The Organological Archive – a scientific and research institute at the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice

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ABSTRACT

The article presents a scientific and research institute at the Academy of Music in Katowice, which aims at collecting, compiling and making available materials concerning Silesian organs and organ music in Silesia. The text presents the genesis of the institute along with the context of its establishment, the scope of its activities and the actions it undertakes. In the following section, the system of the gathered collections are presented with a brief discussion. The article also addresses the issue of the acquisition of collections by the Archive, pointing to the collections of the founder, the archive materials acquired through cooperation with the Church and the collections donated by private individuals. In conclusion, the significance of the institution for the study of organs and organ music, its current functioning and prospects are presented.

Documenting the scientific and cultural achievements of a region, country or institution is a process that aims to create a database for scientific reflection on the phenomena of culture and social life. Institutions have been established to carry out this task, collecting, storing and then compiling and making available the legacy of past generations. These are primarily archives that collect materials such as fonds, documents, publications, collections of artistic and scientific output. The similar function is fulfilled by museums that collect products of human activity.

Documenting the artistic output, including musical life, allows us to determine the cultural potential of certain community or region and helps to define their identity.

In the area of documentation of musical culture in Silesia a special role is played by three institutions operating at the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice.

The first of these, the Archive of Silesian Musical Culture, has been established in 1968 by Karol Musioł, PhD, then Vice-Rector of the Academy and Director of the Main

Library. His activity is focused on collecting evidence of work and development of music in Silesia such as manuscripts, music prints, documents of musical life and sound materials (www1).

The second institution, the Silesian Organ Museum was established in 2004 by Professor Julian Gembalski. It collects such objects as antique organs and their parts-pipes, windchests, consoles. These objects were acquired as part of research work and they are now used for museum purposes but also for scientific and research purposes (www2). The third institution is the Organological Archive, which commenced its activity in 2012.

1. Establishment of the Organological Archive

The Organological Archive was created as a project of the Organ and Church Music Department of the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice within the National Programme for the Development of the Humanities financed by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the time. The insufficient state of research in the post-war history of Poland, resulting in the neglect of organ building and organ music as a research area, was the impulse to establish the Archive. This situation, discussed in details in the explanatory memorandum to the project, resulted in a lack of legal protection for the instruments and a lack of care for the archival collections. Therefore, it has been pointed out that it is necessary to establish an institution which will collect and compile archival materials connected with Silesian organs, such as source materials, iconography and records of instruments. Another area to be undertaken is the current documentation of organ building activities in the region, connected with the construction of new instruments, but also with the work undertaken on historic instruments. Documenting the musical life associated with organ music, i.e. concerts, festivals and other events concerning organ and organological issues, was considered an equally important area. The Archive's holdings are intended to become a source base of archival materials for research on issues related to organs and organ music. This is also how the main goal of the project was defined as: creating, compiling and then making available to researchers a broad database on organs and organ music in Silesia (Akademia Muzyczna im. Karola Szymanowskiego w Katowicach 2011a).

After the project received a positive opinion from experts and successfully passed formal verification, the Archive began its operations.

In the first years, the Archive staff conducted site and instrumentological investigation concerning selected Silesian instruments, created an organ register, photographic documentation and documentation of the activity of Silesian organ builders. Digitalization of collections and registration of museum pieces in the exhibition of the Silesian Organ Museum was started. The work on the project culminated in the conference "Organy na

Śląsku V" (Organs in Silesia No. 5) which resulted in the production of the next volume of the scientific book *Organy na Śląsku* (J. Gembalski 2014) and the publication of a photo album *Muzeum Organów Śląskich* (J. Gembalski 2013) presenting the range of the institution's activities and some of the exhibits (Akademia Muzyczna im. Karola Szymanowskiego w Katowicach 2013b).

During almost 10 years of its existence, the Archive has also accumulated archives on organ-related subjects, including church music, estimated at 10,000 archival units (including 6000 catalogued ones).

