INSTRUMENTAL INSTRUCTION, TECHNIQUES, ETC.: SUB-HEADINGS AND CLASSIFICATION

The Library of Congress offers only scattered guidance on the application of form subheadings and very little on classification numbers for instrumental instruction materials. The following is an attempt to create some guidelines and suggestions for cataloging these materials. This document is not intended to supersede LC policy. It is intended to clarify issues that arise most frequently when cataloging instructional materials.

STANDARD FORM SUBHEADINGS

—Instruction and study.

This is a general phrase; it is used for general works about playing an instrument or group of instruments; it is also used for works on specific subjects (such as modern clarinet techniques). This subdivision can also be used for studies of teaching methods (e.g. statistics on oboe teaching in Canada and the U.S.). Works about how to teach students also go here. This is also a catchall for combinations of the more specific choices below. (Class under 'General works' for the instrument)

—Instruction and study—Juvenile.

This is applied the same as above, but for works that are geared toward children. (These are classed at MT740—MT810)

—Instructive editions.

"An edition of a work heavily annotated with textual instructions about how to practice and interpret various passages. Do not class as instructive editions those that merely contain standard interpretive markings, fingering, etc., whether the composer's own or subsequently added."—Class M schedule, glossary. (Class under 'Instructional editions')

—Methods (and its extensions)*

"Think of methods as a subset of instructional materials in which the approach is more systematic in terms of progressing from the easier to the more difficult or from a more basic topic to more advanced topics."—Geraldine Ostrove (CPSO) — http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/musicws.pdf.

Styles are often applied as qualifiers to "Methods," e.g., "Methods (Jazz)." (Class under 'Systems and methods' or more specific number, when available)

—Methods—Juvenile.

This is applied the same as above, but for works that are geared toward children. (These are classed at MT740—MT810)

—Methods—Self-instruction.

This is applied the same as "—Methods," but only for works that are clearly designed as self-teaching resources. (Class under 'Self-instructors')

—Orchestral excerpts.

This is self-explanatory. (Class under 'Orchestral studies')

—Simplified editions.

"…Assigned to works edited to reduce their difficulty, so that less advanced performers than the music was written for can play them. Music that is easy to play in begin with is not assigned this subdivision. Music of that kind may be suitably assigned the subdivision –Juvenile. Or, like the subdivision –Studies and exercises … it may have no subdivision for degree of difficulty at all because, despite its elementary technical requirements, it is performed by professional musicians on stage."—Geraldine Ostrove (CPSO) — http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/musicws.pdf. (Some instruments have a special number for these editions, such as M38.3 for piano works. If no special number exists, class as an arrangement. For vocal music with simplified accompaniment, class as vocal music. For easy piano arrangements of songs, class at M38.5. If the simplified edition is geared for children, class at M1375-M1420)

—Studies and exercises (and its extensions)*

"Class in Subclass MT studies and exercises with or without accompaniment, that are pedagogical works. Class concert works titled studies by medium of performance in Subclass M."—Class M schedule, glossary. (Class under instrument, as 'Studies and exercises)

—Studies and exercises—Juvenile.

This is applied the same as above, but for works that are created for children. (These are classed at MT740—MT810)

—Teaching pieces.

"…Assigned when it is clear, usually from title of other textual information on the item, that a work was composed specifically for pedagogical purposes.—Geraldine Ostrove (CPSO) — http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/musicws.pdf. (Class in MT under 'Teaching pieces')

***When using the subdivisions 'Methods' or 'Studies and exercises' qualified by a style of music, assign an additional heading for the style of music subdivided by -Instruction and study. Examples:

Banjo—Methods (Bluegrass),
Bluegrass music—Instruction and study.

Guitar—Studies and exercises (Rock),
Rock music—Instruction and study.

—from *Subject cataloging manuals*, 'H1161'—online

CLASSIFICATION

In the MT schedule, various patterns are used for classifying instructional resources. The terminology presented above should correspond to a specific number in the range for a particular instrument. Note that more popular instruments (e.g. piano or violin) may have up to 30 numbers, including many numbers for aspects unique to the instrument, such as 'bowing' or 'wrist.' **Always consult the schedule for specific class numbers**.

CUTTERING

Cuttering can be quite a challenge when cataloging instructional materials. Before LC had a written policy, it would sometimes use author cutter followed by title cutter, as is done with music. Other times, a single cutter was used for the author/composer, as is done for most books. LC now has a documented procedure, which is explained in *Subject Cataloging Manuals*, 'G800.' Unfortunately, it isn't usable for libraries with open stacks such as ours.

Here are our local guidelines:

- General practice in the MT class is to use only one cutter for the author or composer; the single cutter can be extended to indicate multiple works by the same person.
- When no cutter has been established for a person, add only the single cutter described above.
- When a cutter has already been established for someone, use that cutter; follow the established practice of using one or two cutters.
- If there's a mixture of single and double cutters under an individual (yes, this happens!), use your judgment; in general use a single cutter.

Also note that for music, LC uses different numbers to indicate translations. We use LC's translation table for music (given in LC's *Subject Cataloging Manual*: G800).

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