The RISM Catalog Survey

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IAML/IMS Congress, New York
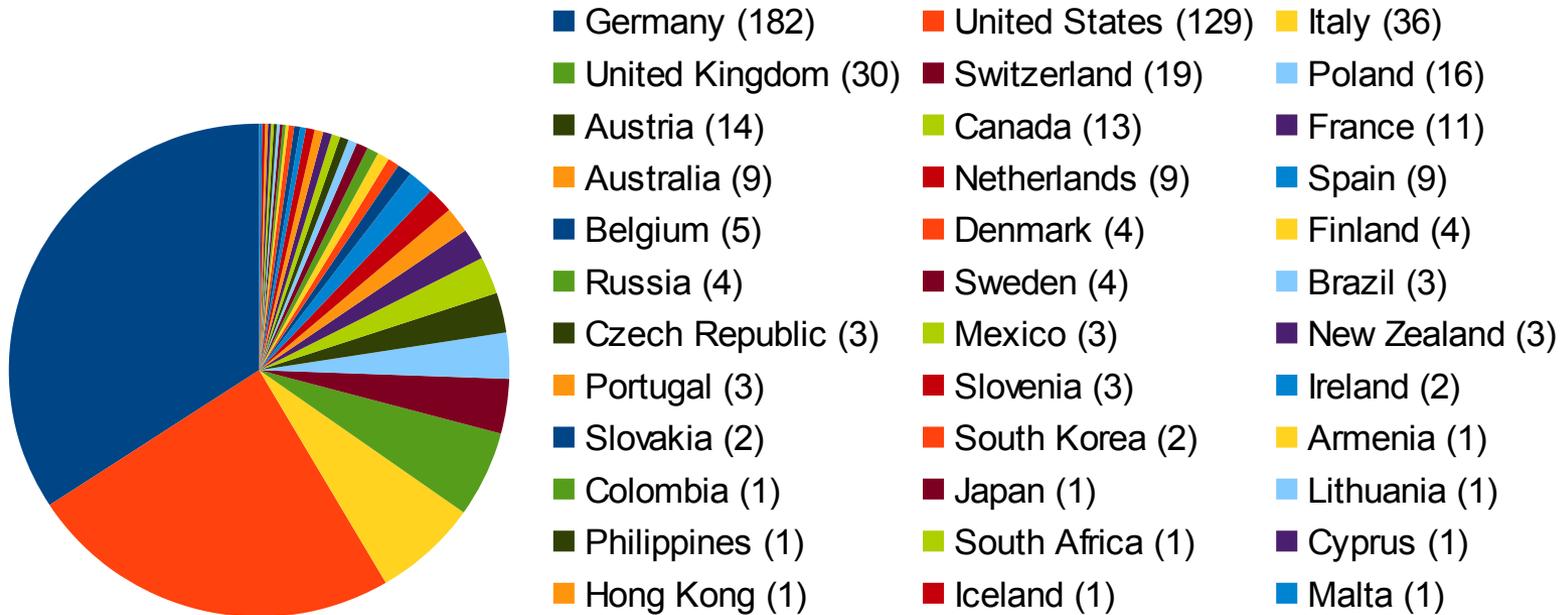June 2015