The archives include categories as follows:

- documents concerning organs in Silesia in the form of fonds related to the organs of Silesian parishes and institutions, as well as documentation of contemporary instruments;
- iconography concerning the Silesian and Polish organs in the form of photographs, design drawings, as well as calendars and postcards;
- documentation of the activity of Silesian organ builders and those from outside the region but operating in Silesia;
- documents of musical life connected with the organ, both in Silesia and other regions of Poland;
- church music collections sheet music;
- bibliographic collection books, publications, works, organ magazines and magazines devoted to liturgical music, articles and press clippings;
- varia.

2. Collection catalogue system

2.1. Documents of musical life

The most numerous category in the collection, estimated at over 2200 archival units, are documents of musical life related to organ music, such as programmes, posters, folders and programme booklets. The collected materials document organ concerts organized by parishes and institutions all over the country. They concern both single, occasionally organized concerts, events taking place cyclically and the biggest organ festivals taking place in Silesia and in Poland.

Among many festivals documented in the Archive's collection, one can mention: "Muzyka Organowa w Katedrze", "Jesień Organowa w Powiecie Bieruńsko-Lędzińskim", "Dni Muzyki Organowej w Gliwicach", "Mikołowskie Dni Muzyki" and "Śląski Festiwal Bachowski" while outside of Silesia festivals took place in Kamień Pomorski, Gdańsk-

Oliwa, Frombork, Koszalin, Kraków, Leżajsk, Olkusz, Kluczbork, Legnica, and many other places.

This group of collections also includes documentation of artistic activities of the Organ and Church Music Department of the Katowice Academy, collected at various stages of its structure-starting from the Organ Teaching Group which was active in the 70s and ending with the presently functioning academic unit. These records include posters and programs for concerts, student concerts, final recitals, academic conferences, open lectures, courses, and other events organized by the academy and its staff.

The Archive also collects materials concerning inaugurations and consecrations of new or restored instruments, events related to liturgical music (concerts, courses, lectures), as well as documentation of scientific sessions, symposia and organological conferences.

The above collection is a valuable testament to the activity of Polish, and especially Silesian, organists for over 70 years. The oldest and at the same time the most valuable posters and programmes date back to the 1950s. Some have survived to the present day in single copies. Especially interesting are the programs with autographs and dedications of the late world-class organists.

Documentation of Silesian organs and activities of organ builders

A very important area of the Archive's activity is the collection of documentation of Silesian organs. The materials held by the Archive were obtained mainly from parish archives and refer to over 80 instruments found in the churches of Upper Silesia, Lower Silesia and Opole Silesia. The documents held in the folders, each of them refers to the particular instrument and contain mainly photocopies of archives such as cost estimates, design drawings, correspondence between the parish and the organ builder, protocols of instrument's acceptance, documents concerning later repairs, tunings and renovations. The oldest catalogued documents come from the 19th century and concern instruments located, among others, in churches in Raszczyce (St. Simon and St. Jude Thaddeus Church), Brzeźce (Our Lady of the Scapular Church), Bielszowice (St. Mary Magdalene Church) and Bieruń Stary (St. Bartholomew Church).

The archive also collects documentation of organs built nowadays. Documentations of this type include mainly project materials, technical drawings, scale diagrams, notes and working sketches, extensive correspondence with organ builders and subcontractors, as well as photographic documentation of the construction and installation. Some of the documents concern the musical life of the parish initiated by the construction of the new instrument. These are materials related to the inauguration and consecration of the organ, concert programs, as well as reports and articles from the daily press. The exemplary

REKTORAT PAŃSTWOWEJ WYŻSZEJ SZKOŁY MUZYCZNEJ w KATOWICACH

Aula P.W.S.M. w Katowicach

Niedziela, dnia 14 stycznia 1962 r.

IX. PORANEK MUZYKI ORGANOWEJ

WYKONAWCA

ADAM BRYZEK

Prelekcja: Józef Świder

PROGRAM

- l) J.S. Bach 2 preludia choralowe d-moil nr 60 W.P. "Wir glauben all' an einen Gott Schöpfer..."

