

NEMS

Network of European Musicological Societies

Newsletter #3 (Autumn 2025)

The second newsletter of the *Network of European Musicological Societies* brings you news of some the many activities carried out by our member societies, as well as news about the network itself. Submissions from member societies are listed in order of reception. Societies are asked to submit in English and any other language they wish.

The newsletter is an initiative to highlight the numerous activities and news of our member organisations. We hope to publish these on a regular basis throughout the year. The NEMS newsletter can be accessed on our [website](#); it will also be distributed to the member societies and through relevant mailing lists. To be included in future newsletters please contact the editor: nuria.bonet@plymouth.ac.uk

Our website (<https://networkofeuropeanmusicologicalsocieties.com/>) is in constant development as we aim to provide support and resources for European musicologists. As we continue to grow our fledgling network, we welcome suggestions from those interested. Please [contact](#) us! Finally, look out for news about our virtual seminars, language group, abstract repository, research-in-progress forum and other resources.

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Austrian Society for Musicology (ÖGMw) – <https://oegmw.at/>

The **Annual Conference** of the Austrian Society for Musicology (ÖGMw) will take place at the Anton Bruckner Private University in Linz, **Nov. 13–15, 2025**, on the topic:

Forgetting and Remembering – On Memory and Memory Cultures of Music

What and how do we remember or forget musically? What happens in the brain in the process, and what influence do emotions have on it? How can music function as a carrier of memory or how can memories be blurred by (and in) it? How and why do music-related memory communications end and how are they taken up again? According to which criteria are pieces of music with memory potential selected, preserved and processed so that they themselves do not fall victim to being forgotten?

In view of the unbroken topicality of these issues, at the Annual Conference of the ÖGMw 2025 we will examine not only institutions and media as well as the prerequisites and actions of music-related memory, but also grant musical forgetting a place in our reflections. The program will soon be published here: <https://oegmw.at/jahrestagung>

Furthermore, our journal *Musicologica Austriaca – Journal for Austrian Music Studies* has been migrated to a new server and can now be accessed at: <https://musau.publia.org/musau/>

Check out the latest articles:

Jakub Chachulski (Institute of Art, Polish Academy of Sciences), “Józef Elsner, the Viennese grosse heroisch-komische Oper, and the Origins of the Polish ‘Grand Opera’,” <https://musau.publia.org/musau/article/view/24>

Kai Tang (Music and Minorities Research Center, University of Music and Performing Arts Vienna), “Banned Subversive or State-Promoted ‘Pathbreaker’? Re-Interpreting the Rise of Chinese Rock,” <https://musau.publia.org/musau/article/view/25>



Schweizerische Musikforschende Gesellschaft
Société Suisse de Musicologie
Società Svizzera di Musicologia

Swiss Musicological Society - <https://www.smg-ssm.ch/smg-ssm/>

Over 200 articles in Open Access

For more than 20 years, the [Swiss Musicological Society](#) (Schweizerische Musikforschende Gesellschaft - SMG) has been a member association of the [Swiss Music Review](#) (Schweizer Musikzeitung - SMZ).

In each issue, our association shares news about itself and about Swiss musicology and Swiss music. Through these articles, we also aim to reflect the diversity of fields of study, generations, activities and languages in our country.

Since the beginning of 2025, the following articles have been published:

- Anna Ciocca-Rossi, "[Svizzera italiana : per un rilancio della ricerca musicale](#)", SMZ, 2025 (8/9), S. 34.
- Cla Mathieu, "[Entendre les bouleversements](#)", SMZ, 2025 (6/7), S. 41.
- Dominik Sackmann, & Lukas Näf, "[Tagung: Professionelle Musikausbildung](#)", SMZ, 2025 (6/7), S. 40.
- Christoph Riedo, "[Klangreisen durch die Schweiz um 1800](#)", SMZ, 2025 (4/5), S. 31.
- Cla Mathieu, "[Sonoritads revoluziunaras](#)", SMZ, 2025 (3), S. 37.
- Laura Möckli, "[Gesucht: Beiträge SJM](#)", SMZ, 2025 (1/2), S. 43.
- Lea Hagmann, "[Vogelstimmen im Zentrum der Musikforschung](#)", SMZ, 2025 (1/2), S. 42.

An article giving students a voice and an article presenting our Dictionary of Music in Switzerland (Musiklexikon der Schweiz – MLS) will be published in winter 2025.

All publications by the SMG in the SMZ are available in open access on our website: www.smg-ssm.ch (Publikationen → Schweizer Musikzeitung Beiträge).

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The Finnish Musicological Society (MTS) - <https://www.mtsnet.fi/english/>

EN: The next national symposium of music researchers will be held on April 22–24th 2026 at Åbo Akademi, Turku. The theme of the symposium is Sounding sense of community. CFP will open in November (<https://www.mtsnet.fi/symposium2026/>). The event also celebrates the 100th anniversary of musicology at Åbo Akademi. Welcome!

