

AUSTRIAN NATIONAL LIBRARY: ANNUAL REPORT 1999/2000

for 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. Finance and funding

In recent years the ANL has tried even harder to raise the financial budget of approx. 80 million schillings by means of supplementary sources of income. Sponsoring schemes have been successful (1999: 6,2 million Austrian schillings, of which 2.5 million Austrian schillings were donated by book sponsorships), while a further source of income has also come from orders for reproductions of holdings and renting out space for suitable special events. (1997: 5 million Austrian schillings).

2. Legal deposit of materials

The much debated new amendment to Austrian media law has now been passed by parliament extending legal deposit from printed materials to all kinds of publications on physical carriers (except sound and picture carriers). The legal delivery of electronic offline-publications has now been regulated, although this still does not apply to online network publications. At the time of writing, the ANL is trying out a pilot project for the latter materials.

3. Buildings and Plant

On 16. June 1999 newly adapted space beneath the great hall and the new location of the papyrus collection were officially opened. For the first time in its history, the ANL now has an appropriately representative exhibition site and entrance. The tripartite division of the Aurum hall by means of moveable glass doors consisting of camineum (374 sq. metres), sala terrena (330 sq. metres) and atrium (220 sq. metres) - enables great flexibility of application for all kinds of academic, cultural and social special events.

The new papyrus museum was opened in September 1999. 400 exhibits can now be displayed in 53 cases over an area of approx. 300 sq. metres. The papyrus museum at the ANL is the biggest in the world, and is now better equipped to fulfil the library's public duties in education and information. Visits from schools are given special attention, as teaching in ancient times is shown in many documents on display. In one corner of the exhibition schoolchildren can learn to write on real papyrus. The following 14 topics are presented: study of materials, magic, religion, the world after death, literature, the police, the military, medicine, law and order, economics, life in monasteries, book art, the book trade and textiles are emphasised by special illumination. One particular exhibition case gives a visual and audio impression of the oldest score in the world. Together with the globe museum, the international esperanto museum and the great hall, the papyrus museum forms the fourth museum sector at the ANL.

The main entrance of ANL at Heldenplatz has been redesigned. A newly built check in has not only improved security standards but now separates library users from general visitors. This security measure will soon be supported by a library users' pass. Free access to the Internet for all library users is being installed in the PC gallery.

4. Recent Acquisitions (Selection)

The following new accessions to special collections were acquired during the past year.

Department of Manuscripts, Autographs and Closed Collections

6 letters by Anna Freud to Paul Federn, 1931-1940; 4 letters by Sigmund Freud, 1916-1918; 40 letters by Rudolf and Ina Camp, 1959-1970, and 16 letters by Clemens Metternich, 1850-1852.

Department of Incunabula, old and precious Books

A certificate introducing the Gregorian calendar from the reign of Rudolf II, printed by Michaeln Apffeln < = Michael Apfel>, Vienna 1583.

An example from writings at the time of the emigration of protestants in Salzburg.

The remaining items (to 1850) in the **Music Archive of the Imperial Court Chapel at Vienna** have now been transferred to the **music department**, thereby making the collection the sole historic location for the 500 year old tradition of sacred music at the Imperial court. This also accounts for the music department's international reputation. The music collection of the well known operetta composer, Leo Fall, has now been successfully united in the music department.

Five music autographs by Franz Liszt were also purchased.

The main new accessions at the **globe museum** during 1999 include a celestial globe by Johann Georg Klinger (1764-1806), cartographer, globe constructor, copper engraver and printer in Nürnberg.

Klinger's terrestrial and celestial globes were made in various diameters and languages and are considered the most popular global instruments in southern Germany around 1800. They also greatly influenced Austria which had no particular global production of its own at this time.

Among other new items, the **Department of Papyri** acquired 6 aramaic magic bowls from 156 A.D.

New accessions at the **portrait and picture archives** include 210 highly interesting photographic autochromes by Heinrich Kühn, 230 historic photographic plates of the Spanish civil war, 18 portrait photographs by Trude Fleischmann and 107 photographs by Eva Frodl-Kraft on the topic of the Baroque in Prague.

New accessions at the **Collection of Broadsheets, Posters and Exlibris** include

Collection of broadsheets from the 1848 revolution the following posters (selection): Otto Barth: sudeten Railways. Vienna: State printing office around 1910; Julius Klinger; Comedy Play House. Generals' corner. Berlin: Hollerbaum and Schmidt 1912.

