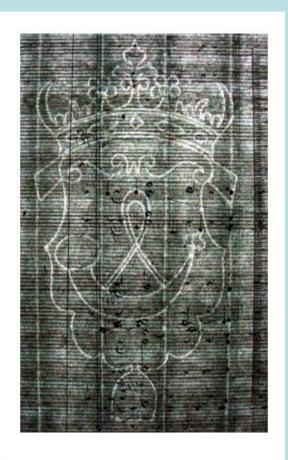
# MarcMus: a case study of music paper and handwriting in the collection of the Count of Redondo





António Jorge Marques (CESEM – NOVA FCSH)

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Bernstein Project: the Memory of Paper

6<sup>th</sup> International conference on watermarks in digital collections











Fondazione Fedrigoni, Fabriano

26 May 2022, 12h

#### 15th Count of Redondo 3rd Marquess of Borba

José Luís Gonzaga de Sousa Coutinho Castelo-Branco e Menezes (1797-1863)

Fernando Luís de Sousa Coutinho (1835-1928)

«Redondo (Count of), José Luiz Gonzaga de Souza Coutinho de Castellobranco e Menezes, 15th Count of Redondo and son of the 2nd Marquess of Borba, was one of the most sincere and dedicated music lovers that there have ever been among us. Representative of one of the most noble and ancient Portuguese families, his taste for music constituted a kind of heredity that he religiously received and transmitted to his son, Mr. Fernando de Sousa Coutinho. The Marquess de Borba, his father, was very fond of artists, not only musicians but also painters.

The great Domingos de Sequeira was an habitual guest of the house, as were Leal Moreira, Marcos Portugal, Baldi and especially Friar José Marques, who in 1834 resided at the Quinta do Bom Jardim. Splendid religious festivities were often held there, and in the Santa Marta Palace, intimate soirees were often held, in which music was the main element.»

Ernesto Vieira, Diccionario Biographico de Musicos Portuguezes, 1900, pp. 240-41

#### Musical Manuscripts in the Collection of the Count of Redondo (BNP)

23401

Composers most represented (number of specimens):							
_	Marcos Portugal (1762-1830)	118					
_	Frei José Marques e Silva (1782-1837)	101					
_	Giuseppe Totti (1751-1832)	79					
_	Joaquim Casimiro Júnior (1808-1862)	44					
_	Francisco A. Norberto dos Santos Pinto (1815-1860)	38					
_	Giovanni Paisiello (1740-1816)	36					
_	David Perez (171-1778)	29					
_	João José Baldi (1762-1830)	24					
_	Domenico Cimarosa (1770-1816)	20					
_	António Leal Moreira (1758-1819)	18					
-	Gioachino Rossini (1792-1868)	18					
Number of composers:							
Nun	nber of Portuguese composers:	114					
Anonymous specimens:							
Total manuscript specimens:							

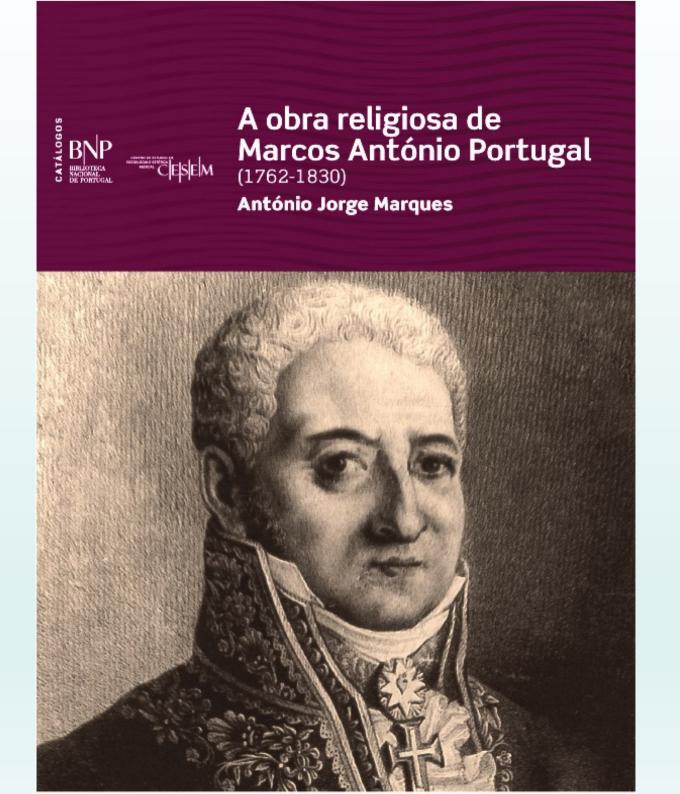
[Approximate total number of specimens (manuscript and printed):

