

## **EAA Technical Committee on Musical Acoustics**

### **Report of Activities 2015/16**

Over the past year, from 2015 through to March 2016, the Technical Committee on Musical Acoustics (TCMA) has made a number of contributions to the furtherance of European musical acoustics research.

The most significant activity that the EAA TCMA was associated with is the Third ViennaTalk on Musical Acoustics, which took place in Vienna from 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September 2015. Organised by Dr Wilfried Kausel and his colleagues at the IWK in Vienna, this symposium brought together musical acoustics researchers, instrument makers and musicians for four days of stimulating dialogue and debate. The conference was sponsored by the EAA and the Scientific Committee contained many members of the TCMA. Proceedings are available online at <http://viennatalk2015.mdw.ac.at/>

Meanwhile, following a discussion between Professor Murray Campbell (previous co-chair of the TCMA) and Professor Jorge Patricio at the EAA General Assembly in Krakow in 2014, the idea of a satellite meeting on musical and room acoustics associated with the ICA2016 meeting in Buenos Aires, Argentina was proposed. The resultant International Symposium on Musical and Room Acoustics will take place from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in La Plata, Argentina (<http://www.ismra2016.org.ar/>). Again, the TCMA has assisted in developing the programme and finding invited speakers. Indeed, Professor Campbell is the Musical Acoustics Technical Chair on the International Organising Committee for the conference, and a number of other members of the EAA TCMA are on the International Advisory Committee.

Currently the TCMA is focussed on defining the musical acoustics programme at Acoustics '17, the joint conference bringing together the 173<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the ASA and the 8<sup>th</sup> Forum Acusticum, to be held in Boston, USA between 25<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June 2017. Following email consultations, the TCMA has been proposing special sessions for the musical acoustics programme and also providing suggestions of keynote speakers for the conference. Conversations are also being held with Dr Gary Scavone, chair of the Organising Committee for the International Symposium on Musical Acoustics 2017 (which will take place in Montreal from 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2017), to try to avoid any duplication between Acoustics '17 and ISMA 2017 and instead ensure that the musical acoustics content of the two conferences is complementary.

There have been no formal face-to-face meetings of the EAA TCMA over the past year but there have been regular email communications with TCMA members. These have partly related to the scientific organisation of the above conferences, but have also promoted musical acoustics job vacancies across Europe, as well as advertising smaller-scale musical acoustics events taking place within Europe. There are currently 93 members on the TCMA mailing list. New members are recruited via recommendation from existing members or through regular promotion of the TCMA at the various international conferences.

It is hoped that a meeting of the Technical Committee on Musical Acoustics will take place during the Acoustics '17 conference in June 2017. This would provide the opportunity to begin to apply the new EAA regulations for TCs. In particular, 2017 will mark three years since my election as the current TCMA chair, and so is an appropriate time for the next election to take place, alongside a vote to determine the 5 person membership of a newly-formed TCMA Council.

David Sharp

Chair of the EAA Technical Committee on Musical Acoustics