Music History

This handout highlights ARTstor content related to world music throughout the ages, including images of musical scores, composers, performers, instruments, and venues such as concert halls and opera houses, as well as examples of musical iconography.

FEATURED COLLECTIONS

Eyes of the Nation: A Visual History of the United States (Library of Congress)  
» library.artstor.org/library/collection/loc_eyes

Historic American Sheet Music Covers (Minneapolis College of Art and Design)  
» library.artstor.org/library/collection/mcad_sheetmusic

Magnum Photos: Contemporary Photojournalism  
» library.artstor.org/library/collection/magnum

The Metropolitan Museum of Art  
» library.artstor.org/library/collection/metmuseum

DIID YOU KNOW?

The Bodleian Library at the University of Oxford and Princeton University Library have shared approximately 27,800 images of Medieval and Renaissance manuscripts and early printed books. These outstanding collections include manuscripts related to the performance of the mass and divine office, which contain sung elements that are recorded with musical notation. Scholars and students may study the evolution of musical notation by viewing images from complete books of liturgy, the missal and the breviary, as well as in specialized volumes for the choir, such as the gradual, antiphonal (or antiphonary), hymnal, psalter, trope, and processional. Medieval and Renaissance depictions of music and musicians may be found in these musical manuscripts and books of hours, as well as in the illuminations, borders, and marginalia of countless manuscripts in both collections.

Find more information about ARTstor Collections  
» www.artstor.org/library/collectionlist

SEARCH TIPS

Browse the Classification for Performing Arts and then select a country name

Keyword search for aesthetic movements or names of individual musicians, composers, or conductors (to find portraits or photographs of performances)

To find examples of musical instruments, browse museums with encyclopedic collections (e.g. The Metropolitan Museum of Art or the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston) and select the category for Decorative Arts

SEARCH TERMS