#### Dream - Project

Music Paper and Handwriting Study Centre

Music paper and handwriting studies in Portugal (18th and 19th centuries): the case study of the Collection of the Count of Redondo

(Exploratory project financed by the Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia [FCT] – EXPL/ART-PER/0749/2021)



Silva, Joaquim Casimiro da (1767-1860), 18.fi, 19.1m, AU, VER

GB-Lcm, 514 (Parry Library), *L'Oro non compra amore / Opera Buffa / Del Sig.* Marco *Portogallo / Lisbona / Al R. Teatro di S. Carlo / Copiò dall' originale Joaq. Casimiro*; P-Ln, FCR 9//1, *Tratado de Harmonia* [...] *Composto por Bonifacio Asioli* [...] *Tradosido por Joaquim Cazemiro da Silva*; P-Ln, FCR 228//29, *Vinte e dois de Fevrº. / Cantata / Poesia de Joaq.m Casimiro Senior / Musica extrahida de Varios Authores / para / Piano Forte*;





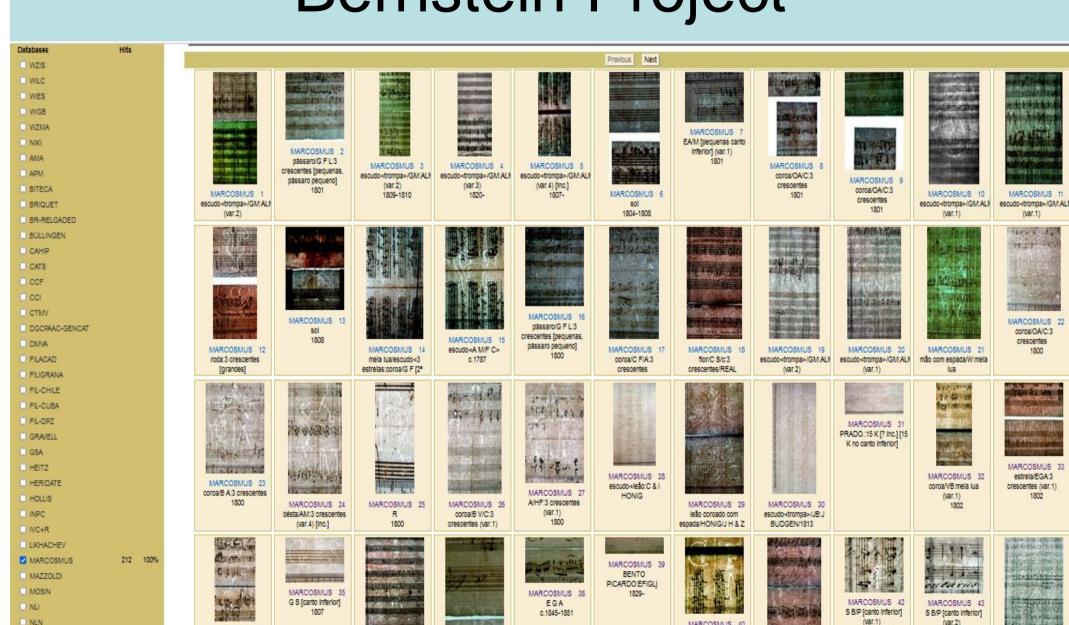
#### 028. crown/BA:3 crescents

North Italy; 1800; DJohnson 13 [1800-1]





## MARCOSMUS at the Bernstein Project



c.1782-1792

G F/F

A:coroa/escudo-mela lua

MARCOSMUS 34

MARCOSMUS

hácta/AM/3 ereccentes

### Music paper and handwriting studies in Portugal (18th and 19th centuries): the case study of the Collection of the Count of Redondo (1 of 6)