 F-dur nr 62 W.P. "Wir glauben all' an einen Gott Vater..."
- 2) Hendrik Andriessen Sonata Da Chiesa (Tema Con Variazioni E Finale)
- 3) Albert De Klerk . . . Preludium i Fuga
- 4) Marius Monnikendam Toccata
- 5) Tadeusz Machl . . . 2 Etiudy

kzg 2 · 2811 - 28, XII. 61 · N-10 - 100 sztuk

Photo 1. Program of Adam Bryzek's concert as a part of "Poranki Muzyki Organowej" (Organ Music Mornings), 14th January 1962, The Organological Archive (OA), 8 Pm



Uznania i najwyższe odznaczenia z wszystkich państw kulturalnych świata.

Photo 2. Estimate for a new Rieger organ for the parish church in Niedobczyce, 1925, OA, 58 dok

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documentation of contemporary instruments concerns, among other things, the organ at St. Spirit Church in Siemianowice Śląskie-Bytków, St. Barbara Church in Bieruń Nowy, Corpus Christi Church in Mysłowice-Ławki, as well as new organs at the Silesian Philharmonic in Katowice and Bolesław Szabelski Hall at the Academy of Music in Katowice.

The documentation of the activity of Silesian organ builders is an effect of one of the most important undertakings of the whole project. It concerns mainly active organ builders, among whom are Olgierd Nowakowski, Marek Urbańczyk, Stanisław Pielczyk, Andrzej Guziak, Henryk Hober, Norbert Kuźnik, Maciej Tomaszewski, and the late Mieczysław Klonowski and Jan Wyleżoł. The Archive collects information in the form of profiles. Beside the basic data concerning the education, previous employment and the career of the organ builder, the main and the most important element is the list of the works carried out on the instruments-repairs, renovations, maintenance, restorations, tunings and also rebuilding and constructing new instruments. These dossiers are completed on an ongoing basis.

The Archive's collection also includes materials concerning the most renowned companies operating in Silesia in the 19th and 20th centuries, such as *Schlag & Söhne*, *Berschdorf*, *Klimosz & Dyrszlag*, *Rieger*, *Biernacki*. In addition to the archival records of the Silesian organs mentioned above, the Archive collects catalogues, advertising materials, offers and design drawings.

2.3. Iconographic collections

Another important field of activity of the Archive is the collection of iconographic materials. These are primarily photographs of instruments taken during site investigation and inventory works. The vast majority of the photographs were taken during the repair, maintenance, restoration, rebuilding or construction of the instrument. The advantage of the collection is the detailed documentation of the process of the works and showing the condition of the organ at different stages of the conservation or renovation process. The photos, apart from the overall picture of an organ, show also individual elements of the instrument, such as the particular Werk, tracker action, console, windchest, bellows, interior pipes, found inscriptions, etc. They show also Silesian organ builders who were working on the instruments (e.g. Marek Moćko, Dominik Kabot, Mieczysław Klonowski and Jan Wyleżoł) and thus they are a supplement of the previously discussed documentation of Silesian organ builders.

Particularly valuable are the photographs depicting instruments that no longer exist, have been rebuilt or have undergone irreversible changes. The examples of such instruments are the organs in Wojska (after dismantling they became incomplete), in Tychy-Urbanowice (destroyed unique set of wooden prospect pipes), in Godów (organ rebuilt and translocated to Wisła-Głębce), as well as the instruments of the *Biernacki* company (Kokoszyce, Bieruń Stary), which were taken apart in recent years.



Photo 3. The no longer existing organ of Wacław Biernacki in the St. Bartholomew church in Bieruń Stary, 2003, OA, 123 F. Photographer: J. Gembalsk

CHORAL,

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dostateczny zbiór melodyj do przeszło 700 pieśni katolickich w języku polskim.

Ulożony na eztery glosy do grania na organach i śpiewania

pro

Józefa Nachbar,

Marchaer,

Photo 4. Józef Nachbar, Chorał: czyli dostateczny zbiór melodyj do przeszło 700 pieśni katolickich w języku polskim (Chorale: a sufficient collection of tunes for over 700 Catholic songs in the Polish language), 1956, OA, 1 N

The photography section now includes over 400 collections containing one to several dozen photographs. Apart from photographs concerning Silesian organs, the Archives also contains photo documentation of concerts, festivals, organ tours and events organized by the Organ and Church Music Department of the Katowice Academy.

