

Sheet music archive of Latvian composers / Latvian sheet music archive

*Ruta Almane-Palmbaha
Head of Music Collection*

National Library of Latvia | Special collections department

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Sheet music collections in Latvia



Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of music
Photographer Toms Grīnbergs.



Latvian National museum of literature and music
Photo from kulturasdati.lv



National Library of Latvia
Photo from ism.lv

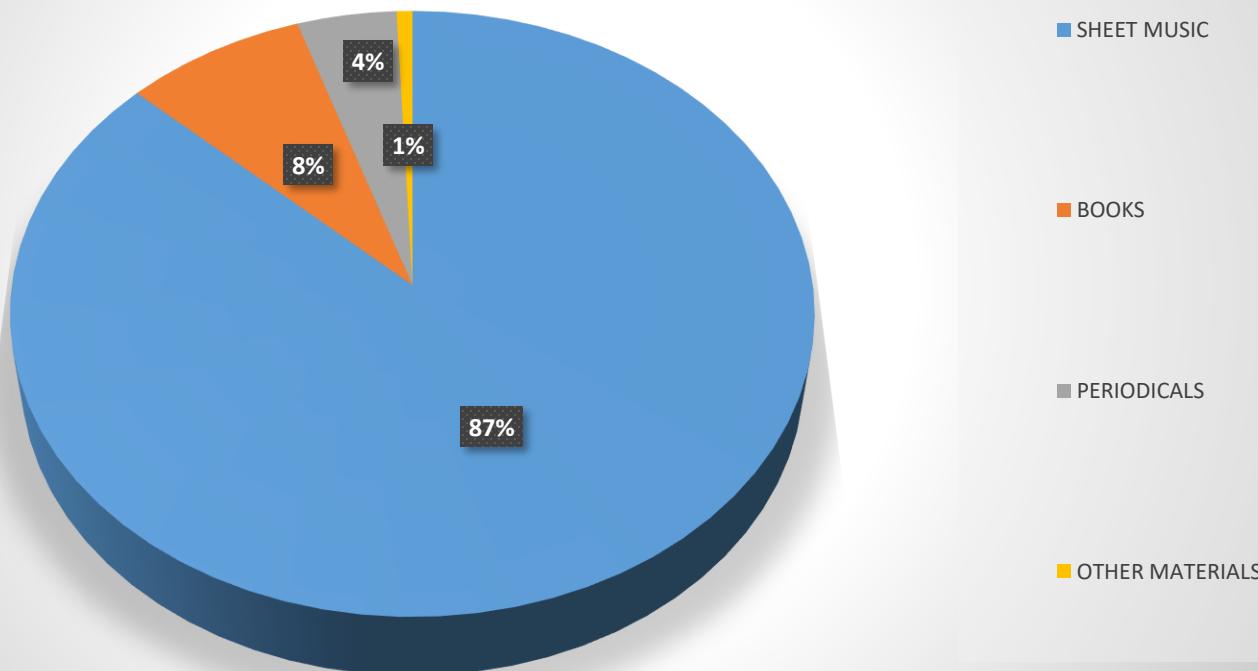
Music Collection of the National Library of Latvia (1)



Music Collection of the National Library of Latvia (2)

Music Collection 01.01.2025.

248710 ITEMS



Music Collection of the National Library of Latvia (3)

L N B
LATVIJAS
NACIONĀLĀ
BIBLIOTĒKA



With users in reading room



Working in storage

Music Collection of the National Library of Latvia (4)



IAML in Stellenbosch



Research work

Music Collection of the National Library of Latvia (5)



Creating exhibitions

*Tours for various music
representatives*



Music Collection of the National Library of Latvia (6)



