

Rio de Janeiro, October 2025

## The International Council for Traditions of Music and Dance

*Study Group on Sources and Archives for Music Studies (MUS.A)*

Co-chairs: Miguel A. García and Gerda Lechleitner. Secretary: Susana Sardo

### Call for papers

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great enthusiasm that we invite you to participate in the *26<sup>th</sup> Symposium* of our Study Group scheduled to take place in Rio de Janeiro **from October 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. The event will be hosted at the Museu do Folclore Edison Carneiro/IPHAN, Rio de Janeiro.

The *Study Group on Sources and Archives for the Music and Sound Studies* focuses on any kind of source and seeks to stimulate extensive debates on those manifold sources within archival conditions. Research in the field of music and sound presents methodological, political, and ethical challenges that compel sound archives, institutions, and researchers to contemplate their roles in the digital environment, grapple with the legacy of colonialism, and address the appropriation of archives by users. Consequently, we propose to discuss two timely and significant topics related to sources and archives:

#### 1. *(Sound) Archives and Sources in the Context of New Technologies and Emerging Powers*

In recent years, new technologies related to sound and listening have emerged, producing significant transformations in the distribution and storage of sound, with profound consequences for our fields of research. The rise of phenomena such as platformization, streaming distribution, and softwarization, along with the unpredictable development of Artificial Intelligence, compels us to reconsider the technical and ethical dimensions of our practices. Furthermore, the control exercised by Big Tech over the technologies we use to manage archives and sources should prompt us to reexamine issues related to authority, authorship, authenticity, accessibility, institutional responsibilities and more.

#### 2. *Beyond the Canon: Alternative Approaches to Sound Sources and Archives*

This topic invites proposals on alternative models of sound archiving, considering practices in Indigenous peoples, emotional communities, socially vulnerable groups, and by collectors and other social actors. We welcome contributions addressing the challenges, targets and relevance of archivization and safeguarding sound sources either in institutional or community contexts, thus exploring archival models that question hegemonic conceptions of heritage and the values embedded in preserving, sustaining, concealing, silencing, or transforming sound archives.

### 3. *Sound Circulation, Memory, and Heritage through Oceanic Routes*

This topic invites proposals on the transoceanic and transnational circulation of sounds and sound sources, with a focus on oceanic studies, global and colonial history, and interconnected communities. We welcome contributions that explore and reassess processes of displacement and suppression, recontextualization, the transfer of agency to source communities, and mediation, as well as debates on ownership, restitution, and the cultural politics shaping sonic mobility. Special attention is given to the Atlantic as a central space in the co-construction of shared sonic heritage – particularly between Europe, Africa, and South America – and to the role of museums and (virtual) exhibitions in addressing these issues.

We invite colleagues to present innovative approaches on the above-described topics, but proposals that do not fall within these topics will also be considered.

We encourage presentations of individual papers (position papers related to new ideas and approaches, or report papers related to ongoing work) as well as panels (minimum 3 presenters plus a chair). In both cases, an abstract of 300 words per person must be sent **before January 31, 2026**, to the following addresses:

switayah@yahoo.com.ar (Miguel A. García)

gerda.lechleitner@oeaw.ac.at (Gerda Lechleitner)

ssardo@ua.pt (Susana Sardo)

Currently, the local organizers are unable to provide financial support. Therefore, we kindly request that you seek funding from your respective institutions for travel, accommodations and stay in Rio de Janeiro.

#### **Program committee**

Miguel A. García (Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas, Argentina and University of Buenos Aires)

Gerda Lechleitner (Retired, Phonogrammarchiv, Austrian Academy of Sciences)

Susana Sardo (Universidade de Aveiro– INET-md, Portugal)

Pedro Aragão (Universidade Federal do Estado do Rio de Janeiro – UNIRIO)

#### **Local arrangements committee**

Pedro Aragão (Universidade Federal do Estado do Rio de Janeiro/PPGM)

Maya Suemi Lemos (Universidade Estadual do Rio de Janeiro/PPGHA)

Edilberto Fonseca (Universidade Federal Fluminense/IHS)

Edmundo Pereira (Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro/Museu Nacional)

#### **Contact for more information:**

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