Background and goals

- New release of online catalog in 2014
- Find out:
    - Who are our users?
    - What are their expectations?
    - How do they search the catalog?
- Offer:
    - Better instruction
    - Improved help texts, tutorials
    - OPAC improvements if feasible
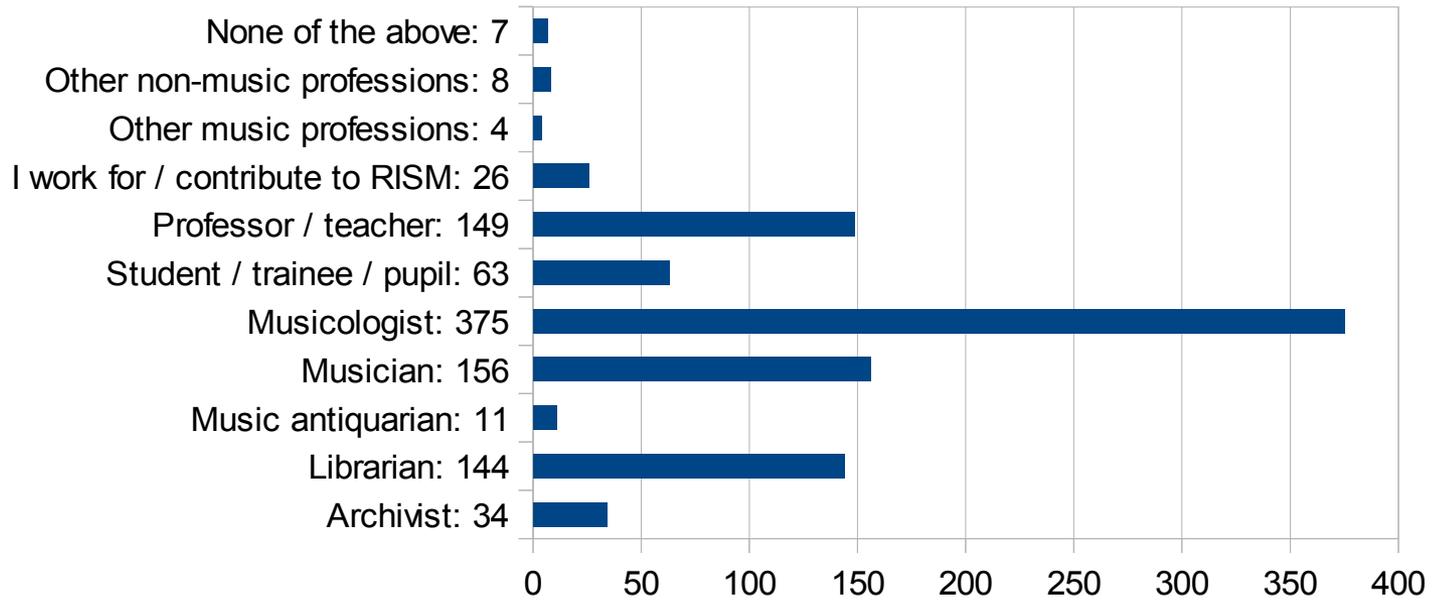   - Guidance to help you teach RISM

Survey overview

- 62 questions (English and German)
- 551 responses
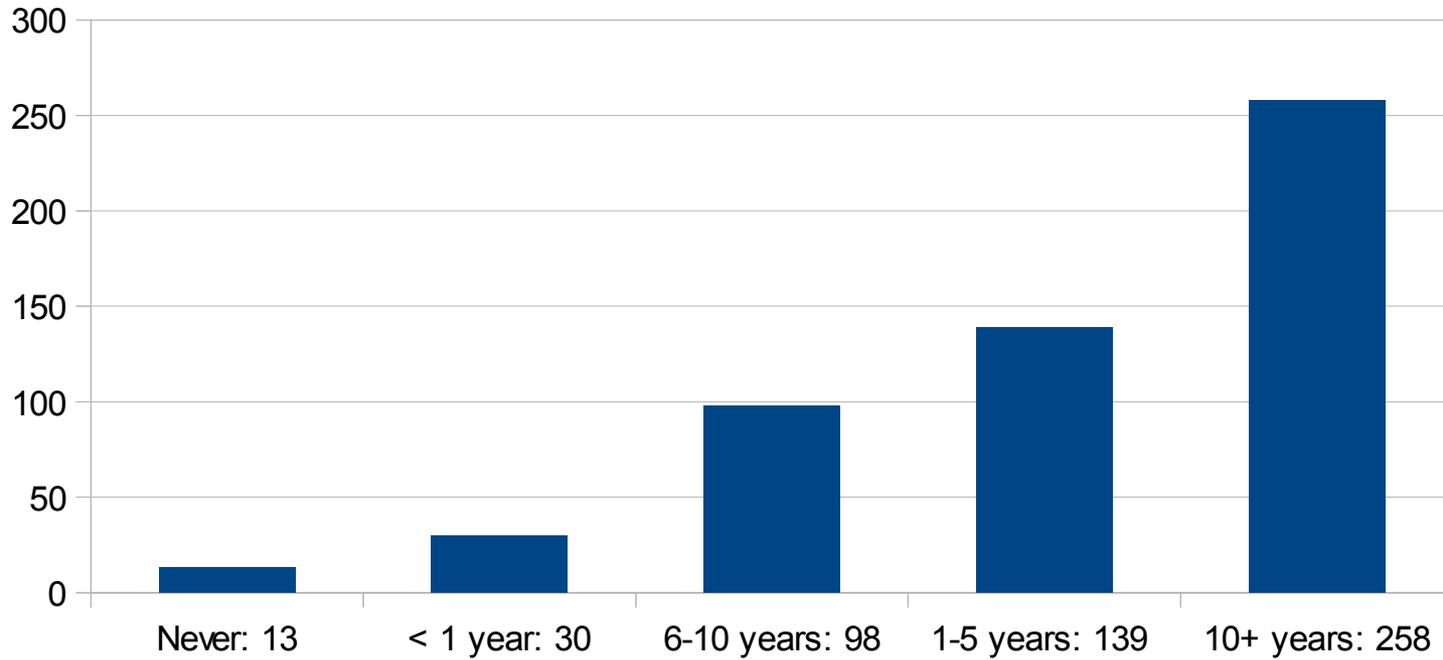- 342 English, 209 German
- Google fusion table