We talk about current events on radio shows

Working with different types of data



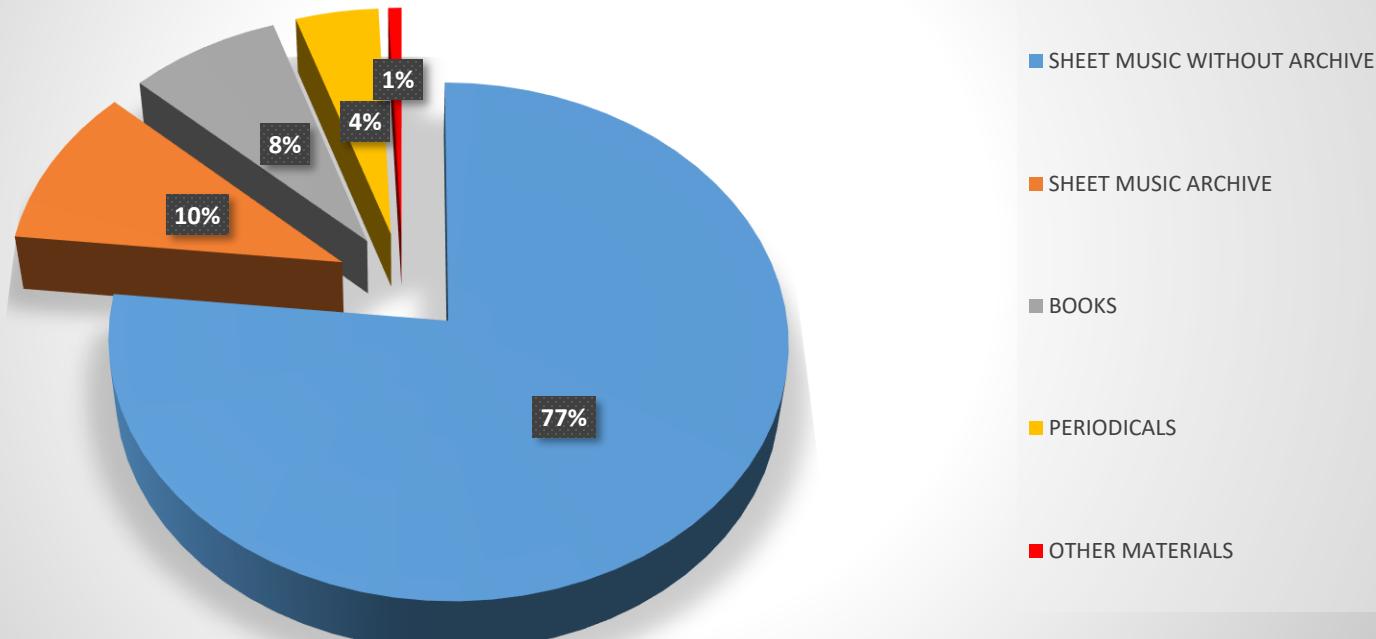
Latvian sheet music archive (1)

The **Latvian Sheet Music Archive** contains a **single edition** of both published and unpublished works by Latvian composers, created in Latvia and abroad. The archive includes **printed editions, manuscripts, handwritten scores, and copies**. It also holds sheet music published by **Latvian publishing houses**, which means that works by foreign composers may be included as well.



Latvian sheet music archive (2)

Music Collection 01.01.2025.



Total amount of archive 25489 / total amount of music collection 248710

Why create a Latvian sheet music archive?

1. Unique Collection:

- Created by the National Library and the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music;
- Contains both duplicate and unique copies;
- Our collection is the most comprehensive

3. Research Platform:

- Provides an excellent platform for researchers;
- Facilitates musicological and historical studies

2. Preservation of Latvian Music History:

- Versatile and as complete a history of Latvian music as possible;
- Preserved in one place for long-term access

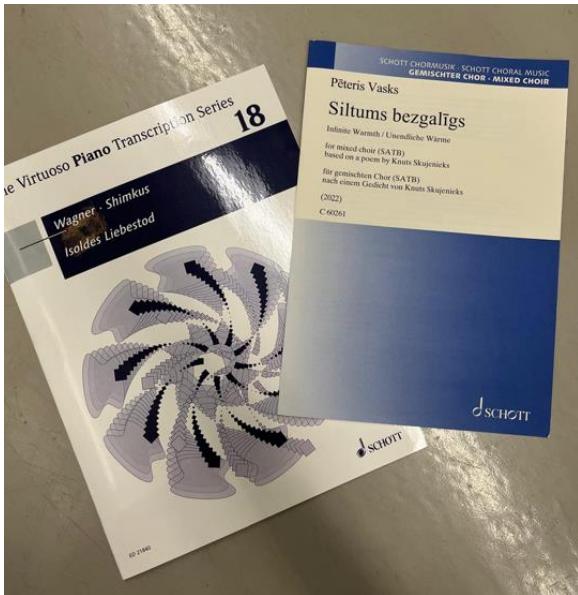
4. Access for Musicians

- Rich Latvian music available in the electronic catalog;
- Musicians can easily explore and select music from this extensive collection for their performances

How is The Latvian sheet music archive created?



Purchases and legal deposit



Donations



Latvian Sheet Music Archive. Progress in the Past 15 Years.

