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# The music files



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#### **ABSTRACT**

Opening a box closed for twenty years, full of clippings from newspapers and magazines on subjects related to the musical environment, such as reviews of concerts and music festivals in Brazil and abroad, articles on music education in Brazil and other countries, translations of articles on music specialized French Newspapers, emergence of new composers on the world stage, cut and saved between 1954 and 1997. This was the great motivation for writing this article. From the totalset of these clippings (547), those from the period from 1964 to 1968 (232) were selected and organized chronologically, using three organization criteria: by jornal, by year, and by author. Parto f the methodology used was the checking comparision of clippings with the original publications contained in the Hemeroteca Digital Brasileira of the Biblioteca Nacional (Brazil), in the collections of Correio da Manhã and Jornal do Commércio. At the end of this process, the article offers numerical surveys in data collection, comparative tables, and concrete results.

Keywords: Music criticism, music criticism in Brazil, hemeroteca digital.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

A music boxes. A box full of clippings about music in newspapers and magazines; clippings read, reread, chosen, cut and stored carefully. Stored so carefully that the box passed from mother to daughter. Clippings that began to be kept since 1954, going beyond decades until the habit of cutting and saving what happened in the musical world ceased. In 1997, the daughter left home and took the box with her, took some home with her.

The provenance of the musical articles that were used in this research is from a set of newspaper and magazine clippings, stored in a box from 1954 to 1997. This box passed from mother to daughter in the 80s, and from then on, the daughter continued with the habit of cutting out published articles about music and keeping them in this same box.

The great motivation of this research was to be able to use the digital repositories. The first research idea was to make an inventory of the entire musical collection of the composer José Guerra Vicente (1907-1976). The researcher has the privilege of having full and unrestricted access to all of José Guerra Vicente's material, from the edited scores, handwritten scores, drafts, exercises, correspondence to the cello used by him to work (he was a professional cellist and professor of Harmony and Counterpoint). All this material is in the house of the researcher, married to the grandson of the composer, heir and guardian of all this musical-family collection. As the main objective of this works to explore the libraries, a change of focus was necessary.

After 20 years closed and stored, the music box was opened, promoting a whirlwind of feelings and memories in the researcher, after all, the box was a gift from her mother.

Figure 1. Open box with part of the cutouts

(Author's Photograph, 2021).

#### 2 GOALS

The present work has as general objective to apply what was presented and explained by Professor Paulo Augusto Castagna in the discipline of the Graduate Program in Music of UNESP, entitled Subsidies for Archival Musicological Research in Brazil.

In addition to researching and exploring digital repositories, another specific goal achieved was to reopen a box full of newspaper and magazine clippings after 20 years closed.

#### **3 METHODOLOGIES**

To use and explore the Brazilian archives of digital libraries, the object of research was a set of 547 newspaper and magazine clippings, published between 1954 and 1997, containing reviews about concerts in Brazil and abroad; articles about festivals, concerts and international competitions; articles about music education in Brazil and in North American universities; translations of articles about music from specialized French newspapers; the launch of young Brazilian composers and, finally, biographical articles about composers and their compositional characteristics.

From this set of 547 newspaper and magazine clippings, selected, cut from their source of origin and kept with constancy and regularity for 43 years (1954 to 1997), 232 clippings were selected and organized chronologically, with the period from 1964 to 1968 defined as the chronological range for the research. The criteria chosen for the organization of the excerpts for the research are three: by journal, by year and by author.

The consultations to check published articles were carried out virtually in the Brazilian Digital Library of the National Library (Brazil). <sup>1</sup> The complete collection of Correio da Manhã and part of the Jornal do Commércio collection are available on the platform and, for this reason, it was possible to consult all the articles and music reviews that were published in the defined chronological range and compare with all the clippings of the collection studied.

