The Music Encoding Initiative’s Upcoming 2011 Release

Electronic Editions
• permit compilation of musical corpora
• encourage data interchange
• provide data for comparative analysis
• allow creation/management of relationships among manuscripts, printed sources, images, and time-based media
• permit rendering of same information in multiple media/formats
• facilitate repurposing of content

The Music Encoding Initiative
• accommodates the encoding of common Western music, but is not limited to common music notation
• is designed by the scholarly community for scholarly uses, but does not exclude other uses
• provides for the common functions of traditional facsimile, critical, and performance editions
• has a modular structure that permits use dependent on the goals of scholars
• is based on open standards and is platform independent
• provides a formal mechanism for the creation of user-defined schema customizations
• permits the development of comprehensive and permanent international archives of notated music as a basis for editions, analysis, performances, and other forms of research
• will provide guidelines and tools that can be widely used by libraries, museums, and individual scholars to encode musical scores for research, teaching, and preservation activities

Current Projects Using MEI
• Danish Centre for Music Publication (Royal Library, Copenhagen) – catalog of the works of Carl Nielsen
• Edirom – Tools for preparing and distributing scholarly editions
• TextGrid – MEISE (MEI Score Editor), focused on the graphical encoding of variants and multiple sources
• McGill University – Optical Music Recognition (OMR) of chant notation from the Liber Usualis
• Digitale Musik Edition (Universität Tübingen) – digital critical edition of the music of Hildegard von Bingen
• Swiss RISM – MEI for a Renaissance repertoire
• Du Chemin Project – Digital Forum for Renaissance Music Books

The 2011 Release of MEI Provides:
• New literate programming approach (ODD) to schema and documentation development
• Ability to generate RNG, XSD, and DTD schemas
• “Framework” design that facilitates user-created extensions and restrictions
• More detailed encoding of figured basses
• Better synchronization of musical features, annotations, and audio and video files
• Improved metadata capture capabilities, including work-level description

Visit http://music-encoding.org
• download the latest MEI release
• search the tag library
• use the tutorial to become acquainted with general MEI structures
• view sample encodings that demonstrate particular features of MEI
• explore the history of MEI
• contact the project leaders
• sign up for the MEI-L discussion list
• find other publications about MEI
• learn about upcoming MEI events
• become involved in on-going MEI efforts

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