

# AUSTRIAN NATIONAL LIBRARY: ANNUAL REPORT 1996/97 to CENL

## Address:

Director General Dr. Hans Marte

Josefsplatz 1

Postfach 308

A-1015 Vienna

Tel. (+43 1) 53410 200

Fax: (+43.1) 53410 280

Email: onb@onb.ac.at

WWW: <http://www.onb.ac.at>

## 1) EXTENSION OF HOLDINGS

In accordance with the international trend, the Austrian National Library intends to include the field of electronic publications in its 'legal deposit'. By means of individually negotiated agreements with the editors, the Austrian National Library aims to acquire and store the total production of electronic offline media.

In addition, the Austrian National Library aims to ensure durable file copies of sheer online publications in these transitory media (e.g. electronic journals in WWW). The construction of a separate server at the Austrian National Library is being planned in order to copy significant online periodicals (in WWW) of general interest.

An amendment to Austrian Media law (hitherto only applicable to obligatory copies of printed matter) is under consideration for a later date.

The following new accessions can be rated as representative for the special collections:

### **The Department of Manuscripts, Autographs and Special Collections (Nachlässe)**

Correspondence: Sigmund Freud with Alfred Adler, 1899-1911, Oskar Kokoschka, Richard Strauss, Ludwig Wittgenstein with R. Hutt, 1941-46.

Further: an imperial chronicle from the 18th century containing illustrations and mottoes from Caesar to Joseph I; the catalogue of the library of Albrecht von Sachsen-Teschen, recorded in Vienna and Brussels from 1790 to approx. 1820; manuscripts on the logical-philosophical method with autograph corrections by Ludwig Wittgenstein; prayer book in Hebrew, dated 1758 written in Kittsee, etc.

### **Papyrus Collection**

Epitaphs from Terenouthis in Egypt documenting the severe plague in 135 A.D.

20 Greek lamellas (in gold, silver and bronze)

Roman death mask documenting the historical developments of funeral rites in Egypt's

Roman period;

3 Egyptian mummy shrouds

12 Arabian papers in exceptionally intact condition

### **Portrait Archives, Picture Document Archives**

The important photograph archive of Lucca Chmel (150.000 glass negatives from 1938-1972); a collection of approx. 400 water colours by Joseph von Steiger (1801-1886; views of castles, mansions and churches in the Eastern countries of the Austrian monarchy); also 536 negatives concerning World War I and Kaiser Karl.

### **Music Collection**

Double page with pencil sketches by L.v. Beethoven for the string quartets Op. 130 and 132;

Single Leaf written by Franz Schubert with two German dances for piano;

The entire Anton Heiler collection (Nachlaß)

## **Main Statistics for 1996**

---

	1996	1995
Total number of holdings	5,849.795	5,777.746
printed books	2,884.462	2,837.897
— incunabula	7.967	7.960
manuscripts	380.975	380.193
— manuscripts excl. music manuscr.	51.721	51.648
— music manuscripts	49.492	49.312
— autographs	279.762	279.233
microforms	11.418	10.968
maps and globes	252.252	249.353
printed music	120.098	118.888
audio-visual media	62.267	59.538
pictorial documents	1,507.756	1,497.670
other	630.567	623.239
— CD ROM	102	48
— broadsheets *)	261.340	259.108
— exlibris	44290	42348
— papyri	140.486	139.071
Total number of documents used	426.259	373.307
— in reading rooms	375.191	329.888
— loans	51.068	43.419
Visitors (exhibitions etc.)	86.256	70.314

---

Austrian National Bibliography/ number of titles

---

	1996	1995
Series A (Newly published books)	8056	8222
Series B (University theses)	12597:	14069

---

## **(2) USER SERVICES, NETWORKED INFORMATION SERVICES**

The CD-Rom network was established in the local network at the Austrian National Library for library users and staff in Autumn 1996. This network offers a selection of the main CD-ROMs most frequently required. The first free access points to INTERNET (WWW) were also created in the public area.

The Austrian Newspapers and Periodicals Data Base is available on CD-ROM and will be updated bianually. More intensive co-operation is planned with the German periodical data base and general corporate bodies (GKD).

A project passed by the competent Austrian Federal Ministry (for Education) in April 1996 is planned to restructure and extend the Austrian National Library's offer of information in the Homepage of WWW. ARIADNE, a data base for feminist research, was the first local data base to be made available via a WWW-gate (URL: <http://www.onb.ac.at/arialaby.htm>). Further local data bases are scheduled to be opened in WWW.