55 & 56. What country do you live in?

- Germany (182)
- United States (129)
- Italy (36)
- United Kingdom (30)
- Switzerland (19)
- Poland (16)
- Austria (14)
- Canada (13)
- France (11)
- Australia (9)
- Netherlands (9)
- Spain (9)
- Belgium (5)
- Denmark (4)
- Finland (4)
- Russia (4)
- Sweden (4)
- Brazil (3)
- Czech Republic (3)
- Mexico (3)
- New Zealand (3)
- Portugal (3)
- Slovenia (3)
- Ireland (2)
- Slovakia (2)
- South Korea (2)
- Armenia (1)
- Colombia (1)
- Japan (1)
- Lithuania (1)
- Philippines (1)
- South Africa (1)
- Cyprus (1)
- Hong Kong (1)
- Iceland (1)
- Malta (1)

59. Which of the following groups would you put yourself in?

Group	Count
None of the above	7
Other non-music professions	8
Other music professions	4
I work for / contribute to RISM	26
Professor / teacher	149
Student / trainee / pupil	63
Musicologist	375
Musician	156
Music antiquarian	11
Librarian	144
Archivist	34

1. How long have you been using RISM?

3. How often do you use the online catalog?

Response	Count
Often (several times a month)	238
Occasionally (a few times a year)	149
Sometimes (once a month)	129
Never	20
Other	2
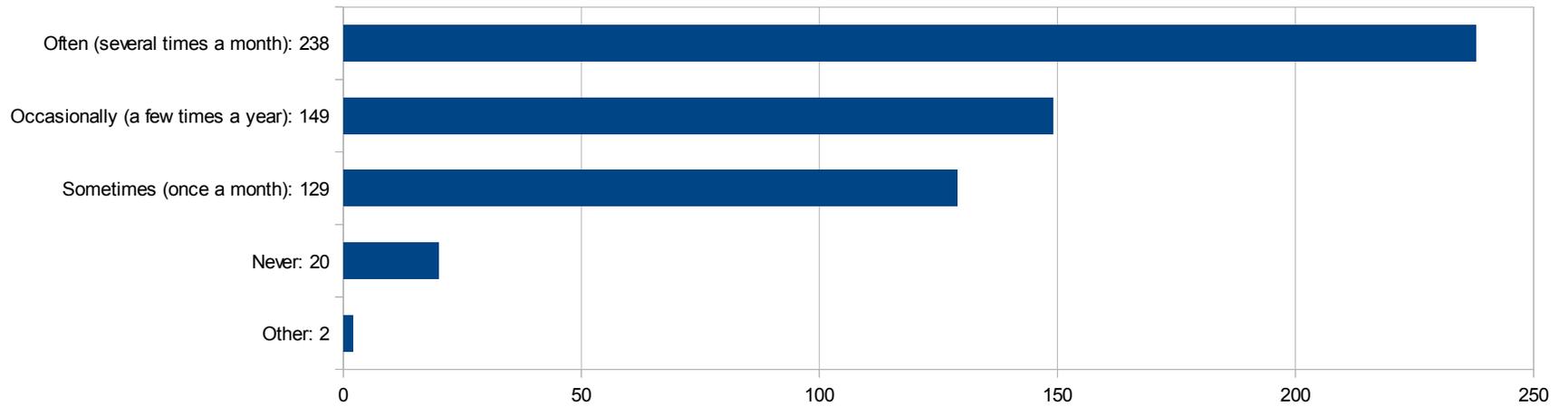
9. Do you use the simple search or the advanced search?

