We Must Save the Music!

Institutional Repositories Preserving the Output of Music Departments

**Background**
Archives and Music Departments/Conservatories don’t often collaborate on preservation. They are simply disconnected entities at most universities. As we discovered that our Conservatory had commissioned musical works, the Archivist and Music Librarian saw an opportunity for digital humanities preservation. The goal of this project is not only to preserve, display, and make the compositions accessible to the public, but also to give a second creative life to those works.

**Why Is It Important to Display the Scores?**
- They are new, different, and exciting!
- Drives visibility to the new works.
- Shows support for the composers’ creations.
- Inspires others to perform the music or create their own music.

**Copyright and Agreement**
- With the copyright of the commissioned work belonging to the composers, to legally display the commissioned work on SPIRAL, we needed the composers to sign an agreement permitting us to do so.
- Using “Forms and Agreements” templates shared in the Digital Commons Resource Library, the Archivist and Music Librarian created a document granting Lynn the right to display the commissioned work on SPIRAL.
- Lynn’s General Counsel reviewed and approved it, and the agreement was sent to and signed by the composers.

**ISSUU**
ISSUU is a 3rd party digital publishing platform that offers a page-flipping presentation of uploaded PDF materials. We initiated chose to upload the scores to ISSUU and embed the ISSUU reader in SPIRAL for a few reasons:
- Presentation of scores in ISSUU reader is visually pleasing.
- The ISSUU reader is easily embeddable in SPIRAL.
- To prevent download and avoid unauthorized distribution.

**Workflow**

**Statistics on SPIRAL via Google Analytics**
bepress provides us a free Google Analytics account. Besides PlumX Metrics available for each page, we use Google Analytics to gain different insights. For this presentation, we show the statistics of the two collections and describe the steps to obtain the data.

**Content Drilldown in the Site Content reports shows engagement for directories and pages on our site.**
- Click Reports > Behavior > Site Content > Content Drilldown
- In the search box, type the page path, e.g., /conservatory/commissionedworks/ and set the date range to 7/1/2018 to 2/25/2021.
- To view the report for both of the collections, please click [here](#).

**Data from 7/1/2018 - 2/25/2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Commissioned Works</th>
<th>Composition Competition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pageviews</td>
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<td>229</td>
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**What Is SPIRAL?**
SPIRAL – Scholarly Publications Institutional Repository and Archives at Lynn – is Lynn University’s institutional Repository, hosted by bepress. SPIRAL serves as an online archive for collecting, preserving, and disseminating digital copies of the intellectual output of Lynn University.

**Commissioned and Student Works**
The Conservatory of Music recognizes the educational value in performing works by living composers. Since 2008, it has commissioned 11 works for the New Music Festival and Philharmonia. Also, the composition competition is held annually. As the Conservatory celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2019, the Lynn Library commissioned a musical work from the Lynn alumna for the anniversary video, which commemorates the Conservatory’s history.

**New Music Festival**
- String Quartet No. 1 by Bruce Polay (2008)
- Chamber Symphony by Joseph Tunnin (2009)
- Gee’s Bend Pieces for Piano, Trumpet and Percussion by Kenneth Kotheris (2010)
- Double Vision for Clarinet, Violin and Piano by Thomas L. McKinley (2011)
- Announcement for Orchestra by Donald Worrall (2012)
- Tequesta Song for Piano Quartet by Shirley J. Thompson (2013)
- Divertimento for Winds, op. 255 by David Noon (2015)
- Nightingale (Concert Version) by Scott Wheeler (2018)
- Air on the G for Piano Trio by Yevgeny Shirlat (2019)

**Lynn University Philharmonia**
- Concerto for Piano and Trumpet by James M. Stephenson, III (2007)
- Concerto for Flute by Mariano Morales (2018)

**Composition Competition Winners**
- Symphony No. 3: Symphony for the Twenty-First Century by David Rogers (2016)
- Caracas: A Symphonic Poem to the Idea of a City by Alfredo Cabrera (2017)
- Binari by Matthew Carlton (2018)

**Lynn University Conservatory of Music 20th Anniversary**
- To the Man with All the Knowledge by Alfredo Cabrera (2019)

**Future Application/Takeaway**
- ADVOCATE: We strongly advocate for other Archivists to outreach to Music departments and other creative departments on university campuses for opportunities to rehome creative works in IRs. It not only ensures the preservation and proper archiving of the creative output of the university, but it also fosters team-building and collaboration between colleagues and departments.
- COLLABORATE: This collaboration model framework and workflow can be applied to other Archivist/Librarian Liaison areas and creative departments: new drama program, Digital Media Arts College acquisition, film studies, and more.
- EDUCATE: Spreads awareness about Archives (and the IR) throughout groups who might not ordinarily consider Archives as a means of displaying creative work.
- ISSUES with ISSUU (and other 3rd party publishing platforms): Since we’ve started using ISSUU, some of the features have become available only to paid accounts, such as detailed statistics and a native full screen reading experience. (With the free account, viewers are taken to the ISSUU site to look at the scores.) Our solutions to these issues are as follows:
  - Detailed statistics – We’ve decided to use Google Analytics.
  - A native full screen reading experience – We’ve decided to continue using ISSUU regardless of the reading experience. We explored other 3rd party publishing platforms to achieve the “flipping” experience. However, we discovered issues with each platform. Unless bepress offers us this feature, there is no cost-effective way to display the scores in a visually pleasing way.