



UFRJ MUSIC SCHOOL – 170 Years (1848–2018)

It is with great honor that the *Revista Brasileira de Música* [Brazilian Journal of Music] presents this commemorative volume of the 170 Years of the School of Music at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro – EM-UFRJ. The Editorial Board of *RBM* welcomes the director of EM-UFRJ and guest editor, Maria José Chevitarese, and thanks her for the commitment to the realization of this volume, and of all the celebrations to our distinguished institution during this year. There resides the encounter of Art with Science. The present volume reassesses the identity and function of the institution, not only marking its 170th anniversary, but also reflecting on the various reformulations of its mission along a path that ran through the entire history of the education system itself in Brazil at the various levels, from the musical initiation, the elementary-, the middle-, the high-school, (the technical – extinct), the undergraduate (baccalaureate, and pedagogy), to the graduate (academic and professional). Founded as an Imperial Conservatory (1848), in a new phase was the National Institute of Music (1890) among the first educational institutions decreed by the First Republic, incorporated as National School of Music (1937) to the University of Brazil until its current designation as School of Music (1965) of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. In the course of its institutional history it received precious musical collections. The Library created in the year 1855 houses historical documents, and holds a collection that preserves the musical memory of the country, including bibliographical materials and rare books, musical manuscripts and historical editions: the Biblioteca Alberto Nepomuceno is a custodian of one of the most important historical and musical collections in Brazil. In this memorable year of 2018, the collection of the composer Antonio Carlos Gomes – belonging to the School of Music of UFRJ, along with those of seven other Brazilian and one Italian institutions – earned the *The Memory of the World International Register* of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization – UNESCO, which enriches current celebrations. It is also worth noting the role of the renowned institution in the development of musical research in Brazil, having founded in 1934 the *Revista Brasileira de Música*, the academic journal on music oldest in Brazil and Latin America still in circulation, the Chair of Musical Folklore (1939), and the Center for Folk Research (1943). It was the first institution of higher education in Brazil to establish the graduate level program in music (1980), and today it offers the Graduate Studies



Program in Music (PPGM-UFRJ, academic) at Master, Doctoral, and Postdoctoral levels, and the Graduate Professional Program in Music (PROMUS-UFRJ) at Master's level. EM-UFRJ's pioneering in graduate courses in music established the challenges that the area has faced in the context of the university concerning its conceptualization as an instance of research and construction of knowledge, as well as high professional qualification. This was the first official institution of music learning in Brazil, thus having the mission to establish guidelines for the training of professionals in the area. It has played a leading role in many fronts of professional occupation, including artistic, academic, and management careers.

May some lights shed on the past – within memory, history, heritage, and knowledge – open new perspectives for the future.

Maria Alice Volpe
Editor-in-chief