- Simple search: 63

- Advanced search: 117

- Both: 343

- I've never used the online catalog: 13

11. Do you use the on-screen piano keyboard?

- Yes, often: 31
- Yes, sometimes: 83
- Rarely: 117
- No: 298

13. Which fields do you use in the Advanced Search?

- Top 5:
  - Composer
  - Title
  - Library siglum
  - Catalog of works number
  - Genre
- Bottom 5:
  - Liturgical festival, watermarks, language, key, source type

14. What other fields would you like to be able to search in the Advanced Search?

- Role
- Voice type
- Time signature
- Date added to RISM
- Differentiating "Other names" into dedicatee, copyist, etc.

RISM

Répertoire International des Sources Musicales

New York | Search | Advanced search

🖨 Print   ✉ Send   💾 Save   📶 Atom feed

Your search request: **All fields = New York**

Narrow results	**Result(s) (4275)**	|« ‹ **1** **2** **3** **4** **5** › »|

Digitized music (11)

▼**Genre**
Offertories (672)
Sacred songs (449)
Hymns (186)
Operas (183)
Keyboard pieces (140)
Show more ...

▼**Composer**
Anonymus (525)
Witt, Franz Xaver (482)
Hook, James (196)
Stoecklin, Konrad (127)
Shield, William (102)
Show more ...

▼**Source type**
Print (3256)
Manuscript (1059)
Autograph (54)
Possible autograph (34)
Partial autograph (7)
Show more ...

▼**Scoring**
Coro (975)
Coro, org (378)
pf (244)
V (4), Coro, org (198)
V (4), Coro (194)
Show more ...

▼**Publisher**
Gilfert, George (277)
Hewitt, James (260)
Paff, John & Michael... (168)
Carr, Benjamin (140)
Carr, J. (132)
Show more ...

▼**Year**
<=1677 (145)
1678 - 1780 (254)

Select titles: Save in: Sort by: max. results/page
all | none | Temporary list   ▼ | Save | unsorted   ▼ | Sort | 10 ▼ | Show

☐ 1.   Watlen, John
          Songs - RISM A/I W 239a

☐ 2.   Fala, John
          Marches - vl, fl, pf RISM A/I FF 65 I,1

☐ 3.   Anonymus
          Minuets - 2 vl, b, 2 fl (2 vl) RISM A/I AN 1953

☐ 4.   Watlen, John
          Songs - RISM A/I W 250a

☐ 5.   Anonymus
          Songs - RISM A/I AN 3046

☐ 6.   Ware, William
          Pantomimes - RISM A/I W 212a

☐ 7.   Willson, Joseph
          Songs - RISM A/I WW 1229b

# 25. How useful are the new catalog features?

- Top 5:
  - Sorting the search results by year, title, or composer
  - Search for digitized music
  - More precise display of composer attributions (verified, misattributed, etc.)
  - Save/send/print entries
  - Boolean search operators (and, or, not)

