Project Timetable

My work in compiling my bibliography and scholarly paper will be accomplished in time for the presentation of my work in Italy, which will be held in July 2008. Work on the compilation has already begun and will continue midway

through winter semester, after which the remaining time will be spent preparing the scholarly paper and presentation for the convention.

Scholarly Sources

I am working mainly with original primary sources from the output of the publisher from the late-19th and early-20th centuries, found mainly, but not exclusively, in the Verdak and Thurston Collections of the Music Special Collections division of the Harold B. Lee Library.

Additional information which will aid me in my research of M.P. Belyayev can be found in the following sources:
Krummel, D.W. and Stanley Sadie. Music Printing and Publishing. New York: W.W. Norton & Company, 1990.
Montagu, Nathan. "Belaiev: Maecenas of Russian Music." MQ 1918: 450.