The Database Explained

The database that underlies this catalogue consists of eight tables that link with one another in various ways. Each contains a number of fields, or columns, as outlined below:

Sigla table contains one record for each set of partbooks, with the following fields:

Siglum: the siglum assigned by RISM series A/I (individual prints) or B/I (anthologies), plus "MS Sam" for the manuscript partbooks; note that for the B/I sigla, a hyphen and the numeral replaces the superscript.

Person: the composer or editor of the set.

Title: regularized title of the print, as shown in RISM.

Place, Publisher, Date: standard publication information.

Wgm Inventory and **Wgm Shelf:** two sets of call numbers in the library of the Gesellschaft der Musikfreunde in Vienna.

Lüh Shelf: call number in the Lübeck Stadtbibliothek.

Partbooks, #Partbooks: abbreviated names (by voice) and the total number of partbooks.

Missing: partbooks missing from the St. Mary's set, with information as to libraries where they can be found.

Binding: characteristics of the binding, including the sigla of other prints with which it may be bound.

Dedicatee, Dedicatory poem, Instructions: prefatory material at the beginning of one or more of the partbooks.

RISM_PSMD_link: link to the entry for this print in the RISM *Printed Sacred Music Database: Printed Sacred Music in Europe 1500-1800* (a work in progress).

JSCM_Inst_link: link to the entry for this print in *JSCM Instrumenta*, vol. 2: Kurtzman and Schnoebelen, *A Catalogue of Mass, Office, and Holy Week Music Printed in Italy, 1516-1770.*

Facsimile: facsimile of the original set of parts.

Edition: edition of the complete print.

Sources table contains one record for each work within each set of partbooks, with the following fields:

Siglum: from RISM. Linked to **Sigla** table.

Siglum Order: the order within the source, using integers for the numerical ordering shown in the source, and decimals to preserve the order when the source lacks numbering. Part 2 of a motet is listed separately only if it is so numbered in the source.

Scoring: voices and instruments used in the work.

Voices, Instruments: the number of voices and instruments in the work.

Soli, Capella: when there are separate capella parts, the number of parts in each category.

Use: "true" indicates the presence of markings in the parts indicating that the work was performed at St. Mary's.

Key: the final pitch class of the work, using lower-case letters for minor modes and doubled upper-case letters for major modes.

Signature: key signature, using – for flats, + for sharps, and o for none.

Clefs: clefs for the voice parts, divided for polychoral works.

Properties: tracks the presence of characteristics such as high clefs and polychoral scoring.

Words: the source for the text.

Feast: the occasion for which the work was intended, either indicated in the source or obvious from the words

Remarks: notes anything unusual in the source.

Markings: specific notations in the parts.

Bc: particularities of the basso continuo part.

Source Attribution 1: the composer given in the source;

Source Attribution 2: a conflicting attribution within the same source;

Attribution Info: details concerning conflicting or doubtful attribution. No attempts have been made to locate all doubtful attributions.

Internal Concordance: Siglum and Order number for occurrence of the same work within another source of the St. Mary's Choir Library.

Incipits table contains one or two incipits for each work in that table, depending on whether the work begins with an independent instrumental sinfonia. It is based on the Plaine and Easy system of alphanumeric notation and contains the following fields:

Incipit 1: gives the location and voice part of the incipit, with 1.1 indicating the beginning of the piece and 2.1 the beginning of a second movement. Cantus 1 was chosen as the voice part if it begins with a note or a rest of a semibreve or smaller; otherwise the highest first-entering part was used.

Incipit 2: gives the clef (preceded by %), key signature (if there is one, preceded by $), and time signature (preceded by @).

Incipit 3: gives the note value, register, and pitch class for the first few notes of the part, using the following conventions:

note values: 9=long, 0=breve, 1=whole note, 2=half note, 4=quarter note, 8=eighth note, 6=sixteenth note.

register: as in Helmholz and German organ tablature, C begins bass octave; c begins tenor octave; c'=middle c, beginning alto octave; c'' begins soprano octave, with ' and '' not repeated if register remains the same; \ cancels alto octave designation to move into tenor range.

pitches: _ = rest; - for flat and + for sharp are repeated even if governed by key signature, so that the field can be searchable; ^ = natural.