The **Austrian Literary Archives** have acquired literary remains, part literary remains and collections for the following personalities, thereby complementing the existing holdings: Heimito von Doderer, Franz Theodor

Csokor, Lukas Cejpek, Erich Fried, Theodor Kramer, Dorothea Zeemann, Ernst Jandl, Album Tina Lichtblau.

5. Conservation/Preservation of Collections

In addition to the individual restoration of damaged items, mainly financed by sponsors, mass conservation and cleaning of complete depot areas for printed books has been continued.

The so-called 'Vienna method' of mass deacidification of paper has been optimised in cooperation with the firm Henkel Austria. This method not only deacidifies paper but also strengthens it. In comparison with other methods of treatment it has proven economical and kind to the environment.

Further emphasis has been placed on microfilming newspaper holdings in danger of decay. Thanks again to a sponsorship scheme, all the volumes of the 'Neue Freie Presse' from 1848-1948 have now been microfilmed.

6. IT and new technology

The creation of a digital picture archive rates as one of the most important projects at the ANL for the immediate future. As a first step, the complete catalogue of the picture and portrait archives containing 1.3 million catalogue cards for 1.8 million picture documents will be transferred into electronic data. The Katzoom-Software, which has been developed at the ANL and already used for the catalogue cards of printed books, will be specially adapted in order to fulfil this task. By the end of the year 2000 the catalogue should become available on the Internet. The next step in the procedure involves a gradual process of a digital picture data base including an electronic model to place orders for the selection of pictures and electronic transfer to the customer of the picture documents ordered.

7. Services to Readers

Digital Catalogues: Transformation of the four image-catalogues (Katzoom) into bibliographic data bases and their integration into the local ALEPH catalogue is planned as a next major step. The catalogues of printed books 1501-1929 will soon be available in their own ALEPH data base. Work is proceeding on an analogous project for those printed holdings from 1930-1991. The aim of the retro-conversion is to achieve a unified catalogue of all printed book holdings at the library from 1501 to present day accessions within a single computer system.

Union Catalogue for Literary Remains and Autographs (NAK):

For the first time ever it is now possible to research holdings in collections at the departments of music, of manuscripts and at the Austrian literary archives. The catalogue (based on the data base Allegro-HANS used in Germany) was placed on the Internet in April 2000 (<http://euler.onb.ac.at/cgi-allegro/nak/nak.pl>). The gradual and retrograde integration of data on collective holdings is aimed at achieving a unified catalogue for the literary remains and collections located at the ANL.

Within the framework of the EU project MALVINE, the ANL also contributes to the European network of catalogues of literary remains.

8. Exhibitions (Selection)

Physiognomy and Character - Johann Caspar Lavater's Cabinet of Art

The portrait archives have stored Johann Caspar Lavater's cabinet of art since 1828. Throughout Europe Lavater was at one time a uniquely renowned yet hotly debated physiognomist. More than 22.000 folios make up this enormous collection. Apart from study material on physiognomy (foreheads, eyes, noses and mouths etc.), numerous portraits of Lavater's contemporaries as well as a considerable number of artistically significant works are of particular interest.

Goethe and Austria. 'Experiences and Pleasures of Austria...'

In cooperation with the Goethe Society, Vienna,

The Lotus-sutra and its World

Buddhist manuscripts from the great silk highway

The exhibition presents the lotus-sutra and commentaries in various asiatic languages from documents ranging from 5-18th centuries. All exhibits were from the Institute of Oriental Studies at the Russian Academy of Science and Research, St. Petersburg.

'Alpha and Omega -Stories about the End and the Beginning of the World'.

The main exhibition for the year 2000 in the ANL's great hall is dedicated to ideas on the end of the world, its creation and progress in documents from various religions and cultures. The exhibition is made up of three main elements: 1) a display of originals in the great hall, including precious cimelia from all the library's special collections, 2) a book on the topic of the exhibition, 3) internet presentation of picture documentation.

The Ufa Poster. Film premiers 1918-1943

60 Ufa posters from Vienna and Berlin are on exhibition, ranging from 1918 to films made by Hollywood directors such as Ernst Lubitsch (Carmen, Madame Dubarry and Sumurum), Friedrich Wilhelm Murnau (the last man/der letzte Mann), Fritz Langs (Dr. Mabuse, The Nibelungen, Metropolis, Spione and Woman in the Moon) covering the period of 'New Realism' to Photomontage. The exhibition was previously shown in Berlin, the Museum of Modern Art, New York and at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Los Angeles.

Kafka's Bride. Felice Bauer as seen through biographical documents

For the first time ever, this woman behind Kafka was the subject of an exhibition.