## **(3) RETROCONVERSION**

The retroconversion project started in Autumn 1995 on the catalogue 2 at the Book Locations Department (Austrian central catalogue of foreign monographies 1981-1991) has been running according to plan. Two teams have recorded approx. 17.000 data units in the Austrian Library Associations Network System, whereby the first team updates already existing data and the second team records new data. Approx. 300.000 data units have been recorded.

The second, even greater, retroconversion project at the Austrian National Library applies to the four main catalogues for the printed books at the Austrian National Library: i.e. the nominal catalogues 1501-1929 and 1930-1988/1991 together with their subject index catalogues. The first phase of the project plans to scan all four card catalogues (totalling over 6 million catalogue cards) by the end of 1997 and will apply a new software programme developed at the Austrian National Library for WWW on the basis of retrievable images.

At the end of 1996, the financing for the scanning project was passed. Scanning began in May 1996 and is scheduled to terminate by the end of this current year. The printed book holdings at the Austrian National Library will then become available on INTERNET.

## **(4) CONSTRUCTION WORK AND ACCOMMODATION SPACE**

Construction work on new accommodation for the library training department and the papyrus collection are running to plan; the library training department will be moving to new quarters in 1997, the papyrus collection is scheduled to move during the early part of 1998.

Restoration and adaptation of accommodation for the broadsheet, poster and exlibris collection has been finished, so that the complete collection is now avaiable for consultation.

The architectural planning of a spacious new exhibition area beneath the Hall of State (project AURUM) is well advanced. Construction work is scheduled to begin in summer 1997, completion date during 1998.

## **(5) RESTORATION AND CONSERVATION**

Completion of the major project to generally assess damage and clean the holdings of the ancient books in the Hall os State is scheduled for the end of 1997. The project was financed entirely by donations (campaign: book sponsorship).

Further focal points for the current year:

Continuation of recording the condition of the holdings in all collections at the Austrian National Library;  
Measures for improving temperature regulation;  
Proper storage of the exlibris holdings and the holdings of the Literary Archives in acid-free conditions;  
Major project to microfilm early newspapers in poor condition.

#### **(6) ACTIVITIES**

The main attraction among the numerous major and minor activities at the Austrian National Library was the exhibition 'THESAURUS AUSTRIACUS'. Europe's splendour reflected in the art of the book, held from May to October 1996 to commemorate the 1.000 anniversary of Austria. Taken from a selection of 100 specimens from the holdings of the Department of Manuscripts, Autographs and Special Collections, the exhibition presented a survey of the various historic styles in Austrian and European book illustration as well as the main phases in the development of the library as a primary source for the history of the Habsburgs and the history of Austria.

The main exhibition at the Austrian National Library (Summer 1997) will present the splendid century of the History of Music in Austria from 1797, the year of Franz Schubert's birth, to 1897, the year in which Johannes Brahms died. A selection of the rich holdings of autographs in the music collection will be on view; an audio guide of appropriate music will accompany the exhibits on display.

#### **(7) INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

The Austrian National Library has been an official member of EROMM since January 1997, a first data packet for the data base in Göttingen is in preparation. An Austrian EROMM-centre at the Austrian National Library is now being planned.

The Broadsheet, Poster and Exlibris Collection is a participant in the EU project EPOC (European Posters Collections) as a branch of the project RAPHAEL together with the Kunstbibliothek-Staatliche Museen zu Berlin-Preussischer Kulturbesitz, the Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe/Hamburg, the University degli studi di Padova, Dipartimento di elettronica e informatica and the University of Utrecht - Faculteit der Letteren Vakgroep Computer & Letteren. The project involves

- 1) Cataloguing the poster holdings of the museums listed above and of the Austrian National Library from 1914-1945
- 2) Digitalisation of reproductions
- 3) Publication of a scientific catalogue of all posters on CD-ROM
- 4) The Publication of a "poster" page to document poster art in INTERNET as well as a popular, educationally orientated CD-ROM
- 5) A joint exhibition on poster art, to be shown in all collections (Berlin, Hamburg, Vienna).

The following EU projects with active participation from collections at the Austrian National Library will be submitted in the immediate future:

MALWINE (Manuscripts and Letters via Integrated Networks in Europe) aims to establish a joint network of European Literary Archives, and

DANCER (Digital Archive for Network Communication and Electronic Research) for the digitalisation, administration (including the option of electronic orders) of picture documents in a joint network.