

Klaus Kindler: The Music Manuscripts of the Kestner Collection in the Municipal Library of Hanover - Thematic Catalogue

This catalogue documents the collection of music manuscripts of the musical folklorist Hermann Kestner (1810-1890) owned by the municipal library of Hanover. It records about 7,000 titles on more than 1,000 pages.

The manuscripts in this collection were inspected and recorded for the first time by the musicologist Theodor W. Werner (1874-1957) in 1910. He also published a catalogue, which was the first important aid with regard to this collection.

Kestner puts the main emphasis on music manuscripts of works of folk music. There are sacred songs as well as madrigals written by Palestrina, Marenzio, and Gabrieli. He collected songs and dances from everywhere: Chinese and Indian tunes, original Indian songs from South America, national songs from Poland and Hungary, modinhas from Spain and Portugal, and glees from England.

You can also find medieval songs composed by Oswald von Wolkenstein and Coucy de Chatel as well as French chansons and romances.

About 20 years passed from the first inquiry of the RISM working group in Munich to the completion of this catalogue in 2003.

The catalogue uses RISM standards and offers an extensive appendix consisting of title, name, and role indexes as well as a bibliography.

Only a few copies are available for internal purposes (one of them in the RISM Zentralredaktion). Publication has not been planned.