



CMC Sound Archive

Guidelines for the occasional copying of archival recordings

It is a common position among sound archives that their material, which is often unique and irreplaceable, is held for archival purposes only. Sound recordings are protected by copyright legislation and many items are in vulnerable older formats, therefore such collections are generally accessible only to personal visitors under restricted conditions.

In Ireland, in contrast to other countries, relatively few commercial CDs are available and this means that access to the music of Irish composers is particularly difficult. With this in mind, and solely with a view to assisting the promotion of Irish new music, the Contemporary Music Centre makes the following occasional exceptions to the normal 'no copying' rule for sound archives.

Why does CMC copy archival recordings?

- To assist in the promotion of Irish composers and their work.
- To compensate for the small number of commercially-available CD recordings featuring Irish composers and their music.
- To facilitate limited access to its sound archive where access in person is not possible, eg in the case of clients living outside the country.

What is the legal position?

- CMC will copy recordings only with the prior permission in writing of the copyright holder.
- For legal reasons, not all recordings may be copied. CMC library staff will advise on a case-by-case basis whether a request to copy can be fulfilled.
- All copy recordings are strictly for study purposes only and persons requesting recordings will be required to give a written undertaking to this effect in advance.

Who does CMC copy for?

- Subject to the above conditions being satisfied, CMC will respond to requests for copy recordings from individuals or organisations professionally involved in music, e.g. composers, performers, promoters, etc.
- CMC does not generally copy recordings for students, members of the public, or any client living in Ireland who is in a position to visit the Centre in person.
- Decisions to copy recordings are solely at the discretion of the Contemporary Music Centre and its staff.
- A charge will be made to cover the cost of staff time, materials and postage (where necessary). Please ask for a price list.

November 2003