

Music Research

Practical Advice

Where should I start?



Oxford Music Online containing....

The New Grove Dictionary of Music
and Musicians

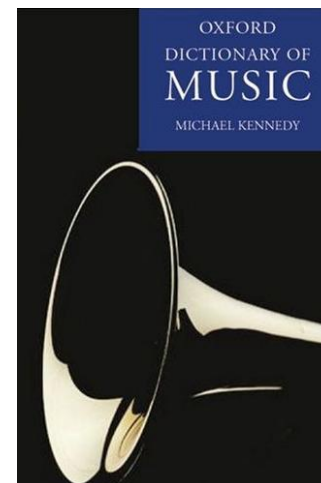
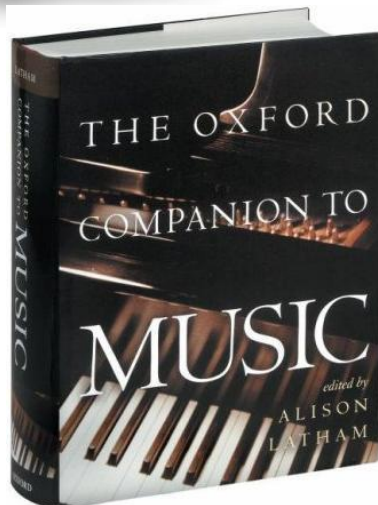
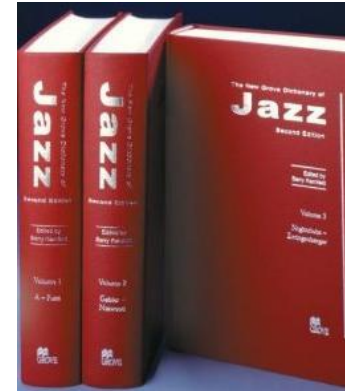
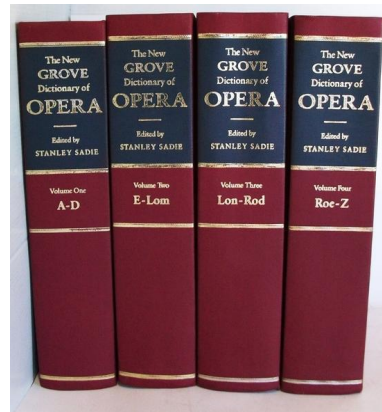
The New Grove Dictionary of Opera