Gómez González states that "an archive should group an organic set of documents, in any type of support, produced by an institution or person, in the performance of the functions and activities that are its own" (GÓMEZ GONZÁLEZ, 2008, p. 125). <sup>2</sup> A personal archive can be classified as an archive of collectors and music lovers and also as an archive of Press and broadcasting entities (BAGÜÉS, 2008, p. 81). However, Josefa Montero García defends, in *Los archivos musicales familiares y personales*, that archives of melomans in general, that is, people who are not music professionals, can be considered collections (MONTERO GARCÍA, 2008, p. 398).

Archive or collection, observing the material of the box, it was possible to verify that a significant amount of the articles published in the 60's demonstrate how the musical environment was bustling in Brazil, Europe and the United States. At that time, Rio newspapers gave much prominence to classical music and the columns were read not only by people from the musical environment but also by the general public (MARIZ, 2012, p. 375). The content, quality and quantity of the articles and criticisms during this period motivated the researcher to establish the period from 1964 to 1968 as the chronological limit for the study. In addition, two periodicals were defined, Correio da Manhã and Jornal do Commércio, with their crowded columns on music.

The newspaper Correio da Manhã (1901 – 1974), considered the newspaper that had in its editorial its most striking characteristic (CONY, 2002, p. 42), had Otto Maria Carpeaux and Graciliano Ramos as some editors. In the newspaper there were also columnists from various areas, Carlos Drummond de Andrade, Ruy Castro, Nelson Rodrigues and Walter Lima Júnior are some exponents. Eurico Nogueira França (1913 – 1992), music critic, musicologist and pianist, wrote, on average, once every two days for the newspaper until its extinction in 1974.

Another periodical that is very present in this collection of clippings is the Jornal do Commércio (1827 - 2016) with Andrade Muricy (1895 - 1984), music and literary critic, essayist and writer, as the main star in the biweekly column (Wednesdays and Sundays) entitled *Pelo Mundo da Música*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Available in: http://bndigital.bn.gov.br/hemeroteca-digital/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The original: Un Archivo, para ser tal, deberá agrupar un conjunto orgánico de documentos, en cualquier tipo de soporte, producidos por una institución o persona en el desempeño de las funciones o actividades que le son propias.

#### 4 JUSTIFICATIONS AND RELEVANCE

Articles published in newspapers and magazines can be considered an important resource as secondary sources for the development of a research. In a newspaper article, an author may delve into a particular subject more specifically, in more detail than a dictionary or encyclopedia, and often more comprehensively than in a book. Historians adopt newspapers as a source of research, as this broadens the horizons for new reflections and problems in the knowledge about the societies of the past; Recording daily life in its multiple aspects, the press offers ample possibilities to understand how the ancestors lived – not only the illustrious, but also anonymous subjects (CAPELATO, 1988). In addition, journal articles are often the most current source of information on a subject; In the case of the newspaper clippings chosen for the research, the information contained provides a rich source of the historical, artistic, political and social context of the period in which they were published.

The relevance of the present research arose after the realization that the digitization of all the issues of the Jornal do Commércio is not complete in the Digital Library of the National Library, unlike the Correio da Manhã, which has all the digitized numbers (June 15, 1901 to June 7, 1974), organized and much more accessible for consultation. In the set of selected excerpts there are twenty more articles published in the Jornal do Commércio that are not included in the digital repository. The present data collection can be useful for the accomplishment of other academic works both in the musical and historical areas.

# **5 FINDINGS**

The cutout box was opened; All its contents were counted, separated by year, then separated by journals, and finally separated by author. After this first stage, two journals and two authors were chosen to be the object of research. This choice was motivated by the volume and content of the articles; observing the amount, it was possible to realize that during the 60's, in Brazil and in the world, the musical and artistic life seemed to be in a golden age. Nowadays, you can follow what happens in the musical environment through magazines and specific platforms. What caused interest and surprise in the researcher was the fact that music was published almost daily in the selected periodicals, which means that most readers had great interest in music and the arts in general.

The present research is of the quantitative type, in which the intention is to systematize the data, in this case the newspaper clippings. After counting and chronological organization of 547 newspaper and magazine clippings, the first result was reached; 547 clippings about music from 14 different newspapers and magazines (Table 1).