The Archive also collects design drawings of organs, both those built today and those built before 1945. The iconographic collection is supplemented by postcards presenting prospects of Polish and foreign organs and calendars on organ matters – presenting Polish, European and American instruments and being publications of organ building companies.

2.4. Music collections

The sheet music collection of the Organological Archive consists primarily of musical prints related to organist's activities as a church musician. These are chorale books, both in Polish and German, as well as collections of songs, accompaniments, arrangements, organ accompaniments, hymn books, various liturgical aids and also religious choral music, especially for choir with organ accompaniment.

The Archive also collects pedagogical publications such as organ schools and harmony textbooks, as well as music for harmonium.

It is worth noting that a large part of the listed collections are music prints published before 1945. The oldest publications



Photo 5. Bernhard Kothe, *Praktische Orgelschule* (The Practical School for Organ), [approx. 1900], OA, 8 N

include Józef Nachbar's chorale published in 1856 and Bernhard Kothe's chorale *Melodien zu dem Oppelner Katholischen Gesangbuche* (Melodies to the Catholic Opole Silesia Hymn Book) from 1865.

A separate collection is primarily contemporary organ music. This group is dominated by manuscripts and photocopies of manuscripts by such composers as Norbert Mateusz Kuźnik, Edward Bogusławski, Władysław Szymański, Marian Sawa, Jan Gawlas, Jacek Domagała, Feliks Rączkowski, Marek Jasiński and Stanisław Moryto. Some of the works have not been published to date or are original versions of works published later (Feliks Rączkowski – *Bogurodzica*, Jacek Domagała – *Surrexit Christus hodie* for organ solo).

2.5. Bibliographic and varia collections

The Archive also collects bibliographical materials in the form of press clippings, works, periodicals and books. The rich collection of over 500 press clippings, embracing a period of more than 60 years, includes articles, columns, polemics and essays on organ themes, interviews with organists and organ builders, photo essays, festival reports, announcements and reviews of organ concerts, as well as record and book reviews. A separate collection of clippings deals with church music and addresses such issues as the role of the organist or the situation of music in the Polish church.

The collection consists mainly of Bachelor's, Master's, Doctorate and Postdoctoral's thesis written in Polish academic centres on subjects connected with organ, organ music and church music.

Among periodicals there are mainly magazines concerning liturgical music and their characteristic feature are sheet music supplements with aids for organists and church ensembles. Among the most interesting in this collection is the periodical "Biblioteka Muzyczna Organisty" (The Organist's Music Library), published in 1938–1939, containing interesting arrangements of church songs and short organ pieces, including little-known compositions by recognised composers of religious music.

The collection of books includes the basic items from the literature on the subject, and its establishment is connected with making the book collection available to those who use the resources of the Archive in the research studio.

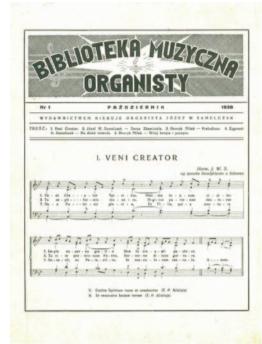


Photo 6. "Biblioteka Muzyczna Organisty" (The Organist's Music Library), No. 1, October 1938, OA, 150 N

The last category of collections is the varia. In this group are catalogued,

among others, occasional souvenirs connected with organ festivals and leaflets concerning instruments, as well as organisations and institutions connected with organs.

3. Collection sourcing

The origin of the discussed collection of the Organological Archive is primarily linked to the figure of the initiator and manager of the project - Professor Julian Gembalski. The documents collected successively for over 50 years constitute the backbone of the collection, however, the collection would not exist in this form without the cooperation with parishes and church institutions, as well as without the support and contribution of private individuals who decided to donate materials to the Archive - from single documents to large collections containing archives of various types.

3.1. Collections donated by virtue of the act of cooperation with the Archdiocese of Katowice

The cooperation with the Church at the beginning of the Archive's existence was mainly based on providing access to instruments by enabling instrumentological research, reg-

istration, photographic documentation but also providing access to archival documents concerning the organs preserved in parish archives. As a result, it was possible to obtain copies of the archives, which now constitute the most important part of a database containing source materials on Silesian instruments.

