

To: RDA Steering Committee
From: Dave Reser, LC Representative
Subject: Revision of *RDA* 6.28.1.9 and 6.28.1.10, Additions to Access Points
Representing Musical Works

Thanks to the RSC Music Working group for the revisions to the instructions for access points representing musical works. We agree with the goals proposal, and offer a few editorial revisions below.

Specific comments (mark-up is shown with regard to RSC/MusicWG/4, not current Toolkit):

6.28.1.9

Insert the word “of” into the sentence before the first “or”:

the preferred title for the work (see 6.14.2) consists solely of the name
of a type, or of two or more types, of composition

Insert “and/or” between f) and g) to match the list style in 6.27.1.9:

f) place of origin of the work (see 6.5)

and/or

g) other distinguishing characteristic of the work (see 6.6).

Revise the penultimate paragraph by breaking it up into two sentences for readability:

For a compilation of musical works, record the conventional collective title *Selections* following medium of performance, numeric designation of a musical work, and/or key, Include one or more of the following additional elements after *Selections*, but before form of work, date of work, place of origin of work, and/or other distinguishing characteristic of the work, as applicable.:

form of work

date of work

place of origin of the work

and/or

other distinguishing characteristic of the work.

6.28.1.9.1, Exception a)

The first three sub-instructions (i-iii) under exception a) should not end with a full stop; the full stop is appropriate after sub-instruction iv (per Editor's guide, section 4.2).

The first set of examples under paragraph i) of exception a) are separated by a "but" clause from a second set of examples. We feel that the use of the simple clause does not adequately inform the cataloger of the exceptional circumstance (a medium is implied by the title but it is not the actual medium of performance). We suggest that the existing instruction statement be retained instead of the new "but" clause, with the insertion of an additional word:

If, however, the actual medium of performance is not the one implied by the title, add the medium.

The examples illustrating this instruction would remain where they are now in the Toolkit.

6.28.1.9.1, Exception k)

This new exception, a reformulation of the current exception at 6.15.1.11.4 (Medium unspecified), was the most challenging to evaluate for our generalist reviewers. We think it has lost much of the context it had at 6.15.1.11.4, and would ask the working group to re-evaluate.

These are the two concerns we have:

1. It is challenging to attempt to state a different practice for recording an element (e.g., Medium of performance at 6.15) and how that element should be recorded in an access point, especially if the suggestion is that the terms might be different. In RSC/MusicWG/3, paragraph b) at 6.15.1.3 refers to using "a term for an unspecified instrument, voice, or ensemble (e.g., instrument, voice, ensemble)" as the medium of performance. If the working group wants to indicate that "voices" should be used for both vocal and instrumental parts when the number of parts can be ascertained, we think that should be stated in some manner at the element instruction.
2. Does the exception in paragraph k) apply in all cases of works by the same composer and no specific medium of performance, or only when they have the same preferred title? We think it is most likely the latter that is intended, and suggest that "with the same preferred title" be inserted into the "if" clause.