



Moments of Divergence in Academic and Professional Perceptions of Electronic Sheet Music: and potential for convergence at the library

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MLA 2013

San Jose, CA

The future of print – the academic view

“... whatever features or advantages they possess, digital editions don't ever seem likely to entirely replace print versions. Printed music remains important and digital versions should not be viewed as an alternative to published editions, but rather as a complement to them. They offer expanded possibilities for both researchers and performers in making a large edition easily searchable and viewable, and in better integrating the important information in the critical report with the music (Henseler, 2011: 599). ”

Electronic Sheet Music– the academic wish list

- ❖ Integration of source material, scholarly commentary and analysis, and critical score
- ❖ Improved search capabilities
- ❖ Printable PDFs for performance
- ❖ Links to variant versions
- ❖ Analytical tools

Electronic Sheet Music— supporting the academic view

“ these digital editions/archives can ideally offer both the ‘raw data’ (for scholarly use) as well as the ‘critically assessed’ (for performance or less specialized use),... What digital media can offer is the combination of a wealth of information that can exist both for its own sake and as complimentary material to the ‘read text’ (Georghiou, 2012: 9-10). ”

Electronic Sheet Music— supporting the academic view



DIGITAL MOZART EDITION

WLSCM
Web Library of Seventeenth-Century Music

Electronic Sheet Music–

The academician's
need for print

““ Of great interest to librarians will be the ability for users to view any part of the edition, download it as a PDF file, and print a hard copy if needed. This will reduce wear and tear to printed editions and decrease use of copy and scanning equipment... (Henseler, 2011: 598). ””

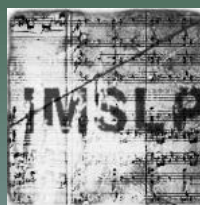
The future of print – the professional view

“ [Print] probably will not [disappear] in the immediate future. However, a paradigm shift will occur due to a couple of factors: More musicians and educators will realize how much digital sheet music technology improves the efficiency of their daily workflow. In addition, the demand for digital downloads of musical scores will increase to the point where publishers should offer their libraries for purchase and download where musicians can work with them on a variety of devices and displays no matter where you go (Ajero, 2009: 59). ”

Electronic Sheet Music– the professional wish list

- ❖ Portability across platforms/devices/readers (including ability to print)
- ❖ Ability to annotate digital version
- ❖ Ability to imbed portions of it on websites (included in course management systems)
- ❖ Ease of access
- ❖ Copy & paste features
- ❖ Readability in low-light conditions
- ❖ Hands-free reading
- ❖ Audio interpretation of the musical text
- ❖ One-stop shopping

Electronic Sheet Music– the professional sources



IMSLP

Petrucci Music Library



musicnotes.com
download sheet music

Electronic Sheet Music–

as it stands among
professionals

Accessibility

Multiple
formats

Portability

Annotation
features



Electronic Sheet Music

Thinking about the library



The Music Library Community's Challenge:

Begin the dialogue with a view towards recommendations for viable electronic sheet music platform, supportable by libraries and meeting the needs of academicians and professionals alike.

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Thank You