Music-themed museums serve as institutions that preserve musical instruments

Jabbarova Fargana1

1 The Azerbaijan Tourism and Management University; Republic of Azerbaijan

Abstract.
The article discusses music museums that collect, preserve, study, and display materials related to the development of music culture. It notes that the main foundation of each music museum's collection is a collection of musical instruments. The article also highlights the active involvement of scientific-research and public centers in the dissemination of music culture experience of music-profile museums and the implementation of music communication. There is information about museums as the Russian National Music Museum, located in Russia's capital city, Moscow, which has one of the oldest and richest collections of museums; music museum situated in the music city (Cité de la Musique) of Paris, France; National Music Museum in Lisbon, Portugal, which boasts a rich collection of academic and folk musical instruments from Portugal and other countries around the world; The Music Instrument Museum in Phoenix, Arizona, USA, established through the personal initiative of businessman Robert Ulrich; the Musical Instruments Museum near the Royal College of Music in London houses a collection of over 800 musical instruments and accessories from Europe, Asia, and Africa, dating back to the 15th century; in Yakutsk, Russia, Museum and Center of The Khomus of The People of The World, founded in 1990, preserves around 10,000 museum items. Finally, the Hamamatsu Musical Instruments Museum, established in 1995, stands out as Japan’s first and perhaps only museum dedicated solely to musical instruments.

Keywords:
museum
music
musical instruments
fund
exposition
Music profile museums are institutions that collect, preserve, study, and exhibit materials related to the development of music culture. The first music profile proto-museums began to emerge in Europe at the end of the 16th century, based on collections of musicians and theaters, as well as musical artifacts preserved in churches and monasteries.

Each music museum's fund is primarily comprised of collection of musical instruments. Currently, music museums are turning in scientific research and social centers that actively contribute to the dissemination of musical culture and the implementation of music communication.

One of the oldest and richest collections among museums dedicated to the development of the art of music is the Russian National Music Museum. The museum was established in 1912. The decision to organize the museum under the Moscow Conservatory was made by the emperor at the meeting of the Moscow branch of the Russian Music Society as early as 1910. In 1912, a museum named after the distinguished Russian pianist, conductor, educator, and public figure N.Q. Rubinstein was opened under the conservatory. The initial museum collection consisted of personal belongings of N.Q. Rubinstein, as well as musical instruments, manuscripts, rare autographs, documents, and other items collected throughout the years of the Moscow Conservatory's activities.

The museum's collections expanded gradually, and in the 1940s of the XX century, the institution received the status of the State Music Culture Center Museum. In 1954, in connection with the 150th anniversary of the distinguished Russian composer Mikhail Glinka, the museum was named after him. In 2011, the museum was transformed into the M.I. Glinka All-Russian Museum Association of Music Culture, and in 2018, it received the status of the Russian National Music Museum.

Currently, the museum preserves close to a million museum artifacts. This is the largest music cultural fund in the world. The museum's collections are preserved and stored in a number of funds.

The State Collection of Unique Musical Instruments is one of the largest collections of rare instruments in the world. It houses 287 instruments including violins, violas, cellos,
double basses, and other rare musical instruments crafted over five centuries by European and Russian master craftsmen such as A. Stradivari, C. Guarneri, A. Amati, N. Amati, G. Guadagnini, F. Ruggieri, K. Bergonzi, J.B. Vuillaume, Y. Vitachek, and T. Podgorny. The creation of the state collection is associated with the name of the merchant and patron K.V. Tretyakov, who donated 30 musical instruments to the Moscow Conservatory, including some of the finest examples of the world's musical heritage crafted by Italian and French craftsmen. In November 1919, with the support of the People's Commissar of Education of the RSFSR, A.V. Lunacharsky, the "Fund of Unique Instruments" was created with the aim of preserving the Russian performing school and providing young talented musicians with the best musical instruments.

The collection of musical instruments began to take shape in the late 19th century. Currently, the fund preserves over 3000 musical instruments from Russia, Western Europe, America, Southeast Asia, and Africa. Additionally, the museum collection includes European traditional professional instruments from the 16th to the 20th centuries. Alongside modern musical instruments widely used in the contemporary era, the fund also preserves rare instruments, various mechanical instruments, early sound recording and playback devices.

The Music Museum, located under the City of Music (Cité de la musique) in Paris, the capital of France, is renowned for its collections of musical instruments from the 15th to the 20th centuries. Here, you can find exhibitions of Stradivarius, Guarneri, Amati violins, Adolf Sax saxophones, and other rare artifacts. Utilizing headphones, visitors can also listen to the sound of the shown instruments. The museum's main collection consists of approximately 1000 items in its permanent collection (4).

The National Music Museum located in the capital of Portugal, Lisbon, houses one of the richest collections of musical instruments in Europe. The collection consists of both academic and folk musical instruments from Portugal and other countries dating from the 16th to the 21st centuries. Instruments such as the cello made by Stradivarius belonging to King Louis I of France, António's clavichord, Pascal
Taskin’s clavichord, Franz Liszt’s piano, and several other musical instruments are valued as national treasures of Portugal. (3)

Rare musical instruments produced in Portugal are collected in the museum. For example, Joaquim José Antunes’s harpsichord (Lisbon, 1758), flutes from the Haupt family (XVIII–XIX centuries), etc. Interesting exhibits also include pocket violins, flutes made of glass, Jan Luís Oliveira Cochulo’s melophone, and others.

