

RIPM Report
IMS 1987
(Bologna & Parma)

Introduction

The Fourteenth Congress of the International Musicological Society was held in Bologna, Italy (with additional sessions in Parma and Ferrara) from 27 August to 1 September 1987. Two congress sessions were organized under the auspices of the Répertoire International de la Presse Musicale by H. Robert Cohen and Marcello Conati. The second, which took place in Parma, in the Sala Verdi of the Conservatorio “Arrigo Boito” on Sunday, 30 August from 11h30 to 13h, offered an extensive demonstration of the computer programs and laser printing techniques developed for the production of RIPM volumes at the Center for Studies in Nineteenth-Century Music of the University of Maryland at College Park. Conati and Cohen presented the system to a large audience; Frank Flynn, RIPM’s initial Computer Systems Coordinator, demonstrated the technology.

The first RIPM contribution to the Congress was a study session held in Bologna on Friday, 28 August in the Sala Verde of the Pallazo della Cultura e dei Congressi from 9h30 to 12h15. The subject treated—Nineteenth-Century Italian Opera as Depicted in the Contemporary Press—was selected because of its historical significance, because the resulting studies would reveal the importance of the nineteenth-century press as a fundamental documentary resource for the music historian and because of its appropriateness for the congress venue. Seven papers were presented at the well attended session, each focusing on Italian opera in a distinct geographical area. The panel was composed of well-known scholars, active in the field, from six countries: H. Robert Cohen (U.S.), Marcello Conati (Italy)—co-chairs of the session—Leanne Langley (Great Britain), Christoph-Hellmut Mahling (West Germany), Imogen Fellinger (West Germany), Zoltan Roman (Canada), and Gerald Seaman (New Zealand).

While abstracts of these papers will appear in the Congress Report (following the principle adopted by the congress organizers for the reporting of study sessions), we are pleased to publish the full texts in two specials issues of *Periodica Musica*.

The 1988 issue of PM contains the papers presented by Leanne Langley, Christoph-Hellmut Mahling, Zoltan Roman and Gerald Seaman. The 1989 issue will contain the papers presented by H. Robert Cohen, Marcello Conati and Imogen Fellinger.

H. Robert Cohen
Marcello Conati