43. Which 3 words describe RISM the best?

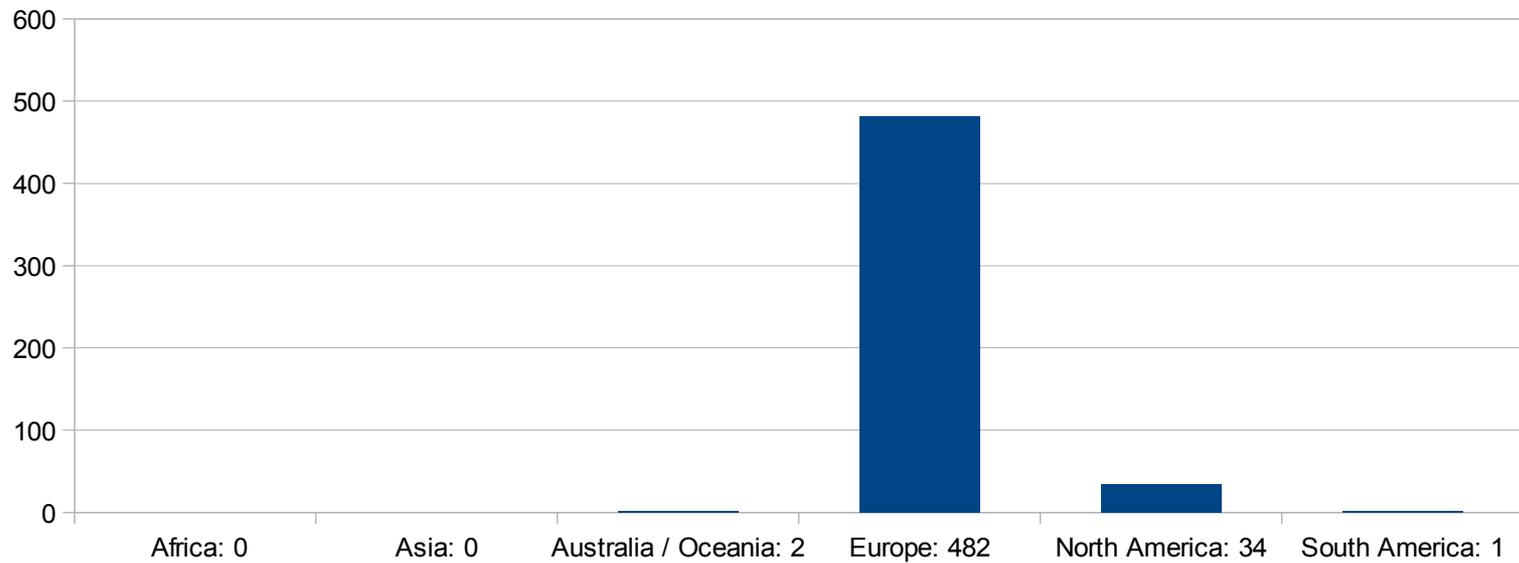| Word	Count
Scholarly	434
Important	374
Interesting	260
Straightforward	137
Complicated	52
Attractive	43
Awesome	37
Simple	36
Old-fashioned	19
Cluttered	14
Weak	5
Fun	5
Irrelevant	4
Boring	3
Stupid	1
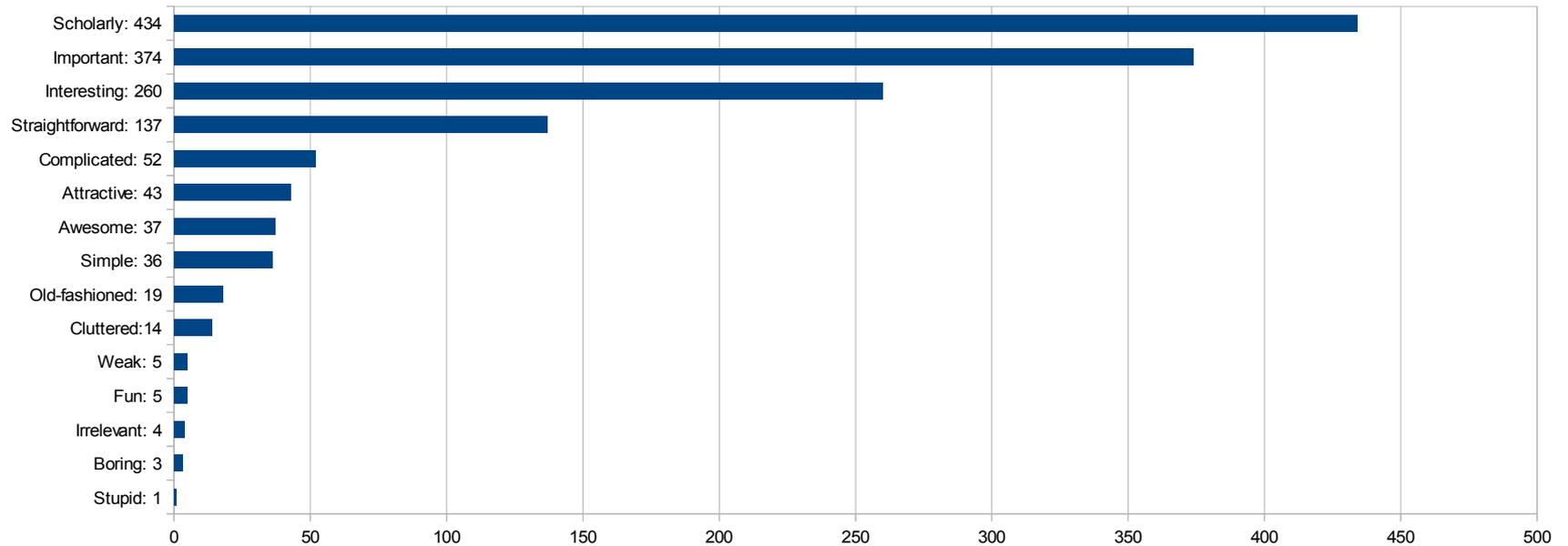
interesting, scholarly, important: 140 respondents
straightforward, scholarly, important: 62
straightforward, scholarly, interesting: 29
scholarly, important, awesome: 16
scholarly, important, complicated: 16
interesting, important, attractive: 11