An event that significantly affected the issue of collection sourcing and cooperation with the Church was the passing of an act in 2016, during the Second Synod of the Archdiocese of Katowice, which allowed for the donation of materials to the Organological Archive. This provision, found in the subsection on caring for the musical heritage of the Church of Katowice, reads as follows (W. Skworc 2016): It is recommended that church institutions cooperate with the Organological Archive and the Organ Museum operating at the Academy of Music in Katowice ("Zaleca się współpracę instytucji kościelnych z Archiwum Organologicznym oraz Muzeum Organów działającym przy Akademii Muzycznej w Katowicach").

In practice, this provision made it possible to transfer collections by donation or deposit when a parish does not have the capacity to properly preserve and store the archives. The same goes for large collections, such as the certain parish music materials, which over the years have been used by organists and music ensembles, especially parish choirs. This includes situations where the collection has been unused for many years. Leaving the collection, which is often placed as not protected against external factors or with access to unauthorized persons, may result in its incompleteness, dispersion or even its definitive destruction.

The donation of music materials to the Archive allows the collection to be saved and ensures its safe keeping. One of the undoubted advantages of this solution is the fact that the collection is inventoried and catalogued at the time of donation. Therefore, it has a chance to appear in the broader wisdom as a collection historically connected with a particular place and parish, at the same time becoming a starting point for analysis and research. It also sheds light on the musical activities of the parish, enabling to examine them through a general analysis of the repertoire, its type, level of difficulty and variety. Some elements of the donated collection may have a chance to return to their original function by being made accessible and reused in music practice.

Among the music materials usually placed in the loft cabinets one can find both organ and choir music, including many valuable, over a hundred years old, often unique music prints. It is not uncommon to find handwritten copies of works and particularly valuable manuscript collections containing harmonisations of liturgical songs and chants. In special cases, organ manuscripts can also be found among the music materials.

The collection which was handed over to the Organological Archive by virtue of the synod's act is a set of music materials from the parish of St. Paul the Apostle in Zabrze-Pawłów. This collection, though relatively small, contains valuable and interesting items.



Photo 7. Max Springer, Organum comitans ad Graduale parvum quod juxta Editionem Vaticanam, 1910, OA, 145 N

The most interesting are: Max Springer's Gradual *Organum comitans ad Graduale parvum quod juxta Editionem Vaticanam*, published in Regensburg in 1910, and the 1882 supplement to August Gottfried Ritter's Organ School by Johannes Diebold.

Apart from that, the collection includes song books, devotional booklets, songs arrangements, missals, liturgical texts, chorales – e.g. *Droga do nieba* by Karol Hoppe and a written chorale, most probably dating back to the 1950s-1960s.

A rich set of handwritten voice booklets containing songs arrangements divided into various periods of the liturgical year is a testament of the active functioning of the brass band in the parish.

Similar music was obtained from parishes in Bełk, Chorzów and Katowice-Szopienice.

The archive is engaged in ongoing research and inventory of further collections of Silesian parishes. Some of them may expand the archive's music collection with new, interesting publications.

3.2. Collections donated by private individuals

The collection of the Organological Archive also includes materials donated by private individuals. These are usually collections associated with a particular artist, usually an organist or organ builder. They are transferred to the Archive by the heirs and family of

the author after his death. There are also cases – though much rarer – where the collection is handed down by the artist himself, while he is still alive.

The collections handed over by the heirs include part of the legacy of two outstanding organists and pedagogues - Professor Feliks Raczkowski and Henryk Klaja.

In both collections one can find documentation of artistic and concert activities, such as programmes and posters, as well as press clippings containing announcements, reviews and reports from concerts. Henryk Klaja's collection is particularly representative in this respect, as it contains a very large number of clippings from the Polish press, as well as from the German-language press, which results from the organist's concert activity in Germany.

Sheet music is an important part of the collection. Organ music prevails in them, represented mainly by the works of contemporary composers. They were part of the permanent repertoire of both organists, which is confirmed by an analysis of the programmes and reviews held in the Archive. Among them are works by Bernard Pietrzak, Jan Wincenty Hawel, Henryk Mikołaj Górecki, Norbert Kuźnik, Jan Fotek, as well as foreign com-

posers - Erich Stoffers, Hans-Klaus Langer, Ottó Ferenc, Josef Friedrich Doppelbauer. It is worth noting that most of the sheet music collections listed are photocopies of manuscripts.

