

BCC2009/GFTF/2

MLA-BCC Genre/Form Task Force Quarterly report May 2009

Members: Beth Flood, Chair (Harvard University), Ralph Hartsock (University of North Texas), Caitlin Hunter (Library of Congress), Marty Jenkins (Wright State University), Mickey Koth (Yale University), Brooke Lippy (University of Hartford), Nancy Lorimer (Stanford Music Library), Mark McKnight (University of North Texas), Casey Mullin (Stanford University), Karen Peters (University of California Santa Barbara), and Hermine Vermeij (UCLA).

MLA-BCC Genre/Form Task Force

Following the annual MLA meeting in February, BCC proposed formation of the MLA-BCC Genre/Form Task Force, which was approved by the MLA Board. The purpose of this task force is to make suggestions to LC regarding music genre/form/medium terms for inclusion in LC's genre/form thesaurus and to facilitate communication between LC and the music community regarding the project.

The charge of the task force is as follows:

The MLA-BCC Genre/Form Task Force will review the genre/form and medium of performance lists posted by the LC Policy and Standards Division (PSD) on their genre/form website. The group will suggest additional terms from LCSH, from other established lists (e.g., the MLA Types of Composition list, the Ethnographic Thesaurus), and from reference sources. Suggestions for genre/form and medium of performance terms will also be solicited from the MLA membership at large. The Task Force will vet the terms suggested by its members and by the MLA membership and will forward these terms on to PSD for possible inclusion in the genre/form and medium of performance lists. The initial phase of the project, the vetting and submission of terms, should be completed by July 2009.

The second phase of the project will include working with PSD to establish syndetic structures for each list and to collaborate on coding and other issues, including making MARBI proposals if necessary. This phase of the project should occur between July 2009 and February 2010.

To date, the task force has made some decisions about the types of terms to be included in the medium of performance list and has discussed working definitions of genre, form and medium. The task force has also established a public wiki to collect comments, questions, and suggestions from MLA and the music community at large (<http://musicgenrepublicforum.pbworks.com/>)

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Flood, Chair
MLA-BCC Genre/Form Task Force

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