



## Question

To what extent are new classical releases available through streaming audio databases used in music libraries?

## Methods

Searches for new releases were conducted in three streaming audio databases subscribed by the Crouch Fine Arts Library.

- The source of the new release data was the "Selected New Releases of Interest" list published by Gary Thal Music, Inc. It reports new releases during the previous month, and the initial searches were conducted within one month of receiving a given issue. Reissued recordings were included in the study.
- Each database was tracked for a separate period of three consecutive months, to determine the extent to which new releases were available.
- A final check was done 30-60 days later for the recordings that were released on labels represented in the database, but not found during the initial searches.

*Special thanks to former Crouch Library staff member Jonathan Pinto, who gathered much of the data for this project*

## Discussion

Classical Music Library includes a number of the labels that had new releases during the study period. Initially, however, none of the new releases were found to be available in the monthly searches. A small number were found during the final check.

DRAM has a mission to disseminate recordings on independent labels, so it is not surprising that few of the new release labels were found there. For the small number that were represented in DRAM, a high percentage of the new releases were available.

The large number of labels found in the Naxos Music Library dwarfed the other two services. Within these, a high percentage of the new releases were found to be available in the initial searches, and more were found in the final check. Due to publication problems, the February list of new releases was much smaller than usual, and the March list was larger.

## Conclusions

None of the new releases were found in Classical Music Library initially, but a few were found during the final check. This may indicate a slower production schedule, and could be the focus of additional study.

The DRAM database contained only a handful of the labels found in the lists of new releases, but most of the recordings on those labels were available.

The Naxos Music Library was found to contain a large number of the labels with new releases, and a high percentage of the new releases on those labels were available in NML within weeks.

Classical Music Library	New Release Labels Represented	New Recordings Reported	New Recordings Available	%	Final Check	%
April 2017	19	36	0	0%	1	3%
May 2017	16	40	0	0%	5	13%
June 2017	23	41	0	0%	1	2%

DRAM	New Release Labels Represented	New Recordings Reported	New Recordings Available	%	Final Check	%
July 2017	2	2	2	100%	-	-
August 2017	6	15	12	80%	13	87%
September 2017	4	9	7	78%	7	78%

Naxos Music Library	New Release Labels Represented	New Recordings Reported	New Recordings Available	%	Final Check	%
January 2017	105	241	189	78%	197	82%
February 2017	38	75	63	84%	66	88%
March 2017	127	346	291	84%	305	88%