Particularly noteworthy are the manuscripts of eleven organ pieces by Henryk Klaja, including *Veni Creator*, *Prelud 1969*, *Sonatina* for organ, *Ka/72*, *Progres*. These compositions, dating from the 1960s and 1970s, have not previously been published and are currently being compiled and prepared for publication.

The collection, which was also donated by the family, is a collection of interesting memorabilia of the organ builder Wacław Biernacki. It includes, among others, a certificate is-



Photo 8. Henryk Klaja, Chromestezja, manuscript, 1969, OA, 160 N

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sued by the Carpenters Guild in St. Petersburg in 1901, a recommendation from Jan Śliwiński, with whom Biernacki practiced, diplomas from the Chamber of Crafts, design drawings, family photographs and portraits.

An example of a collection that was handed over to the Archive by the artist himself is the documentation of the activities of Rudolf Kuźnik, an organ builder from Rybnik. It contains over 200 documents such as repair estimates, as-built protocols, lists of work carried out, scale diagrams, instrument descriptions and contracts. They concern over 80 instruments located in Upper Silesia and Opole Silesia.

3.3. Jerzy Borowiec Collection

The Archive's holdings include a particularly noteworthy collection, also donated by the artist during his lifetime. It has a very unique character – both because of the content and the character of its creator. It is the collection of Jerzy Borowiec, long-time organist of the Holy Spirit Church in Chorzów. Jerzy Borowiec, although the function of a church musician was for him an additional occupation and was not connected with his education, showed an unusual fascination with the organ instrument. His passion, to which he devoted most of his life, resulted in interesting studies on the organ, which are now a rich source of many interesting pieces of information in this field. It is also noteworthy that the content of the collection corresponds to a large part of the categories included in the collection of the Organological Archive.

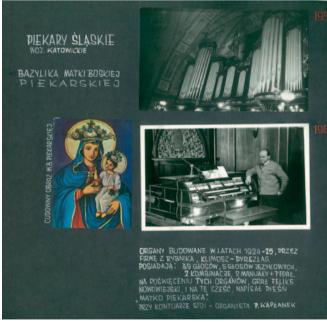


Photo 9. Jerzy Borowiec, Organy, volume 3, 1978–1979, OA, 603 F

An example of a study containing iconographic materials in the form of photographs and reproductions taken from programmes and folders are the 9-volume albums presenting organ prospects. The author has included nearly 800 photographs and reproductions illustrating over 700 Polish, European and American instruments. Most are accompanied by historical notes, a stop-list or other information about the instruments.

The bibliographic collection includes an impressive collection of press clippings entitled *Organy* w prasie (Organs in the press). It contains over 1100 clippings dated 1971-1987, of very diverse character: from the smallest, sometimes one-sentence information concerning concerts, through reports and reviews from organ festivals, articles from daily press concerning organs, organists and organ builders, to more specialist articles, published in "Ruch Muzyczny".

In the collection of Silesian organ documentation there is a documentation of the organ in the Holy Spirit Church in Chorzów made by Jerzy Borowiec. The author, who was present at the construction and installation of the instrument, was able to create a detailed chronicle of the organ's construction and rich photographic documentation. He also created technical drawings of the instrument, such as the prospect drawing, the section showing the position of each Werk and drawings of the pipes with measurements. The documentation also includes an ongoing record of defects, repairs and tuning.

Documenting the activity of Silesian organ builders is connected with the study entitled *Budownictwo organowe na Śląsku* (Organ building in Silesia), which contains a list of 93 organ building companies. To the hand-drawn maps listing the towns and parishes, the author has included a list containing the dates and types of work done by a particular

organ builder on a particular instrument.

In the study entitled Wirtuozi muzyki organowej (Virtuosos of organ music) Jerzy Borowiec collected biographies, photographs, press cuttings and fragments of programmes concerning over 70 outstanding Polish organists. This work, which is part of the collection documenting the musical life associated with the organ, is supplemented by autographs and dedications of Eugeniusz Brańka, Feliks Rączkowski and many others.