45. Sources are from…

Africa: 88
Asia: 168
Australia / Oceania: 180
Europe: 510
North America: 460
South America: 200
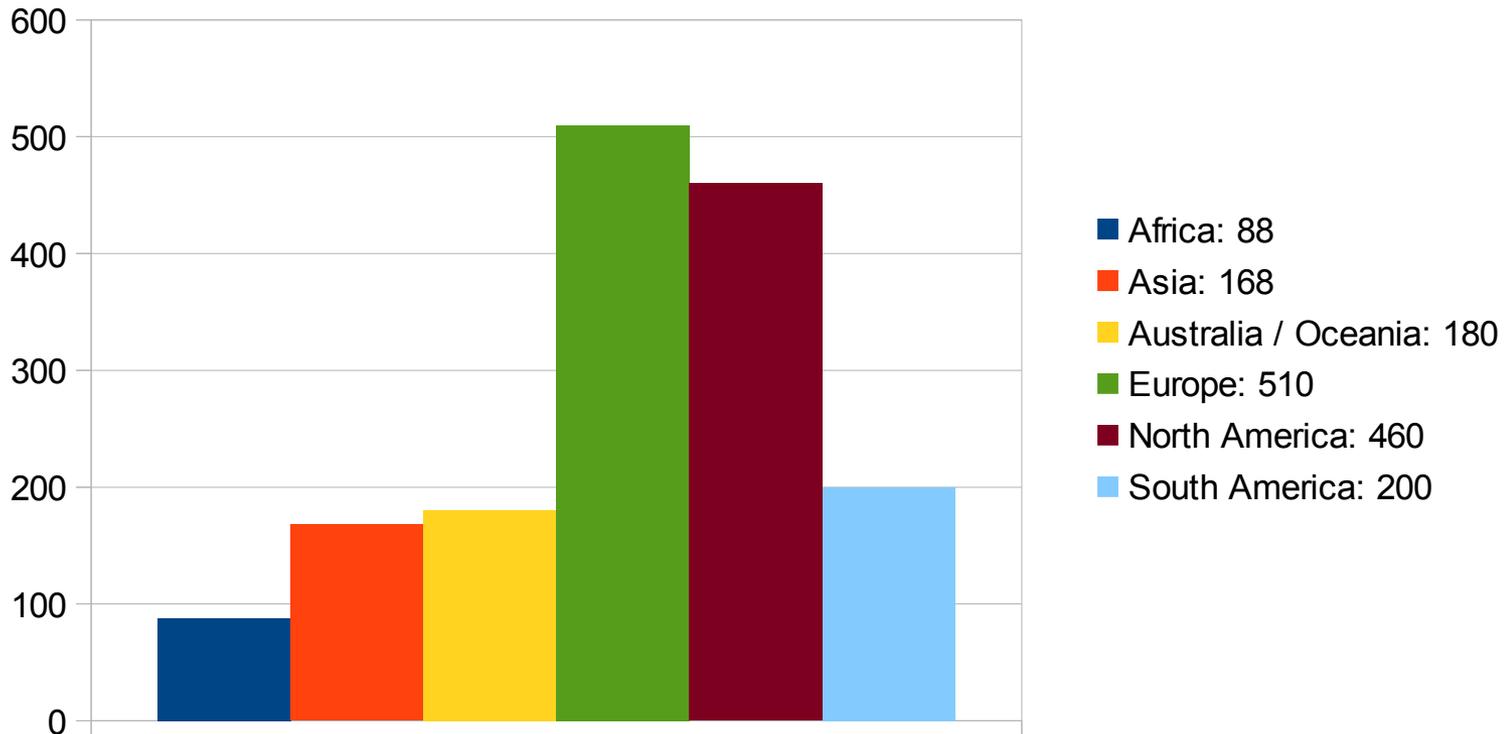
46. Most sources are from…