Table 1. Periodicals and their respective clippings present in the music box

Newspaper/periodical/ magazine	Origin	N° of clippings
Journal of commerce	RJ	136
The globe	RJ	124
Folha de São Paulo	SP	116
Morning post	RJ	107
Newspaper of Brazil	RJ	6
State of São Paulo	SP	5
Daily news	RJ	1
State of minas	MG	1
Miscellaneous magazines*		51
Total		547

Source: Author, 2021. \* Headline, Cruise, See, Elle, Vogue, Selections/Reader's Digest.

The next feat of this process was to separate the clippings of the two journals and the two authors chosen for the research within the defined chronological range. The only music critic of Correio da Manhã was Eurico Nogueira França while in Jornal do Commércio there were more authors who wrote in the music column, but the main one was Andrade Muricy. During the years 1964 and 1968, the collector collected and kept 107 articles by Eurico Nogueira França and 66 articles by Andrade Muricy (Table 2).

Table 2. Number of articles by Eurico Nogueira França and Andrade Muricy saved during the years 1964 to 1968

	Eurico Nogueira France	Andrade Muricy
1964	49	
1965	12	16
1966	17	30
1967	26	
1968	3	20
Total	107	66

Source: The Author, 2021.

The third and final stage of the research with the clippings was to consult the Brazilian Digital Library of the National Library to look for the articles contained in the clippings, to make a survey of how many articles were published in the journals in the chronological range defined by the researcher and to compare the number of articles published with the number of articles cut and stored. After the analysis, it was found that the collector kept 10.28% of the articles written by Eurico Nogueira França and 48.8% of the articles written by Andrade Muricy (Tables 3 and 4). It was also found that in 1966, the cut articles have a greater number than the articles available in the digital repository, there are 10 in the repository and 30 contained in the clippings. The explanation of this disparity is that in the digital repository, in the year 1966, the last occurrence is the amount of May 22. Thus, it is concluded that,

unlike Correio da Manhã, Jornal do Commércio is not available in its entirety in the Brazilian Digital Library of the National Library.

Table 3. Correio da manhã – Eurico Nogueira França. Comparative table of articles Published; articles cut out and their percentage

Morning post				
Year	Digital library	Clipping box	%	
1964	188	49	26,06	
1965	124	12	9,67	
1966	192	17	8,85	
1967	192	26	13,54	
1968	219	3	1,36	
Total	915	107	10,28	

Source: the author, 2021.

Table 4. Journal of Commerce – Andrade Muricy. Comparative table of articles published; articles cut out and their percentage.

JOURNAL OF COMMERCE					
Year	Digital library	Clipping box	%		
1964	21				
1965	35	116	45,7		
1966	10	30	200		
1967	37				
1968	32	20	62,5		
Total	135	66	48,8		

Source: The author, 2021.

#### **6 CONCLUSIONS**

The objective of this work was to apply part of the content presented during the classes in completely different research from all those already produced, that is, to do quantitative research, with numerical surveys in the data collection, with comparative tables and with concrete results. It was said by Professor Paulo Augusto Castagna, on at least three occasions during the classes, that this type of research is not much explored in the area of Music. For these reasons and because it has a box with a material conducive to quantitative research, the idea of developing this work arose.

Handling and reading the clippings of this box revealed a little about the personality of the collector, but also revealed some habits of an era, such as reading more than one newspaper daily. In this way, through these fragments, the past history becomes clearer. Maria Helena Rolim Capelato affirms that newspapers are a "source of the most fertile for the knowledge of the past, the press enables the historian to follow the path of men through the ages" (CAPELATO, 1988, p. 130).

In conclusion, the present work can be considered as an exercise of research in archives. A mapping of occurrences was made about articles about music published from 1964 to 1968 in two important periodicals of Rio de Janeiro, Diário da Manhã and Jornal do Commércio. Even though newspapers represent everyday observations, the focus of the research was to create a comprehensive panorama contained in a temporal and geographical cut of the history of Brazilian music.

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