In the category of varia in the collection of Jerzy Borowiec one may find extracts from fiction literature containing mentions of organs and organists, an oil painting depicting an old organ builder's workshop and satirical drawings depicting scenes from the organist's life.

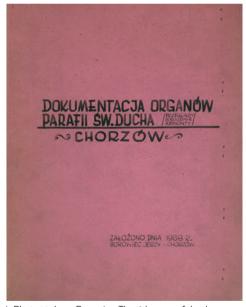


Photo 10. Jerzy Borowiec, The title page of the documentation of the organ at the Holy Spirit Church in Chorzów, 1968, OA, 35 dok

The above discussion of the aims and projections of the institute, the holdings it has accumulated and the sources of its acquisition confirms the importance of the role of the institutions whose activities are focused on collecting, cataloging and providing access to archival materials.

As far as the Organological Archive is concerned, it is first of all a scientific institution whose collections may become a source of studies, researches and reflections concerning Polish, and especially Silesian, organs and organ music. It is worth noting that due to the great variety of archival materials, the scope of research undertaken may be very wide. It may concern the history and construction of particular instruments, organ building companies and their activities over the years, musical life connected with organs, performers and authors of organ music or topics concerning church music.

The Archive also plays the role of a place where collections have a chance to be physically secured, stored, and sometimes saved from oblivion and destruction – as is the case with mentioned music materials. It is also a place where the memory of meritorious authors to Polish organology is preserved. In this context I would like to point out that people or institutions that decide to donate their collections treat the Archive as a trustworthy place, where the memory will be nurtured, and where the collections – whose sources were private archives, home archives – can at the same time serve researchers and scientists.

A wider exploration of the Organological Archive's holdings is made possible by the online catalogue (www3), which has been formed in 2019. It allows you to browse the collection according to various criteria, including document type, dating, as well as personal and geographical criteria.

At present, the use of the collections – mainly for scientific purposes – is possible through an individual contact with the head of the Archive or the staff, while starting from the next academic year the Archive will function according to the principles typical of this type of institutions – by registering the user, placing orders and using the materials made available in the scientific studio that is currently under construction. Part of the resource will also be available online.

The Archive enjoys growing interest of researchers from Silesia and outside the region. There is a noticeable increase in the number of people referring to its resources in their academic theses. Due to the constant increase in the number of archival materials, the Archive's holdings are gradually expanded, and new collections are catalogued and made available. It is worth mentioning that the Organological Archive, together with the Silesian Organ Museum, was listed in 2020 in the Catalogue of the Association of University Museums, bringing together over 100 institutions of this type operating at universities in Poland (H. Kowalski et al. 2020). The above facts indicate that it is a dynamically developing institution with great potential and broad perspectives.

In the future it is planned to transform the Organological Archive together with the Silesian Organ Museum into a Scientific Institute, which has a chance to become an important and significant centre of scientific research in the field of Polish organology.

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SUMMARY

This article presents and discusses the Organological Archive – established in 2012, a scientific and research institute at the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice. The introduction of the article points out the importance of the functioning of institutions dealing with the collection of archival materials and their influence on the formation of scientific reflection, defining the identity and cultural potential of specific communities. Among the institutions involved in documenting musical culture in Silesia, which operate at the Academy of Music in Katowice, the Archives of Silesian Musical Culture, the Silesian Organ Museum and the Organological Archives are listed.

The Organological Archive was established as a project of the Organ and Church Music Department at the Karol Szymanowski Academy of Music in Katowice within the National Programme for the Development of Humanities financed by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education (Ministerstwo Nauki i Szkolnictwa Wyższego) of the time. The aim of the project was to create, compile, and then to make available to researchers a broad database on Silesian organs and organ music in Silesia. After starting its activity, the Archive has conducted site and instrumental investigation on selected Silesian instruments, created an organ register and photo documentation.

