
Browsing by Call Number (Classification number)

The Music Library uses Library of Congress Classification numbers to organize its collections. Here are some important classification numbers that will help you explore the shelves.

Vocal Music

M 1503: Vocal scores (with keyboard accomp.) of operas and musicals
M 1507: Excerpts of operas & musicals – collections (piano acc.)
M 1508: Selections from specific operas and musicals (piano acc.)
M 1613.3: Works for voice with two or more instruments
M 1619: Songs with piano – multiple-composer collections (many are by voice type)
M 1620: Songs with piano – single composer collections
M 1621: Songs with piano – separate works
M 1621.3: Works for voice with keyboard and one other instrument
M 1621.4 Song cycles
M 1627-M 1977: Folk and popular songs; (note that the Mary Mellish Collection in the R.P. Bell Library includes a lot of folk music!)
M 2003: Vocal scores of oratorios, etc.
M 2006: Collections of sacred vocal excerpts (arias from oratorios, etc.), often by voice type
M 2013: Masses & requiems -- vocal scores
M 2023: Cantatas, etc. – vocal scores
M 2110: Sacred song collections

Texts and Translations

ML 48-49: Opera librettos – collections
ML 50: Opera librettos – separate works
ML 54.6: Song texts and translations. Be sure to look in the Reference collection as well as in the regular stacks. A few also include IPA transcriptions.

Singing and Vocal Technique

MT820-823: General works on vocal techniques and physiology of the voice
MT 883: Pronunciation and Diction (including a few books in Reference)
MT 885: Studies and exercises
MT 890: Instructive editions of vocal works
MT 892: Interpretation, phrasing, expression, etc.

Vocal Repertoire Lists and Indexes

ML 128.S3, .S43, .S69: Songs – Bibliographies, repertoire lists, indexes, etc. (Most are in Reference)
ML 128.V7: Vocal music bibliographies (Most are in Reference)

Current Journals

Choral Journal (older issues in ML 1.C6)
Journal of Singing (older issues – ML 27.U5 N265)
Opera Canada (older issues – ML 1.O6)

Ask for Help!

Finding specific songs and arias can be challenging. If you don’t find what you’re looking for, ask the Music Librarian (Laura Snyder) for help. I am usually in the Music Library during afternoon hours, Monday-Friday. I can also be reached by email (lsnyder@mta.ca) or phone: 364-2214.