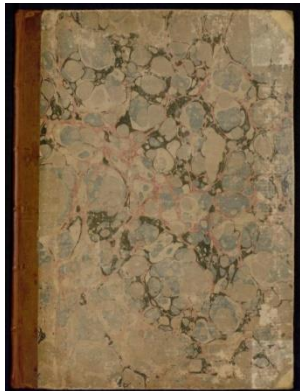# Cataloging Composite Volumes in Muscat

Definition

A **composite volume** consists of items that were created separately but later bound together, typically by an owner or institution. There are other names for such volumes in English: binder's collections, binder's volume, bound sheet music, bound-with, collectors' volume, factitious volume, nonce volumes, recueils factices, Sammelband, tract volume. Composite volumes include volumes in which individual printed items are bound together, as well as volumes in which printed items and manuscripts are bound together.

As musicologist Candace Bailey states, "Binder's volumes constitute perhaps the best musical artifact of music making–and they are often one of the few extant objects that represent a person's existence."

There are two ways to indicate a composite volume. The first, and simplest, way is to catalog the items separately and give the items the same shelfmark; a bound-with note is also helpful. The second is to use the template for a composite volume record.

The composite volume record serves as means to link all bound items to a single record, thus providing the user with a convenient overview of the entire contents of a bound item.

Records for a composite volume should be kept **simple**. In principle, they simply describe the binding. Do not confuse composite volumes with collections; "collections" in RISM are for manuscripts only. Furthermore, do not confuse composite volumes with printed editions: a printed edition is single bibliographic unit that was issued by the publisher as such. Both collections and printed editions can contain multiple pieces. In contrast to the above, composite volumes bring together disparate units: for example, a bound volume that contains a printed collection of madrigals from 1604, followed by a manuscript of a motet from 1620, and then another book of madrigals from 1615.

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As with collection parent records, the information given in the composite volume record should be true for all of the components of the volume, and remember that detailed information related to the music (composer, publisher, etc.) belongs in the respective bibliographic records. Do not create separate records for multiple composite volumes that belong together, such as a set of partbooks bound by voice type; these should be described in the same record. In many cases, you will be leaving a lot of fields blank.

Cataloging guidelines

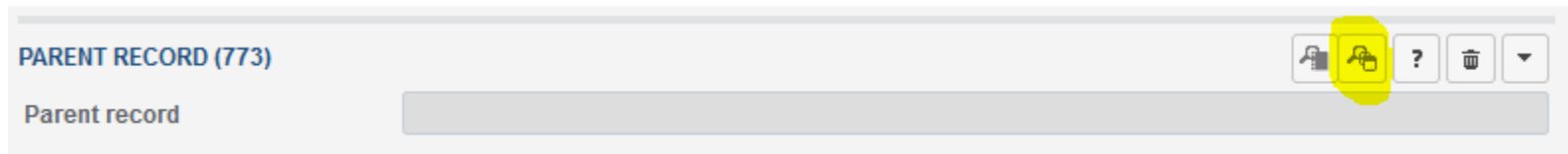* indicates a required field. Fields not mentioned here are used in accordance with the usual Muscat guidelines.

Field	Guidelines specific to composite volumes
Library information and relations	
*Library siglum (852 $a)	
*Shelfmark (852 $c)	
Provenance notes (561)	Information about provenance can refer to provenance/ownership marks that appear on the covers, endsheets, or flyleaves—in other words, elements of the book's binding. Marks that appear on the individual items within the volume can be noted in the individual records.
People and institutions	
Additional personal name (700) and Additional institution (710)	People and institutions associated with the item, such as previous owners or those responsible for binding the item. Please limit the functions to: depositor, former owner, papermaker, other.
Title and content description	
*Title on source (245 $a)	If present, the title on the cover or spine, or on the flyleaf.
*Standardized title (240 $a)	A **number** plus the word **Items**. The term "Items" refers to the number of records linked in the record. In Muscat, the linked records appear in the field **Items in this source (774)**, so simply count the number of records in the list. *Examples*: 11 Items 4 Items Attempting to count the number of "pieces" in a composite volume will be, in many cases, a fruitless task, particularly when printed anthologies are bound together. A title statement that includes "Items" immediately conveys structural information to the user. There will probably be little reason to include an arrangement statement, subheading, or key; scoring summaries probably also won't make sense in many cases.

