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Swiss National Sound Archives



Wax cylinder with live recordings, collection of the *Schweizerisches Volksliedarchiv*, National Sound Archives, photo: Matteo Notari

2016 was dominated by the incorporation of the Swiss National Sound Archives into the Swiss National Library. Intense efforts were made to ensure the successful integration of the administration, organisation and IT.

Some figures

In 2016 more than 1500 new discs were acquired and 8000 new entries added to the catalogue. The website www.fonoteca.ch, now fully adapted to Responsive Web Design (RWD) and HTML5 standard, recorded an exceptional increase in the number of pages visited, from 354 184 to 1 220 029.

Database queries tripled, from 2 million in 2015 to almost 6 million. Institutions in Switzerland have set up Sound Archives AV workstations at 55 locations. On average, around 3500 pieces of music are listened to each month.

Collection

Since 2016, the collections have been newly catalogued. Documentation and publication are to be progressively recorded on the National Sound Archives website in accordance with the ISAD(G) standard of archival description.

A large number of collections were acquired in 2016. Prominent examples include the fonds of the conductor Théo Loosli, the *chansonnier* Pierre Dudan and the Lorelei recording studios.

Also of particular importance was the collaboration with the Lausanne Cantonal and University Library on cataloguing the fonds of the Romanian-Swiss pianist Clara Haskil and with the National Film Archive on the conservation of valuable interviews with actors, film-makers, directors and film technicians held in its archives.

The projects “IMVOCS”, “UNISONO” and “MULTI” are being continued.

Outreach

In December the Sound Archives’ catalogue was integrated into Sàmara, the portal for cultural institutions active in the canton of Ticino.

The Sound Archives’ touring exhibition *tü-ta-too. The ear on tour* was shown at the Musée jurassien d’art et d’histoire, Delémont in March and then at the Musée gruérien in Bulle until the end of January 2017. In both cases, it was very well received by visitors and the media. Many schools made use of the educational materials accompanying the exhibition. It comes to a symbolic close from March to June 2017 at the National Library in Bern.



Tü-ta-too. The ear on tour, exhibit, photo: Miriam Bolliger Cavaglieri