



DIPARTIMENTO DI STORIE E METODI  
PER LA CONSERVAZIONE DEI BENI CULTURALI



# International Musicological Society Study Group on Musical Iconography

with the support of

**ALMA MATER STUDIORUM - UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA**

**DIPARTIMENTO DI STORIE E METODI PER LA CONSERVAZIONE DEI BENI CULTURALI  
FACOLTÀ DI CONSERVAZIONE DEI BENI CULTURALI**

## Steering Committee

NICOLETTA GUIDOBALDI (BOLOGNA-TOURS), *Chair*

BJÖRN R. TAMMEN (VIENNA)

ALEXANDRA VOUTYRA (THESSALONICA)

## Contact

IMS Study Group on Musical Iconography  
c/o DISMEC  
Via degli Ariani, 1  
I - 48100 Ravenna

e-mail: [immagini.musica@gmail.com](mailto:immagini.musica@gmail.com)

Further information on [www.beniculturali.unibo.it](http://www.beniculturali.unibo.it)

## IMS Study Group on Musical Iconography

The IMS Study Group on Musical Iconography (SG) was established during the international conference *Musical Iconography in the XXI Century. Mapping European Art for Context and Meaning*, held in Ravenna, 7-10 June 2006, and subsequently acknowledged by the IMS Directorium; since then it is officially located in the Dipartimento di Storie e Metodi per la Conservazione dei Beni Culturali (DISMEC) in Ravenna. The main goal of the SG is to promote and to coordinate the scholarly exchange and to expand the research on any aspect of Musical Iconography in European art (from Antiquity to Modern Times) as part of Cultural, Historical and Anthropological Studies.

In addition to a wide range of historical subjects connected with the study of the visual representation of music preserved in a variety of sources (archaeological findings, sculptures, frescoes, decorative stuccatura and tiles, illuminated manuscripts, single-leaf prints, illustrated libretti and periodicals, portraits, paintings etc.), the SG promotes as well studies dealing with performing arts iconography and with the interrelationship of visual and musical structures in synaesthetics. Notwithstanding different methodological approaches towards images 'of' music, images 'with' music and even images 'for' music, the search for context and meaning is a common thread of our activities.

Mirroring both musical practice and concepts, iconography can significantly contribute to our knowledge of material, social and cultural history; the SG wishes to develop the scholarly investigation on musical images as sources able to throw light upon the musical life and the musical concepts of the past, and upon the different ways in which music has been thought, idealized and visualized. The SG specially encourages projects dealing with the study of the intellectual representations of Music and of Musical Aesthetics; as for the methodological perspective, a special attention is given to the iconological approach, in the line of the "Warburg tradition", and particularly to the "history of images" to be studied through the transmission and reception of iconographical themes and through the variation of musical meanings across different cultures, places and ages.

From the practical point of view, the SG is composed by the assembly of its members (currently 74, from 12 Countries), and by a three people steering committee : Nicoletta Guidobaldi, *chair* (Bologna-Ravenna/Tours), Björn Tammen (Vienna) and Alexandra Voutyra (Thessalonica). According to the proposals received by its members, the SG regularly organizes interdisciplinary conferences. After the 2006 inaugural one, the first big international meeting, devoted to the *Metamorphoses of Orpheus - Musical Images from Greek Mythology in Antiquity and their Revivals in European Art*, has been organized in Corfu by Alexandra Voutyra (Thessalonica) and Harris Xanthoudakis, (Corfu); selected papers presented there (Ionian University, 26-28 June 2008) have been submitted for publication to "Imago Musicae".

The main international conference for 2009 , organized by Dinko Fabris and Daniela Castaldo, has taken place in Lecce and Galatina (*Musical Symbols in Pictorial Cycles*, 25–27 September 2009), in cooperation with the Università di Lecce. With more than 40 participants, including scholars and doctoral students coming from Austria, Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, Poland, United States, the conference has been a great success. The final session, as usual, has been devoted to the IMS SG discussion of the main next activities, and namely to the conferences to be held in Vienna (*Musicians & Monuments: Tracing Composer's Memorial Iconography Through the Ages*, 15–17 April 2010, in cooperation with the Austrian Academy of Sciences) and in Barcelona (*Musical Iconography in the Mediterranean and Its Impact on European Culture Through History*, 4–6 October 2010, in cooperation with Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and Societat Catalana de Musicologia).

In addition to these main activities, the Study Group supports research projects, exhibitions, publications, and coordinates the updating of an international bibliographic network (available as a common resource on its website); moreover, the SG is engaged in university courses and seminars for undergraduates and doctoral students, like those regularly promoted by the DISMEC within the Dottorato di Ricerca in Musicologia e Beni Musicali of Alma Mater Studiorum –Università di Bologna in collaboration with the CESR (Centre d'Etudes Supérieures de la Renaissance) in Tours, and those realized by Cristina Bordas in the Universidad Complutense de Madrid.

A week-long Summer School on Musical Iconography, coordinated by Luzia Rocha and Luís Sousa will take place in Lisbon on July 2010.

## Next Activities

15th-17th April 2010

**Musicians & Monuments: Tracing Composer's  
Memorial Iconography Through the Ages**

Vienna, Austrian Academy of Sciences

Local organizer: Björn R. Tammen

12th-16th July 2010

**Summer School on Musical Iconography**

Universidade Nova de Lisboa, CESEM (Center for the Study  
of the Sociology and Aesthetics of Music)

Local organizers: Luzia Rocha & Luís Sousa

4th-6th October 2010

**Musical Iconography in the Mediterranean  
and its Impact on European Culture Through History**

Barcelona, Casa de Convalescència, Institut d' Estudis Catalans

Local organizer: Jordi Ballester

23th-25th May 2011

**The Courts in Europe. Musical Iconography and Princely Power  
Torino (Italy), Archivio di Stato**

Local organizers: Alberto Basso and Cristina Santarelli