49. What kinds of sources do you think are in the online catalog?

- Dissertations: 52
- Printed music: 339
- Manuscripts: 507
- Photographs: 35
- Correspondence: 45
- Libretti: 167
- Music journals / magazines: 52
- Treatises: 125
- Sound recordings: 31
- Videos: 9

50. Which eras do you think are represented in the online catalog?

- Antiquity: 120
- Middle Ages / medieval: 272
- Renaissance: 409
- Baroque: 499
- Classical: 479
- Romantic: 377
- 20th century: 228
- 21st century: 102

55. **What country do you live in?**

Markieren Sie nur ein Oval.

⬭ Albania

⬭ Argentina

⬭ Armenia

⬭ Australia

⬭ Austria

⬭ Belarus

⬭ Belgium

1. **How many years have you been using RISM?**

Anything: Books, manuscript catalog, printed music, CD-ROM, EBSCO database, Series A, Series B, Series C...

Markieren Sie nur ein Oval.

⬭ Never

⬭ < 1 year

⬭ 1-5 years

⬭ 6-10 years

⬭ 10+ years

Umfrage Kombiniert

Imported at Tue Mar 17 06:24:08 PDT 2015 from Umfrage Kombiniert.ods. Combined and cleaned up D... more >>

Edited on March 17, 2015

File   Edit   Tools   Help

≡ Gesamttabelle | ⊞ Zeilenansicht | ≡ Rows 2 | ₂ 2. Wie sind sie... | ₂

Filter ▾   '55. In welchem Land wohnen Sie? / 55. What country do you live in?' I

⏮ ◀   1-7 of 7   ▶ ⏭

55. In welchem Land wohnen Sie? / 55. What country do you live in?

[Find]

47 distinct values

☐ Südkorea	1
☐ Tschechien	2
☐ United Kingdom	30
☑ **United States**	**128**
☑ **Vereinigte Staaten von Amerika**	**1**
☐ Österreich	10

1. Seit wievielen Jahren benutze…	Count
	1
1-5 years	13
10+ Jahre	1
10+ years	84
6-10 years	22
< 1 year	4
Never	4

Comments: Suggestions

- Mobile version
- Error report form
- Default to Advanced Search screen
- Help texts next to the fields
- Integrate sigla database
- More from the books online
- More data from more libraries

Comments: Criticism

- Quality of data varies
- Much is missing
- Too many errors
- Scope unclear
- Instrumentation, year search inadequate
- Times out too quickly
- Clicking on "show more" tedious

Comments: Praise

- The scholarly gold standard
- Unentbehrlich für Wissenschaft und Praxis
- Bravo, bravo.
- A true gift for scholars!
- Thank you for RISM online free service.

Contact

- Questions, comments?

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