SWE: Nästa nationella symposium i musikforskning ordnas den 22–24 april 2026 vid Åbo Akademi med temat Klingande gemenskaplighet. Evenemanget ingår i 100-årsfirandet av musikvetenskapen vid Åbo Akademi. Cfp öppnar i början av november. Välkommen!

FI: Musiikintutkijoiden valtakunnallinen symposium järjestetään seuraavan kerran vuonna 2026 huhtikuun 22.–24. päivinä Åbo Akademiassa Turussa. Symposiumin teema on Soiva yhteisöllisyys. Tapahtuma on samalla myös Åbo Akademin musiikkitieteen 100-vuotista taivalta juhlistava kokoontuminen. CFP aukeaa marraskuun alussa. Tervetuloa!



Estonian Musicological Society - <https://www.muusikateadus.ee/>

The Estonian Musicological Society was founded in 1994 to establish an autonomous field of musicology through a supporting institution, as well as to strengthen institutional relations with Western colleagues after escaping from behind the “iron curtain”. In addition to musicologists, EMTS brings together other people active in the field of music culture in Estonia: composers, teachers, journalists, students, etc. In the first half of 2025, the society had 99 members. Since 2004, the society has been an associated organization of the Estonian Academy of Sciences. The society is also a member of the Estonian Music Council and is part of the international organization Network of European Musicological Societies (NEMS).

For almost twenty years, the EMTS together with Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre (EAMT) has been publishing the scientific yearbook *Res Musica* with an international editorial board. The journal has a different thematic focus each year, for example, the 2024 issue focused on pop music studies, this year it will look at musical theatre. All issues can be found on the website: <https://resmusica.ee/en/>

In November 2024, the society elected a new board, which includes music psychologist Marju Raju (chairwoman of the board), musicologist and writer Brigitta Davidjants, music historian and managing editor of the EAMT publishing house Anu Schaper, musicologist and editor at the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra Anita Maasalu, and music theorist prof. Kerri Kotta.

Recent activities

In 2025, the society held two local academic events:

In April in cooperation with the Estonian Naturalists' Society, we organized the seminar "Music in Nature, Nature in Music", which took place in Tartu. In a hybrid format (on-site and on Zoom), Estonian musicologists and natural scientists and also some foreign guests gave presentations in Estonian and English about topics that intertwined biology and musicology, as well as, for example, the potential contribution of music psychology to environmental issues.

In May, the society helped co-organize the traditional Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre's Spring Conference of Music Research, aimed mainly at young researchers, where presentations were given by high school and university students.

Events ahead

A new initiative is launching a book club aimed at the general public at the end of September, which will take place once a month. The first book to be read is the extensive historical overview work [“Estonian Music History I”](#), published earlier in the spring this year, which provides a contemporary approach to the history of music in the historical territory of Estonia from the 12th century to the beginning of the 19th century.

The traditional annual meeting, so-called Leichter Day (named after Estonian musicologist Karl Leichter (1902–1987)) will also take place in November, where the new issue of *Res Musica* will be introduced and the work plan for 2026 will be established.

Funding and partners

The society finances its events through membership fees, operating support from the Estonian Academy of Sciences and project funds (e.g. Cultural Endowment of Estonia, Ministry of Culture). The major supporter of the society is the Estonian Academy of Music and Theatre, which, in addition to need-based financial support, also provides free use of premises and equipment and a support structure for the publication of *Res Musica*. The Estonian Literary Museum is also a long-term cooperation partner of the society.



Gesellschaft für Musikforschung - <https://www.musikforschung.de/>

Die *Gesellschaft für Musikforschung* hält ihre diesjährige Jahrestagung vom 6. bis 9. Oktober 2025 in Weimar ab. Oberthema der Tagung ist „Musik in einer geteilten Welt“. Programm und weitere Informationen: <https://www.hfm-weimar.de/institut-fuer-musikwissenschaft-weimar-jena/institut-fuer-musikwissenschaft-weimar-jena/gfm-jahrestagung-2025#HfM>

Im laufenden Jahr hat in der GfM eine Arbeitsgemeinschaft zur Machtmissbrauchsprävention in akademischen Kontexten eine Umfrage für die Musikwissenschaft durchgeführt und Vorschläge zu Präventionsmaßnahmen erarbeitet, die im Oktober vorgestellt werden. Darüber und über weitere Initiativen zu den Bereichen Wissenschaftskommunikation und interdisziplinäre Zusammenarbeit berichten wir im nächsten Newsletter.

Die aktuellen Inhalte der Zeitschrift „Die Musikforschung“ sowie die im open access zugänglichen Hefte sind hier zu finden: <https://mf.journals.qucosa.de/mf/>

The *Gesellschaft für Musikforschung* is holding its annual conference in Weimar from 6 to 9 October 2025. The main theme of the conference is ‘Music in a Divided World’. Programme and further information: <https://www.hfm-weimar.de/institut-fuer-musikwissenschaft-weimar-jena/institut-fuer-musikwissenschaft-weimar-jena/gfm-jahrestagung-2025#HfM>

During the current year, a GfM working group on the prevention of power abuse in academic contexts conducted a survey for musicology and developed proposals for preventive measures, which will be presented in October. We will report on this and on other initiatives in the areas of science communication and interdisciplinary cooperation in the next newsletter.