Text Incipit: gives text for the notes of Incipit 3.

Works table contains one record for each distinct work in the collection, eliminating the duplication caused by internal concordances and containing the following fields:

Attribution status: # indicates a conflicting attribution; **?** indicates a doubtful attribution; **^** indicates an attribution that has been identified from an external source.

Composer: Composer's name.

Title: Title, with regularized spelling.

External Catalogue: catalogue of the Composer's works. Linked to **External Catalogues** table.

External Catalogue Number: number in ~~a~~ the catalogue of the Composer's works~~;~~

Language: mainly Latin or German.

External Concordance: RISM siglum for a printed source that predates the anthology in which the work is found and from which it may have been taken, often a single print issued by the composer in question. Linked to **External Concordances** table.

Remarks: notes anything unusual about the work.

Model: earlier work on which a parody or parody mass is based.

Editor: editor of an edition of this work.

Edition Abbreviation: abbreviation for the series in which the edition appears. Linked to **Editions** table.

Details: volume and page where edition appears.

Remarks: notes source for the edition or anything unusual about it.

Edition Link: HTML link to online source for the edition.

Editions table lists modern editions of the works and contains the following fields:

Edition Abbreviation: series abbreviation.

Edition: name of edition series.

Publisher, Dates: publication information.

Remarks: notes anything unusual about the edition series.

Edition Link: gives HTML link to edition series.

External Concordances table contains the following fields:

External Concordance: RISM siglum for a printed source that predates an anthology in which a work is found.

Person: composer or editor of the print.

Title: name of the print.

Place, Date: publication information.

Remarks: notes anything unusual about the print.

Composers table expands on the short form of the composer's name and contains the following fields:

Last Name, First Name Composer name.

Birth date: *Date*: The birth date is *Date*.

Date 1 <--> Date 2: The birth date is not known but it is estimated to be in the time period: *Date 1 - Date 2*.

Date <-->: The birth date is not known but it is estimated to be on or after *Date*.

<--> Date: The birth date is not known but it is estimated to be on or before *Date*.

? *Date*:   The birth date is probably *Date*. ca

Date: The birth date is around *Date*.

bapt. *Date*: The person was baptized on *Date*.

fl. *Date*:   The person was known (flourished) *Date*.

fl. ca *Date*: The person was known (flourished) around *Date* .

Death date: *Date*: The death date is *Date*.

Date 1 <--> Date 2: The death date is not known but it is estimated to be in the time period: *Date 1 - Date 2*.

Date <-->: The death date is not known but it is estimated to be on or after *Date*.
<--> *Date*: The death date is not known but it is estimated to be on or before *Date*.
? *Date*:　　The death date is probably *Date*.
ca *Date*:　　The death date is around *Date*.
buried *Date*: The person was buried *Date*.
est. inv. *Date*: The estate inventory is dated to *Date*.
fl. *Date*:　　The person was known (flourished) *Date*.
fl. ca *Date*: The person was known (flourished) around *Date*.

External Catalogues table gives information about thematic catalogues for various composers and contains the following fields:
Composer: the composer whose works are catalogued.
Author: the author of the catalogue.
Title: the title of the catalogue.
Publication: publication information.

Relational databases are exceptionally good at making connections but notoriously poor at displaying nuances, because all the information in the linking fields must be regularized. Thus it is not possible to give varied spellings for the names of the composers and editors that populate the various persons fields of the **Sigla, Sources**, **Works**, **External Concordances** and **External Catalogues** tables. For the same reason, only one RISM siglum is given for each print, whereas a collection issued by one composer that contains a few works by another may appear in the individual-prints series (A/I) with one siglum and in the anthologies series (B/I) with another.