The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz

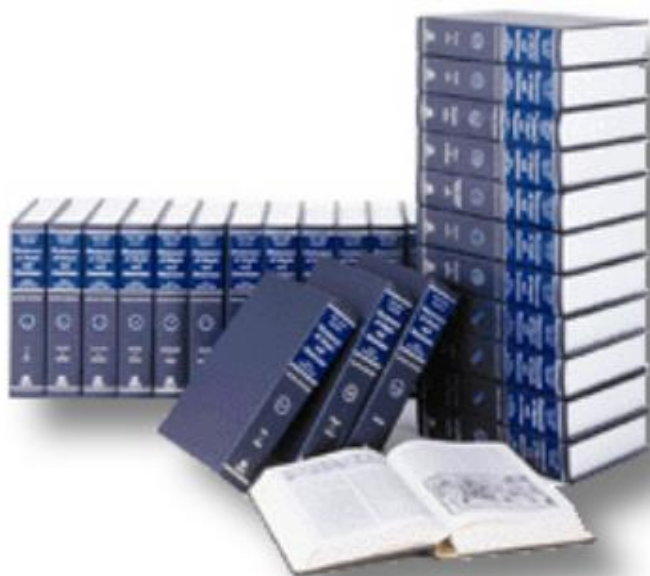
The Oxford Companion to Music

The Oxford Dictionary of Music

Oxford Music Online ... containing

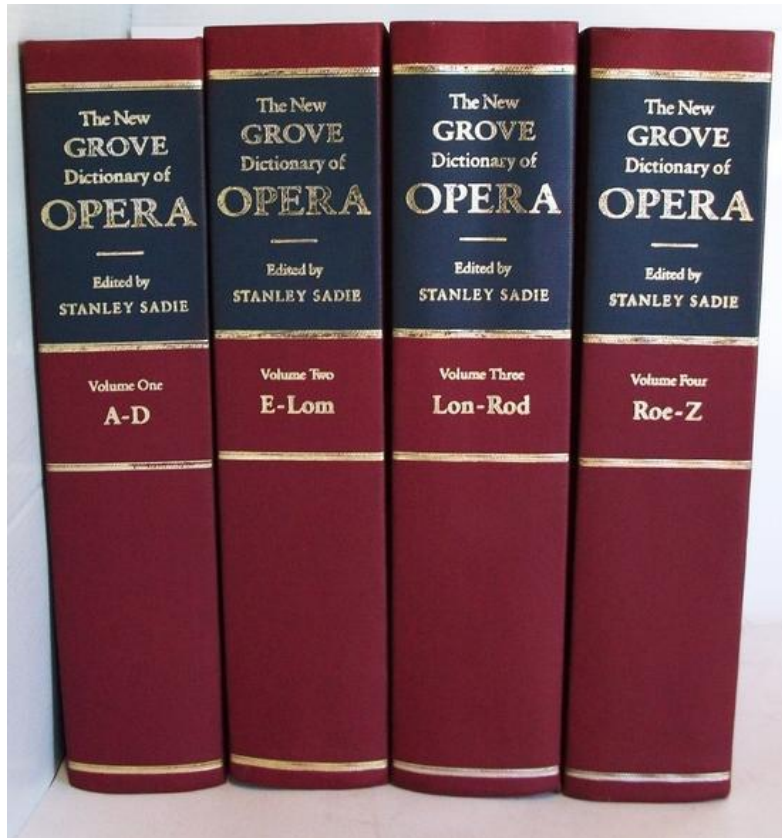


New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians



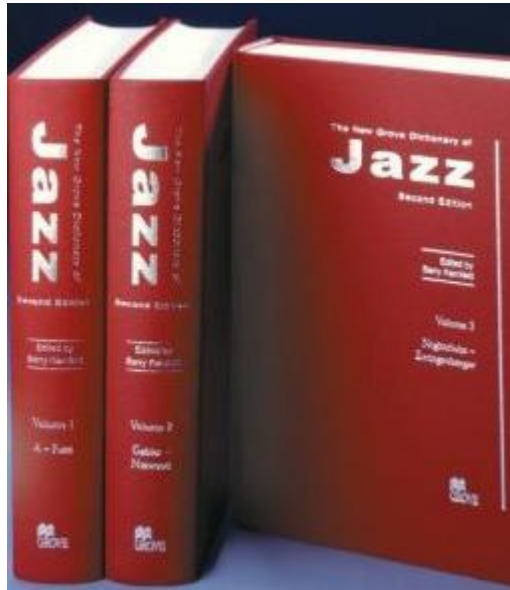
- 29 volumes
- Long, scholarly articles – can be 40 pages long
- Extensive bibliographies
- Also available in print – REF ML100.N48 2001

The New Grove Dictionary of Opera



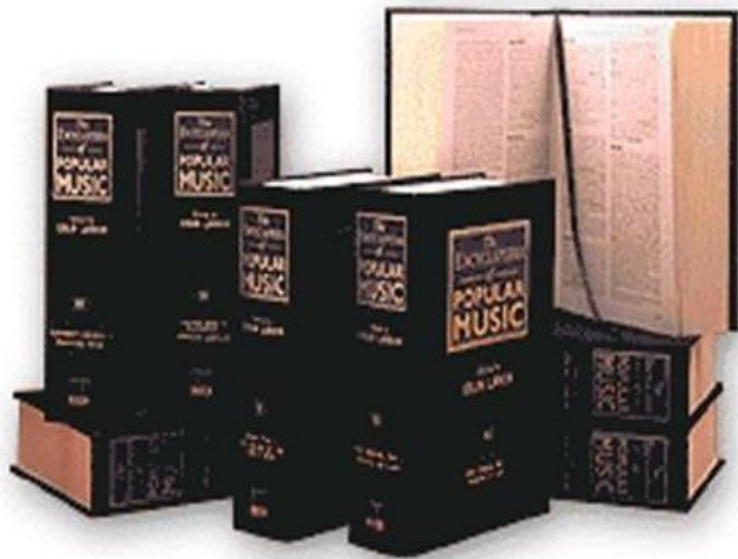
- 4 Volumes
- Scholarly
- Extensive bibliographies
- 3,900 composers
- 2,800 operas.
- Also available in print —
REF ML102.O6 N5 1998