It gathered a resource estimated at 10.000 archival units catalogued according to the following categories: documents concerning the organs in Silesia, in the form of fonds connected with the organs of Silesian parishes and institutions, as well as documentation of modern built instru-

ments; iconography concerning the Silesian and Polish organs – in the form of photographs, design drawings, as well as calendars and postcards; documentation of the activity of Silesian organ builders and organ builders from outside the region, but operating in Silesia; documents of musical life connected with the organ, both in Silesia and other regions of Poland; church music collections – sheet music collections; bibliographic collection – books, publications, works, organ magazines and magazines devoted to liturgical music, articles and press clippings; varia.

The most numerous category of collections comprises the documents of musical life connected with organ music in the form of posters and programmes documenting concerts and organ festivals taking place in Silesia and in other regions of Poland, artistic and scientific activities of the Organ and Church Music Department of the Academy of Music in Katowice as well as other events.

The collection of documentation of the Silesian organs consists of over 80 fonds containing photocopies of archival materials obtained in parish archives. The archive also collects documentation of instruments built nowadays. Another important area is documenting the activity of Silesian organ builders. The documentation contains basic information about the professional paths of organ builders and lists the works carried out on Silesian organs. The Archive gathers also catalogues, offers and advertising materials of the most important organ building companies operating in Silesia since the 19th century, e.g. *Berschdorf, Schlag & Söhne, Rieger*.

Iconographic materials in the Archive's collection are mainly photographs of organs taken during the survey and site investigation. They present the organ as a whole as well as its individual components. Some of the photos document instruments during maintenance, repairs, etc. Photographs depicting nonexistent and rebuilt instruments are particularly valuable. The collection is complemented by design drawings, postcards and calendars on organ themes.

The music collection is represented by e.g. chorales, developments of liturgical songs, song-books, liturgical aids, pedagogical publications and sheet music for harmonium. The collection of organ sheet music is dominated by manuscripts and photocopies of manuscripts of contemporary organ works.

In the bibliographic collection one can distinguish press clippings on the subject of organ and concerning church music, works created in various academic centres, magazines and books being the basic literature on the subject. In the varia category, festival memorabilia and leaflets have been catalogued.

The origins of the collection of the Organological Archives are mainly linked to its founder, Professor Julian Gembalski. The backbone of the resource consists of documents collected by him successively over 50 years. Another group of collections, mainly music collection, was transferred to the Archives under the act of the Second Synod of the Archdiocese of Katowice, which allowed for the transfer of archival materials in case they could not be properly secured. This creates an opportunity to secure the collection, to inventory and develop it, to appear in broader awareness as a collection historically connected with a given place and to partially return to its original function through use in music practice. The Archive's holdings include, among others, the collection of music from the parish of St Paul the Apostle in Zabrze-Pawłów. The archive is continuously researching and inventorying further collections of Silesian parishes.

The Archive also has collections donated by private individuals. They are associated with the figure of a particular artist, usually an organist or organ builder. The collections handed over

by the heirs and family after the death of the composer include the legacy of two organists and pedagogues - Professor Feliks Rączkowski and Professor Henryk Klaja. The collection includes programs, posters, press clippings and sheet music, primarily contemporary organ literature. Another collection donated by the family is the collection of memorabilia of the organ builder Wacław Biernacki, containing documents, diplomas and family memorabilia.

The collection donated to the Archives by the maker himself while he was still alive includes the documentation of Rudolf Kuźnik, an organ builder from Rybnik, containing over 200 documents concerning more than 80 instruments located in Upper Silesia and Opole Silesia.

A special collection, also handed down by the artist, is the legacy of Jerzy Borowiec, organist at St. Holy Spirit Church in Chorzów. It contains albums containing photographs of organ prospects, press cuttings, a study concerning organ building companies operating in Silesia, documentation of the organ in the Holy Spirit Church in Chorzów, a study concerning Polish virtuosos of organ music and artistic works inspired by organ themes.

The Organological Archive is an institution whose collections may become a source of extensive research concerning organs and organ music. The Archive preserves and protects the collections of the Silesian parishes. It is also a place that preserves the memory of those who have distinguished themselves in the Polish organ music and organology. The institution is attracting more and more attention from researchers, the archival resources are constantly growing, which indicates great prospects for the development of the Archive. In the future the Organological Archive is planned to transform together with the Silesian Organ Museum into a Research Institute.

Keywords:

archive • silesian organs • organ music • organology

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