Description summary (520 $a)	This field is useful for explaining to the user, using natural language, the nature of the volume. *Examples*: - Composite volume with 1 manuscript and 8 printed music editions. - Bound collection of 16 items containing guitar pieces, two of which have a voice part. 14 items are printed (ca. 1930) and 2 are manuscripts.
Material description	
* Source type (593)	**Source type (593$a)**: This is pre-selected as **Composite**. **Content type (593$b)**: Select from **Notated music**, **Libretto**, **Treatise**, or **Mixed**.
*Publishing, printing and production information (260)	Only fill out the field **Date (260 $c)**. The date should refer to the volume as a whole (i.e., when it was bound) and not the date of the items in the volume.
*Physical description (300)	- Only fill out the field **Dimensions (300 $c)** and measure the bound volume. **Format, extent**: Best avoided. In most cases, attempting to summarizing the format of disparate material and content types will only lead to confusion and inconsistency. The nature of the volume is better described in the field **Description summary (520)**, or simply left to the bibliographic records themselves.
Binding note (563)	This field is especially useful to describe the binding of composite volumes.
Watermark description (592)	Intended for watermarks on the flyleaves or endpapers.
Add a group	Do not use.
References and notes	
Contents note (505)	The contents will be implied by the linked items, but this field is useful for an overview, or can be used if not all items are in RISM.
External resource (856)	Here you can link to the entire digitized volume, particularly if each individual work within the volume is not yet in RISM.

How to link to a record for a composite volume

You will be linking either a manuscript item or a printed item to a record for a composite volume. They are linked differently.
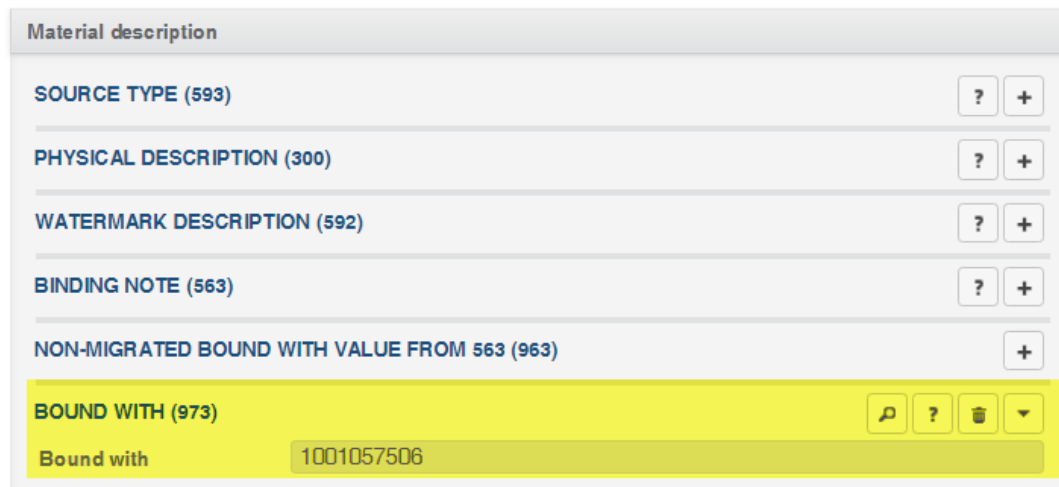
1. First, create the record for the composite volume, save, and note the RISM number.

2. For manuscripts: In the editing mode of the record for your manuscript, go to the field **Parent record (773)**. Click the second button to search for the composite volume.

3. For printed music: In the holdings information for the printed edition, find the field **Bound with (973)** and click the magnifying glass. Find the record for the composite volume and select it.

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