The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz



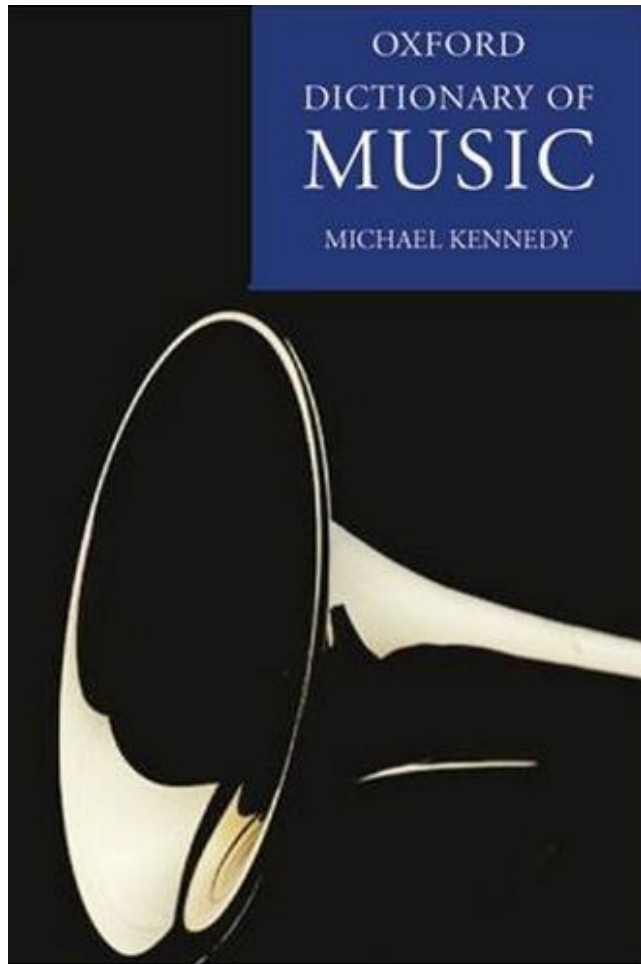
- 3 Volumes
- Scholarly
- Extensive bibliographies
- Also available in print -
REF ML102.J3 N48 1994

Encyclopedia of Popular Music



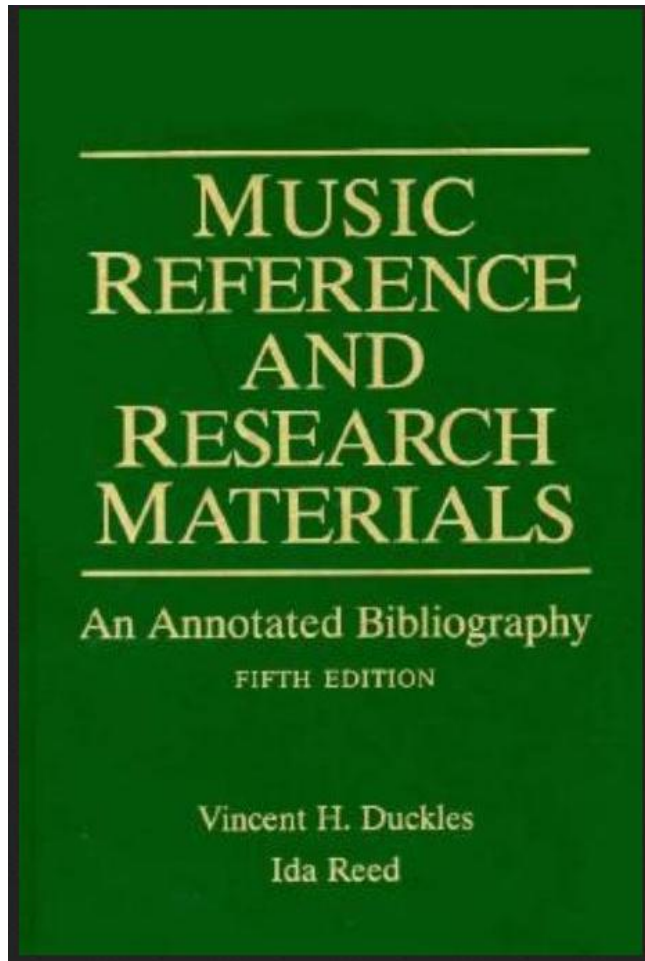
- Eight volumes
- Scholarly
- Extensive bibliographies
- Covering popular music of all genres and periods from 1900 to the present day.
- Also available in print —
REF ML102.P66 G84 1998