- "Watermark evidence [...] is most useful in conjunction with other evidence such as handwriting, type styles and staff rulings. Patterns of change, or indications of date and place, in more than one of these elements have a strong corroborative effect: the imprecision of each is to a large extent negated, and watermarks can then become a most potent research tool." (BOORMAN, 2001)
- Since the late 1950s, when Alfred DÜRR (1957) thoroughly revised the dating of Bach's cantatas through a detailed comparison of watermarks, source criticism has all but revolutionised the way in which scholars examine music scores. Other similar studies worth mentioning, greatly contributed to the chronology of both Mozart and Beethoven's works (TYSON, 1975 and 1987, JOHNSON et al, 1985).
- Matters of authorship and provenance also markedly benefit from the study of paper: "Even an imprecise reproduction of a watermark may lead the researcher to source materials sufficiently similar to furnish vital clues for further research" (LARUE, 1998). If the watermark study is complemented by stave ruling dimensions and the identification of calligraphies, the precision and therefore the usefulness of the findings will be greatly enhanced. On a broader scale, the music paper maker and the relationship with its final user the composer or the copyist bring to the fore relevant considerations of cultural and commercial exchanges, which will also be valuable to the music historian.

### Music paper and handwriting studies in Portugal (18th and 19th centuries): the case study of the Collection of the Count of Redondo (2 of 6)

- Despite being a recognised powerful and unique research tool, musicological source criticism, particularly paper and handwriting studies, is a much-neglected discipline in Portugal. The alluded to characteristics of the collection of the Count of Redondo make it ideal for a case study of music in Portugal. The expected outcomes will lay the foundations for a Music Paper and Handwriting Study Centre and thus hasten progress, whilst establishing Portuguese source criticism on a par with international standards.
- The project aims to systematically record and digitally preserve the watermarks and paper types (the conjunction of the watermark and the number and size of staves drawn by *rastra*) of the collection's music manuscripts. It will also record the literary and music handwritings of the copyists and composers involved (preliminary research has shown that the collection possesses a significant number of autographs).
- The corresponding project site will allow free access to the resulting relational databases (watermarks/paper types and handwritings). This correlation will positively identify the paper types used by each specific copyist/composer (and vice-versa). The information will lead, not only to the matching (and reunification) of dismembered works, but also to the composer's identification of hitherto anonymous works (RISM).

### Music paper and handwriting studies in Portugal (18th and 19th centuries): the case study of the Collection of the Count of Redondo (3 of 6)

- Traditional methods used by musicologists for imaging watermarks are problematic. Freehand tracing is inherently prone to inaccuracy, the Dylux method is ineffective with music manuscripts (that use thicker paper), beta-radiography and low voltage x-rays are not only time-consuming and prohibitively expensive but also present potential health hazards due to prolonged radiation exposure. On the other hand, digital photography is not only practical (and not time-consuming) and rigorous but also less invasive as far as paper conservation is concerned.
- For most music manuscripts a whole sheet of paper was folded and cut on the long axis, and then folded and cut again on the short axis. This resulted in 4 folios, where both watermark (WM) and countermark (CM) have (usually) been cut. Each folio is lit from behind and a digital photograph taken. This means that four photos need to be taken and processed using Photoshop so that both halves of the sheet can be reconstructed. This was the basic method employed by the principal investigator of MarcMus (2012), and the gained experience and expertise will be invaluable for the present project, as well as the added expertise brought by the other team members and consultants.
- The objective will be to greatly improve the process, as well as using English as work language (and not Portuguese, as before): not only will the material used for recording the images be substantially upgraded, but so will be the post-processing, thus creating high-quality images where WM, CM, respective Twinmarks (whenever possible) and chain-lines are clearly visible and measurable. A problem lies in the writing left by the scribe, as well as by the *rastra* (the staves): they tend to partially obscure both the WM and the CM. However, during the last few years, much progress has been made in methods and software for processing images and, specifically, enhancing the visibility of the WM/CM (DIETZ, 2004; RUIZ et al., 2019; STAALDUINEN et al., 2013).

