IN MEMORIAM: HELMUT KALLMANN (1922-2012)

It grieves me to announce that my former superior, mentor and dear friend Helmut Kallmann died on 12 February 2012. For those who knew him in some capacity and for those who did not, I would like to give a brief summary of his achievements and his importance in the development and support of Canadian music studies. Born in Berlin in 1922, he was sent to England on the Kindertransport in 1939, but interned there and sent to Canada as an "enemy alien" when war broke out. He spent three years in a Canadian internment camp (1940-1943) and his entire family in Germany perished in the Holocaust.

He became a naturalized Canadian citizen in 1946 and began his studies at the University of Toronto. He soon recognized the scarcity of sources for the study of Canadian music and began to gather information which resulted in two pivotal publications. While at the CBC Toronto Music Library (1950-1970) he expanded and deepened its Catalogue of Canadian Composers (1952) and went on to publish A History of Music in Canada 1534-1914 (1960) which remains even today a much-quoted basic reference. During this time he co-founded the Canadian Music Library Association in 1956 (now the Canadian Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (CAML)) and initiated collaboration with the International Association of Music Libraries (IAML). In fact, he began to contribute to RISM even before the association was founded, and became the Canadian delegate to IAML from 1959 to 1971. In 1970 he was appointed Chief of the newly-formed Music Division at the National Library of Canada, with responsibility for building a comprehensive research collection of musical Canadiana within a broadly based international support collection, and where I had the good fortune to work under his direction until his retirement in 1987.


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former Head of the Printed Collection, Music Division, National Library of Canada, and former President of CAML (1976-1978) and IAML (1986-1989)

Editor’s Note: The next issue of CAML Review (August 2012) will be devoted to Dr. Kallmann’s life and work. Submissions in the form of articles, tributes, reminiscences, etc., are welcome. Please send contributions to the editor, Cathy Martin (cathy.martin@mcgill.ca), by July 15, 2012.

Note de l’éditrice : Le prochain numéro de la Revue de l’ACBM (août 2012) sera consacré à la vie et à l’œuvre de M. Kallmann. Nous vous encourageons à faire parvenir vos articles, ainsi que vos témoignages d’estime et d’affection, à l’éditrice, Cathy Martin (cathy.martin@mcgill.ca), avant le 15 juillet 2012.