The Musical Instrument Museum (MIM), located in the city of Phoenix, USA, preserves more than 15 thousand objects to produce sound from 200 countries and regions worldwide, dating back as far as several thousand years and as recent as 20-30 years old. Opened in 2010, the museum quickly became one of the top 20 museums in the USA and a prime attraction for tourists in Phoenix, as well as throughout the state of Arizona. The museum was established through the personal initiative of businessman Robert Ulrich.

The museum's main collection is organized on a geographical basis and covers the five main regions of the world: Africa and the Middle East, Asia and Oceania, Europe, Latin America, and the United States and Canada. Musical instruments are displayed by types: stringed, wind, keyboard, percussion instruments, etc. Musical instruments are placed in showcases, performance videos are broadcasted on screens, and when approaching the exhibits, visitors can listen to their authentic sound through working stereo headphones.

In the museum, various galleries are also active. In the Mechanical Gallery, mechanical organs, pianos, and other musical instruments from the 19th and 20th centuries that perform without human participation are displayed. In the Practical Gallery, it is possible to perform on instruments acquired from any point in the world. The STEM Gallery focuses on the connections between music and science, where one can learn about the pitch and timbre of sound, its impact on the human body, including the auditory system, and more. Through the glass walls of the Restoration Laboratory, visitors can observe the work of museum restorers in real time (6).

The collection of the Musical Instruments Museum under the Royal College of Music (London), one of Europe's most influential music education institutions, preserves over 800
musical instruments and accessories from Europe, Asia, and Africa, dating back to the year 1480. The highlight of the museum's collection is the world's oldest keyboard instrument. Additionally, the museum houses the largest archive of depictions of musicians in Great Britain, including autographs of notable composers such as Haydn, Mozart, and Elgar, as well as portraits, lithographs, and photographs. It also preserves over 600,000 concert programs depicting the country's concert life from the 1730s to the present day (2).

A quite interesting museum operates in the city of Yakutsk, Russia (Sakha Republic). Founded in 1990, the main fund of Museum and Center of The Khomus of The People of The World contains up to 10,000 museum items. Homus (khomus) is a Yakut traditional musical instrument. The "cosmic sound" possessed by the instrument was performed by Yakut shamans since ancient times. Currently, the homus maintains its sacred nature and is used during various rituals, serving as a true symbol of Sakha people's national culture. Homus has spread widely, from Thailand, the Philippines, and Japan to many Asian nations, as well as in Europe and even Africa. Note is not needed for this musical instrument; in Yakutia, everyone learns to play homus from childhood.

The museum protects various artifacts related to the folklore of world nations. In addition to musical instruments, the museum protects a wide range of paintings, graphics, and sculptures, examples of decorative and applied arts and numismatics, photographs, manuscripts, books, brochures, teaching aids, household and ethnographic items, cinema and audio materials, electronic carriers, and more (1).

The Hamamatsu Musical Instruments Museum, established in 1995, is the first and arguably the only musical instrument museum in Japan. The museum's mission involves the collection, preservation, study, and exhibition of musical instruments and related materials, as well as the dissemination of extensive knowledge about music through various initiatives.

In the museum, over 3500 musical instruments from Asia, Europe, America, Africa, and Oceania are preserved. Exhibits are displayed based on the concept of "presenting the world's musical instruments together and in objective perspective."

In the permanent exhibition, musical instruments belonging to 5 continents are displayed together, while
musical instruments and products related to Japan are presented separately (5).

European instruments are classified according to the Sachs-Hornbostel system. This system categorizes instruments based on their sound, production method & date, manufacturing style and history, and shape. Through monitors and headphones, visitors can listen to 100 different sounds and view 30 different video clips, while the personal headphone system provides explanations and sounds of 80 different instruments.

The museum is the only institution in the world where three types of gamelans are preserved: bronze gamelans obtained from Bali and Java, and the world's largest gamelan made of bamboo, "Jegog". Among the unique exhibits are percussion instruments for water, the Nigerian traditional drum "Dimkedim" and the "Abu" breathing instrument from Kenya not produced in modern times. Also on display is one of the largest marimba percussion instruments brought from Guatemala, as well as European instruments from the 18th and 19th centuries such as oboes, flutes, keyboards, and pianos, etc.

It can be said that the museum showcases all musical instruments of Japan. Beginning in 1888 in the city of Hamamatsu, production of musical instruments with Western industrial methods started, and currently, the city is one of the largest centers in the world in this field. It's no coincidence that the museum also tells the history of Western musical instrument production in Hamamatsu and throughout Japan, as well as the materials used in this process.

In the collection of electronic instruments are presented music instruments produced in Japan and outside its borders, which create a new music world.

Ancient historical monuments, musical instruments, valuable documents, etc., preserved in museums, along with their historical significance, also serve to perpetuate the history of music.

It is necessary to highlight the services of music-profiled museums in this field. The main part of the funds of each music museum consists of a collection of musical instruments.

Music-themed museums offer every visitor, even if for a
few minutes, a journey through the past, where they get acquainted with musical instruments of the era and experience the atmosphere of the period. For anyone in the field of music — whether a musician, scholar, or researcher — music-themed museums are an invaluable resource.

The museums mentioned in the article, which play a key role in preserving and promoting the history of world music, hold a unique place in global history. The unique musical instruments preserved in these museums have maintained their relevance over the centuries and continue to attract the attention of many viewers, researchers, and music enthusiasts.

References:
[1] Museum and Center of The Khomus of The People of The World (Музей и центр хомуса народов мира) [Elektron resource]. URL: https://rus.ilkhomus.com/