The latest issue of the journal “Die Musikforschung” and the open access issues can be found here: <https://mf.journals.qucosa.de/mf/>



Royal Musical Association - <https://www.rma.ac.uk/>

The Royal Musical Association runs a busy programme of events, including conferences, study days and research skills workshops which can be found on our website. Below you can find news of some of the conferences and prizes that the RMA oversees.

BFE/RMA Research Students' Conference 2026

The British Forum for Ethnomusicology (BFE) and Royal Musical Association (RMA) Research Students' Conference will be hosted by Royal Birmingham Conservatoire (RBC, part of Birmingham City University), on 6th–8th January 2026. This will be an in-person event to allow networking and social interaction to take place, and to foster connections across a variety of music sub-disciplines.

The conference will take place in RBC's bespoke building in the centre of Birmingham, featuring two concert halls, a jazz club, organ studio and the Lab (a black box performance area), as well as workshop spaces. We look forward to welcoming you to our central location for what promises to be a vibrant, supportive and diverse conference.

The conference programme and registration will be announced soon here: <https://www.bcu.ac.uk/conservatoire/research/rsc2026>

RMA Annual Conference 2026

The Royal Musical Association, the Society for Musicology in Ireland, and the European Association for Dance History will hold jointly their annual conference at SARC (Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Sound and Music), Queen's University Belfast, between Saturday 29 August and Tuesday 1 September 2026.

It aims to promote research and practice in music, sound, or dance across all repertoires, contexts, methodologies and approaches. For example, the place of music or dance within societal well-being; historical, hermeneutic or ethnographical studies of persons, repertoires, performances, formats (e.g., film, iconography, choreography), technologies (including AI), musical instruments, notation systems, or institutions/societies. The perspectives of analysis, perception, psychology, or identity are equally of interest. In short music, sound and dance in all their manifestations. Proposals that reflect insights from other disciplines are encouraged, as are performance, composition, or scholarly collaborations between musicians and dancers.

All proposals must be **submitted no later than 23:00 (GMT) on 1 December 2025**. Details of submission procedures for proposals – including full specifications on practice-based submission and workshops may be found on the conference website (forthcoming) by 1 October.

The CfP can be found here: <https://www.rma.ac.uk/2025/09/15/call-for-papers-works-2026-annual-conference-of-the-royal-musical-association-society-for-musicology-in-ireland-and-the-european-association-for-dance-history-queens-university-belfast/>

RMA/CUP Outstanding Monograph Book Prize 2025

The RMA/Cambridge University Press Outstanding Monograph Book Prize for 2025 is awarded to Jessica Swanston Baker for *Island Time: Speed and the Archipelago from St. Kitts and Nevis* (University of Chicago Press). The book presents a detailed analysis of wylers, a popular musical style from the islands of St. Kitts and Nevis, in the context of the postcolonial Caribbean. The panel commended this monograph for its extensive fieldwork, the use of speed as an innovative conceptual basis and its foundation in the author's family history research, all of which made the book an engaging read. The book makes a strongly original contribution to the study of music of the Caribbean.

The panel gives an honourable mention to Matthew D. Morrison (Stanford University) for *Blacksound: Making Race and Popular Music in the United States* (University of California Press, 2024). This ambitious book revisits the long history of popular music in the United States by exploring how it arose from slavery and blackface.

RMA 2025 Practice Research Prize awarded to Sara Salloum

The RMA Practice Research Prize for 2025 is awarded to Sara Salloum (University of Newcastle) for her thesis 'Female lute accomplishment and performance practices in early seventeenth-century England' (University of Durham). The panel commended this rich and insightful work which drew on detailed performance-based practice research and recognised its potential for wider impact through further dissemination in the future. The research findings were original and engaging – of particular interest is the experiential work on how the clothes worn by female lute players shaped movement and influenced performance choices.

RMARC Student Paper Prize 2025

Congratulations to **Adam Possener (UCL)**, who has been awarded this year's *Royal Musical Association Research Chronicle* Student Paper Prize. The prize is awarded annually in collaboration with the BFE/RMA Research Students' Conference, held each January.

Adam's paper, 'Kleztronica, Jewish Anti-Zionism and Postvernacularity' explored how Yiddish language and music have been utilized by anti-Zionist activists to promote radical diasporism, expressing a diasporic Jewish identity in contrast to a Zionist ethnonationalist one. The work stood out for its careful theorisation and probing analysis of examples from the techno-klezmer genre, Kleztronica.

Special mention also goes to our two runners up: **Tamara Batty (University of Birmingham)**, for her paper ‘Finding Tarab in 21st-century Arab Popular Music: A Close Analysis of “Fog Alghaim” by Hello Psychaleppo’, and **Kate Adams (SOAS)**, ‘Ending the (sm)othering: Applying an Ethnomusicological Framework to a Non-Deficit-Based Examination of Musicking with Profound Intellectual and Multiple Disabilities (PIMD)’.