

CIMCIM

Comité International des Musées et Collections d'Instruments de Musique
Comité Internacional de Museos y Colecciones de Instrumentos Musicales
International Committee of Musical Instruments Museums and Collections

President Cynthia Adams Hoover *Division of Musical History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560 U.S.A.*
Telephone 202 357-1707. Fax 202 786-2883.

Vice-President Arnold Myers *Edinburgh University Collection of Historic Musical Instruments, Reid Concert Hall, Bristo Square, Edinburgh EH8 9AG Scotland. Telephone 31 447-4791. E-Mail A.MYERS@UK.AC.ED.*

Secretary-Treasurer Robert Barclay *Canadian Conservation Institute, 1030 Innes, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C8 Canada.*
Telephone 613 998-3721. Fax 613 998-4721.

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IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT - CIMCIM 1994, UNITED KINGDOM

Plans are well under way for the CIMCIM meetings in London and Edinburgh, but *don't forget* that the Galpin Society and the Historic Brass Society are meeting in Edinburgh as well. This will be the first time ever that delegates from these three organizations will have had the opportunity to meet. Who knows when it will happen again? Don't miss this opportunity! Fill in the booking form enclosed with CIMCIM *Bulletin* No. 18, or contact either of the following:

Arnold Myers,
Edinburgh University Collection of Historic
Musical Instruments,
Reid Concert Hall,
Bristo Square,
Edinburgh EH8 9AG.
Telephone (+44) 31-447 4791
e-mail A.MYERS@UK.AC.ED
(from some countries
A.MYERS@ED.AC.UK)

Margaret Birley,
The Horniman Museum,
100 London Road,
Forest Hill,
London SE23 3PQ.
Telephone (+44) 81-699 1872
Fax (+44) 81-291 5506.

Elizabeth Wells,
Royal College of Music Museum,
Prince Consort Road,
London SW7 2BS.
Telephone (+44) 71-589 3643
Fax (+44) 71-589 7740.

It's not long until June, so make your bookings as soon as possible. The programme the organizers have laid out for us looks very enticing indeed, and we look forward to seeing as many CIMCIM people as possible.

*A committee of ICOM, the International Council of Museums
Un comité del ICOM, el Consejo Internacional de Museos
Un comité de l'ICOM, le Conseil International des Musées*

William Malm Retires from the Directorship of the Stearns Collection (University of Michigan). James Borders Named New Director

Prof. William P. Malm retired as the Director of the Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments at the University of Michigan on 31 December 1993. Under his leadership, great strides were made in the areas of acquisition of extra-European instruments and documentation of holdings, including the development of the MusInst database. Indeed, it might be said that Bill insured the very survival of the Collection not that many years ago by insisting that the University provide space for its storage and display. His dedication and hard work with the Friends organization have made it possible for the Collection to boast ample exhibition space including the Moss and Howard display cases, the Virginia Martin Howard Lecture Series, and a growing endowment fund. Bill has agreed to retain the title of Director Emeritus.

The new Director of the Collection is James Borders, Associate Professor and formerly Curator of Western Instruments. The immediate focus of Borders's work will be research leading to an interactive CD-ROM catalogue of holdings, including sound and video of instruments being played or constructed. The Collection has also undertaken a long-range to project to document and conserve its European bowed strings. (Private donations to begin this work have recently been received.) As a first step in this project, a viola by the eighteenth century German maker Georg Klotz has been sent for technical examination, photography, radiography, and an M.R.I. scan to the Smithsonian in Washington D.C.

James Borders

Address Reminder

Birgit Kjellström at Musikmuseet in Stockholm requested that the address of the museum be printed here in case members have it written down wrong:

SMS Musikmuseet,
Box 16326,
S-103 26 Stockholm,
Sweden

Course on Musical Instrument Care

A course in musical instrument conservation is being organized by The Conservation Unit of the Museums and Galleries Commission in the UK. The course, to take place in London from 31 July to 6 August 1994, will present the most up-to-date information and thinking on the care and conservation of musical instrument collections, whether they are preserved for exhibition, research or playing. Participants will be introduced to the special care requirements of a range of classical western and ethnographic instruments.

"The importance of our musical heritage in museums is beyond question," said Carole Milner, Head of Conservation and Collections Care at the the MGC. "This short course is part of the MGC's response to the recommendations of *Museums of Music* and is an important step towards meeting the training needs of those responsible for these collections."

The course will consider the special requirements of the instruments and the materials from which they are constructed, and the effect buildings can have on the collection environment.

The course will be given by Robert Barclay of the Canadian Conservation Institute, Ottawa, Canada; Friedemann Hellwig of the Fachhochschule, Cologne, Germany; Cary Karp of the Royal Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm, Sweden; and Scott Odell, previously Head Conservator of the Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C., U.S.A. The course will consist of formal presentations supplemented with demonstrations and visits. It is aimed at curators responsible for significant collections of musical instruments and conservators or restorers who have experience of work on such collections, either in the public or private sectors.

A course brochure and application form is available from:

Musical Instruments Conservation Course,
The Conservation Unit,
Museums and Galleries Commission,
16 Queen Anne's Gate,
London SW1H 9AA.
Tel: 071 233 4200
Fax: 071 233 3686