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MIMO

Newsletter 5

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Newsletter No. 5

Editorial

Since the project’s launch in September 2009, the MIMO partners have taken well over 27,000 new photographs of musical instruments and the first of these will begin to appear on the Europeana website around the end of April 2011. For you, the user, however, the results of our work so far remain invisible. This newsletter will therefore present two options that will allow users to gain insight into our work.

MIMO in the Exhibitions

Over the last eighteen months, each MIMO partner museum has integrated the project in one way or another in its exhibition, so that visitors can learn about the project as a whole or get an insight into a particular aspect of the work of the individual MIMO museums. We would like to describe some of these here.

1. Florence

The Musical Instrument Department of the Galleria dell'Accademia in Florence, which has around 800 visitors per day, has set up a computer kiosk which is connected to the internet, with access restricted to the MIMO page (www.mimo-project.eu). Visitors can see continuously updated information about MIMO and can subscribe to the MIMO Newsletter immediately through the page.

The computer is highlighted by two text and image panels that describe the content of the project and leaflets are available for visitors who want to continue exploring MIMO after their museum visit.

The structure will be available to the public from the end of February.
2. Berlin

In the Ethnological Museum in Berlin the photographic studio has been set up within the exhibition area. This not only allows visitors to see the photo sessions taking place but also enables them to see instruments which have never been on public display before. MIMO leaflets are available and there is also a MIMO poster on the wall. The exhibition is closed for maintenance at the moment but will re-open to the public at the end of March.

3. Nürnberg

From the beginning of the project, MIMO has been presented in the permanent collection of historic musical instruments of the museum through MIMO leaflets at the disposal to the public.

Photographing instruments takes place in the collection during opening hours. As the photography area can be seen, but not accessed by the public, there is an alert on the museum’s website to inform visitors and invite them to come and observe the photography process. This procedure has been maintained throughout the project for a total of 16 to 20 weeks of photography.

To better serve the public, a large computer screen is installed in front of the photo area so that viewers can see what the photographer is doing on his computer.

From January 2011, to help explain what the staff is doing without disturbing the workflow, a large poster (85 x 215 cm) has been put in place to provide information about the photography process and the MIMO project in general. MIMO leaflets are available at this location. The photography area is also part of the museum tour.
4. Leipzig

Photography work began at the Leipzig University Museum of Musical Instruments in December 2010. The photo set is situated in a part of the exhibition that belongs to the study collection, situated on the 2nd floor and visitors can come and watch the photo sessions. There will shortly be a stand-up display where visitors of the permanent exhibition can learn about the MIMO project. Leaflets will also be available to take away as part of this display.
5. Edinburgh

There was a MIMO poster display in St Cecilia's Hall during the three weeks of the Edinburgh International Festival in August 2010. This will be repeated in 2011 and they are currently in discussion to set up a small exhibition within the Edinburgh University Library for summer 2011.

6. Stockholm

The Museum presented a picture show outside the concert hall with some of the digitised instruments. They also placed MIMO leaflets for the visitors beside the show.

An extended version of this exhibition will be opened in September 2011.

7. Tervuren

MIMO is presented in the Science Hall of the Royal Africa Museum, in Tervuren.
In order to offer our site visitors - [www.mimo-project.eu](http://www.mimo-project.eu) - an idea of what will soon be seen on the Europeana website, we have extended our Web Gallery. 500 new instruments from the collections of all partners will be on display from mid-March on the MIMO website. This will give you the opportunity to view both the images and the associated descriptive information that accompanies them.

These images include many treasures, including:

- a double virginal, built in 1580 in Antwerp by Martinus van der Biest (GNM)
- a Harpsichord, 1652, also built in Antwerp by Ioannes Couchet (CM),
- an anthropomorphic Sanza from Central Africa (RMCA) and
- a valve horn by Adolphe Sax (MIM-Be).

Enjoy your virtual browsing