Two periods: 2009–2021 & 2021–2024+

2009–2021:

Card catalogs scanned and integrated (~19,000 records)

Records reviewed, corrected, and barcoded;
Archive keeps first copy; duplicates in general collection

2021–2024:

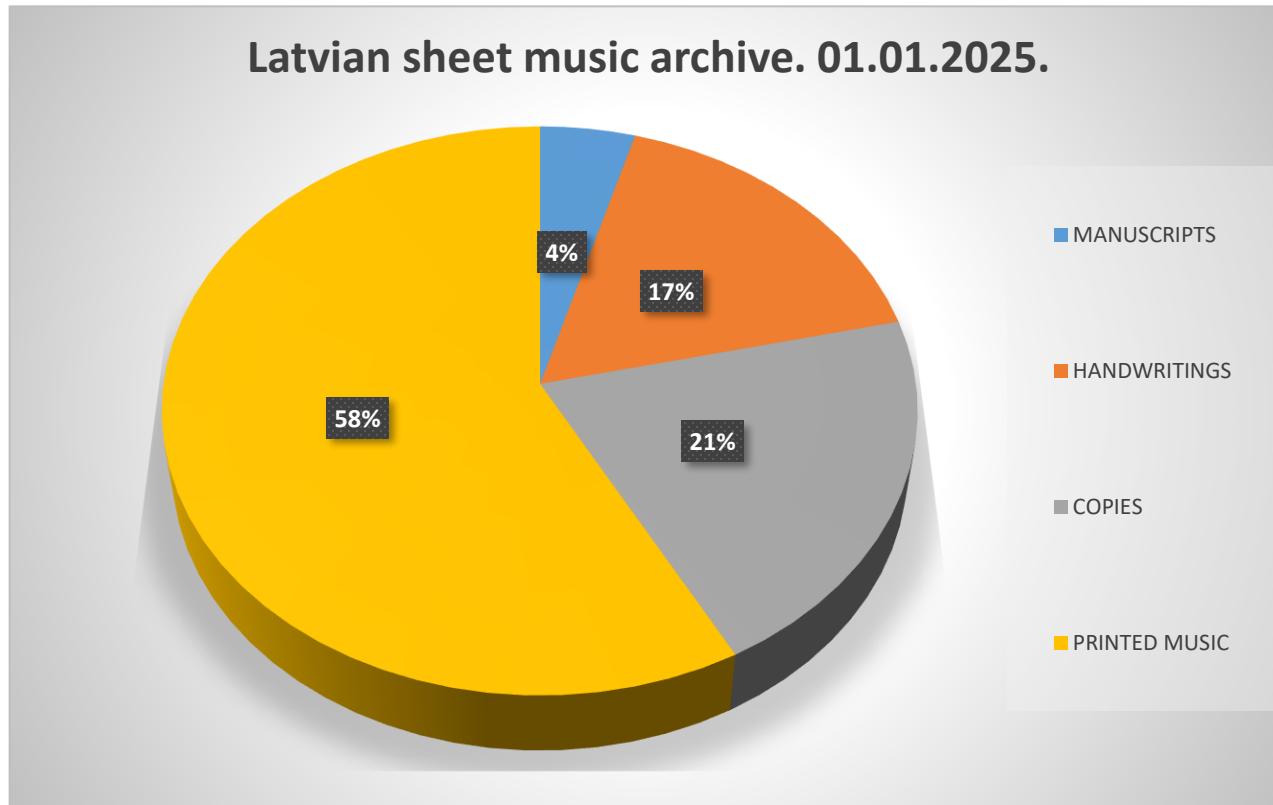
Ongoing review, fixing errors, shelf-by-shelf checks
Unbarcoded items identified and cataloged

Both periods:

Sheet music organized in folders; folder shortages due to budget



Latvian sheet music archive overview - 01.01.2025.



Total amount = 25489 items

170 meters ; 3 to 9 meters per year

Why 15 Years reviewing the Latvian Sheet Music Archive Matters?

Conclusions (1)



Complete Cataloging

Every item has been individually cataloged and is easy to locate in the electronic system.



Improved Searchability

Records include detailed search options—by composer, type, publication year, and more.



Special Features Documented

Autographs, stamps, and unique markings are noted in many records.



Condition Assessment

Each item's condition was checked; those needing conservation have been set aside for preservation.

Why 15 Years reviewing the Latvian Sheet Music Archive Matters? Conclusions (2)



Proper Storage Ensured

All materials are stored in protective folders or covers suitable for long-term care.



Collection Cleanup

Duplicate items were identified, helping to streamline and organize the archive.

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- ### New Research Pathways

Close work revealed topics for future study—like rare editions, manuscript analysis, and foreign music in Latvia.

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- ### Cultural Significance

The archive is a **unique and vital part** of Latvia's musical heritage—and a lasting resource for researchers and musicians.

THANK YOU!!!

NLL sheet mus.arch. - Basic
Search

For more information:
ruta.almane-palmbaha@lnb.lv