Sigmund Freud: Conflict and Culture

An exhibition at the Library of Congress in cooperation with the Sigmund Freud museums in Vienna and London including items from the ANL.

PRAEPRINTUM - Rare Books from the Samizdat, Moscow

Seductions - Austrian and German Posters 1916-1945

Joint exhibition within the framework of the European Union, EPOC-project (European Posters Collections) sponsored by the European commission DG X

The CARD CATALOGUE. Exhibition by Ernst Strouhal and Heimo Zobernig.

Opened at the Museum for Applied Art, Vienna, subsequently shown in Brno, Bregenz, Münster and Frankfurt am Main

This exhibition consisted of the ANL's author catalogues from 1501-1989, 84 catalogue drawers containing approx. 2.6 million catalogue cards which have now become superfluous since digitisation, none the less present a historical document. The aim of the exhibition was the visible presentation of the catalogue, now relieved of its original task, as a 'system of intellectual order' in space. P. Gorsen appropriately described the exhibition in the FAZ (issue 11.2.1999) in the following words: 'As is the case with most objects and facilities in our civilisation that have become useless and obsolete, the library's card catalogue - now robbed of its identity and function - can surely reckon with our sadness and melancholy feelings. The exhibition painfully makes us aware that the world wide digitisation of libraries is a serious

irreversible intrusion on our consciousness... Time-saving computers have made us richer in one sense and poorer in another.'

Exlibris. From a Sign in a Book to Graphic Art

This exhibition presented a brief summary of the history of exlibris from 1480 to 1900 and the following themes on small pieces of paper which preoccupied 20th century artists: life and death, roles played by men and women, professional and private interests, society's points of views. All items from the Exlibris collection at the ANL.

Lingvo Estas Monda Katalogo - Language is the world's Catalogue.

- Dedicated to Eugen Wüster (1898 –1977)

9. Publications

Apart from periodical publications such as the Austrian Bibliography, the periodical 'Biblos. Beiträge zu Buch, Bibliothek und Schrift', 'Sichtungen. Archiv - Bibliothek - Literaturwissenschaft. Internationales Jahrbuch des Österreichischen Literaturarchivs', 'Profile' and the ANL's Newsletter, more than 20 individual publications were published from the ANL, including:

Das Kunstkabinett Johann Caspar Lavater. Mit bislang unpublizierten Blättern und Essays.

Hilde Spiel. Weltbürgerin der Literatur. Hg. v. Hans A. Neunzig und Ingrid Schramm. Vienna, Zsolnay 1999, 143 S. (Profile vol. 3).

Hans Petschar, Ernst Strouhal, Heimo Zobernig: Der KATALOG. Ein historisches System geistiger Ordnung. Vienna, New York: springer 1999, approx. 150 S.

More than 150 research contributions were published by members of staff at the ANL.

10.ACADEMIC RESEARCH

The following can be regarded as representative for round 20 current projects at the ANL.

START-Project

A research project over a period of 6 years for a systematic edition of Greek documentary texts from the papyrus collection:

- the edition of approx. 500 hitherto unpublished papyrus documents from the Ptolemaic, Roman and Byzantine periods in Egypt (3. century B.C. - 7. century A.D.).
- new edition of a further 1350 texts already edited at the beginning of the 20. century which are of essential importance to economical history, 6-7. centuries A.D.

A whole series of highly remarkable texts has been discovered, including:

- the first ancient proof of Anatholis von Berytos' veterinary medical collection of excerpts, 6.-7. centuries A.D. (Fragment P.Vindob. G 40302)
- P. Vindob. G 42417. A papyrus from the 6. or 7. century A.D. containing a fragment of the Epistle to the Hebrews.

EU Project MALVINE (Manuscripts and Letters via Integrated Networks in Europe)

The Malvine project has been running since July 1998 with the aim of offering users the world over the possibility of electronic research into autograph holdings and literary remains. In addition to Austria, the following countries have participated: Denmark, Germany, England, France, Norway, Austria, Portugal and Spain (for further information see MALVINE website: <http://www.malvine.org/>).

EU Project EPOC (European Poster Collections).

The project was concluded in November 1999. The main results could be viewed in:

- the exhibition "Seduction. Posters from Austria and Germany 1914-1945" on display in Vienna, Berlin and Hamburg
- a CD-ROM "European Poster Art 1914-1945. Germany and Austria" plus a digital catalogue of 10.000 posters. To be published during 2000 by K.G. Saur Verlag, Munich.