Oxford Dictionary of Music



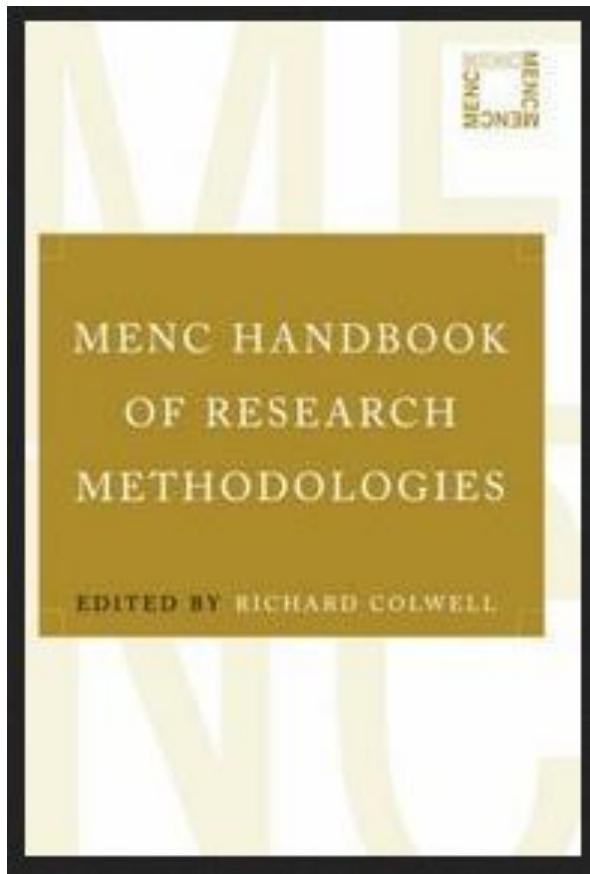
- 12,500 entries on musical subjects of all kinds
- Authoritative
- Accessible
- Covers composers, performers, conductors, musical terms and forms, instruments, works, venues, etc.

Guides to Music Research



- THE authoritative research guide for music.
- 3,500 sources are listed and described.
- Also available in Print - REF ML113.D83 1997

Guides to Music Research



- [MENC handbook of research methodologies \(eBook\)](#)
- An excellent starting point.
- An up-to-date reference guide for experienced researchers.
- Also available in print - MT1.M42 2006

Advanced Assignments

- Advanced assignments cannot be completed solely with one library's resources.
- Sometimes you will need to visit other libraries, preferably university libraries.
- You may also order materials through Interlibrary Loan.

Interlibrary Loan

- Interlibrary Loan (ILL) takes three to seven days - books are slower than articles.
- No charge.
- There are several search engines at the ILL Page for finding materials.
- The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians has wonderful, scholarly bibliographies.
 - WARNING! - Many of the sources cited there will be in a foreign language.

Keep Track of Your Research

- Research is an experimental process where you explore many avenues of inquiry.
- Write each source you look in, even if it is a dead end.
- This will save you time in the long run.

Beware Alternative Spellings

- Beatriz de Dia — SEE Dia, Comtess de
- Leoninus - SEE Leonin
- Mario, E.A. - SEE Gaeta, Giovanni
- Prokofief, Sergei - SEE Prokoviev, Sergey
- Rachmaninov, Sergie - SEE Rachmaninoff, Serge

Beware Alternative Titles

- Barber of Seville vs. Il Barbier di Siviglia
- Streichquartet vs. String Quartet
- Moonlight Sonata vs. Sonata No.14 in C Sharp Minor, Op.27, No.2

Beware Parts of Works

- Sometimes a search for a part of a work will miss results that might be found in the complete opera, musical, symphony, etc.
 - Toreador Song (an aria from the opera Carmen)
 - Take a Chance on Me (a song from the musical Mama, Mia)
 - Summer (one of four violin concertos by Vivaldi gathered under the title - the Four Seasons)
 - The Storm (a movement within Vivaldi's Summer concerto.)

Use the Library's LibGuides

- LibGuides are annotated bibliographies describing useful resources – both in the library and online – along with useful research strategies.

Get Help From a Librarian

- “Did I ever tell you about the student who complained we didn’t have any books on “Shakespheer”?
- He wasn’t a very good speller, but he was very wise. Because he asked for help – he got it.
- Every student eventually reaches the limit of their knowledge. If you don’t ask for help, there will always be more you didn’t find.

Don't Give Up!

- Don't give up
Keep on trying
You're gonna make it
I ain't lying
Don't give up, don't ever quit
Try and try and you can do it
Don't give up, yeah

- Bruno Mars