### Music paper and handwriting studies in Portugal (18th and 19th centuries): the case study of the Collection of the Count of Redondo (4 of 6)

- It is beyond the scope of this project to create a critical mass that will sustain what will eventually become the Music Paper and Handwriting Study Centre. However, promising seeds will be planted in a variety of ways: the project itself and the immediately visible and freely accessible outcomes (the website and searchable databases); the added experience and expertise of all the people involved at the end of the project; the training of the research fellow and of the two initiation research students (intensely at the beginning of their contracts, but also throughout); and the kick-off workshops.
- Dissemination in academia and beyond will also contribute to this process: the endof-project colloquium will coincide with the opening of an exhibition at the participant
  institution, the National Library of Portugal, to be visited by the general public and
  children from schools, where, amongst other things, the inherent aesthetic qualities
  of watermarks and calligraphies will be appreciated. The exhibition will afterwards
  move to the centre par excellence of Portuguese paper studies: the award-winning
  Museu do Papel (the Paper Museum in Paços de Brandão, Northern Portugal); like
  before, it is expected that alongside the general public, it will also be visited by
  children and teenagers from schools.

### Music paper and handwriting studies in Portugal (18th and 19th centuries): the case study of the Collection of the Count of Redondo (5 of 6)

- Dissemination beyond academia will also be aided by using open-access software, following CESEM policy of not using platforms requiring a license. With this in mind, the data will be available at the project website with an open-source CMS, Drupal, which uses the internet in a structuring way it is software designed for creating websites and integrates content in an organic way.
- The dissemination will be further enhanced by linking and exporting the complete
  watermark/paper type database to the largest and most accomplished site devoted to paper
  studies, Bernstein Project: the Memory of Paper, where it will be freely accessible and
  researchable. Its mastermind, Emanuel Wenger, consultant to this project, will program and oversee
  this process.
- The international dimension of the project, a crucial strategy towards a levelling of Portuguese source criticism with the highest standards globally available, will be further enhanced by the clear link with the International Association of Paper Historians (IPH) and the Asociación Hispánica de Historiadores del Papel (AHHP) provided by the three consultants: Maria José Ferreira dos Santos (Founder of the AHHP and Portuguese delegate; IPH delegate in Portugal), Maria del Carmen Hidalgo Brinquis (General Secretary and founder of the AHHP; IPH delegate in Spain) and Emanuel Wenger (Council member and webmaster of the IPH).
- It is expected that these ties will endure for the envisaged Music Paper and Handwriting Study Centre (the logical outcome of the present project to be created by a protocol between the participant institution, the National Library of Portugal (BNP), and the participant research unit, the Centre for the study of sociology and aesthetics of music (CESEM).

### Music paper and handwriting studies in Portugal (18th and 19th centuries): the case study of the Collection of the Count of Redondo (6 of 6)

#### Team:

António Jorge Marques
 Principal Investigator

Andrew Woolley Co-Principal Investigator

João Pedro d'Alvarenga Investigator

Rui Araújo Investigator

Zuelma Chaves Investigator

Research fellowship (MA)
 Eva Mathilde Ribeiro (16 months)

• Studentship (scientific initiation) Lívia Pombal (10 months) (two grantees at any given time)

Maria José Ferreira dos Santos Consultant

Maria del Carmen Hidalgo Brinquis Consultant

Emanuel Wenger Consultant

Pedro Sousa
 Invited IT engineer

#### **Material:**

- PC (+ screen);
- Digital Camera Canon 6D Mark II (+ macro lens, tripod, accessories);
- [Light table];
- Flexible light sheet (PEL) 610 x 610mm;

#### **MarcMus - Timeline**

Project reference : EXPL/ART-PER/0749/2021

Project title: Music paper and handwriting studies in Portugal (18th and 19th centuries): the case study of the collection of the Count of Redondo

					Year 1 January 2022 - December 2022											Year 2 January 2023 - June 2023					
Task №	Task Denomination	Person*month	Participant responsible for task	Acronyms of partners involved in task	1	2	3	4	5	6 7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14 1	5 16	3 17	18	
1	Preparation for digital photographing	1,0	CESEM	CESEM																	
2	Kick-off Workshops	0,3	CESEM	CESEM										j		İ				İ	
3	Digital photographing of WA and HW; rastrology	16,8	CESEM	CESEM												-					
4	Processing digital images	19,8	CESEM	CESEM	1											-					
5	Project website and databases	14,4	CESEM	CESEM	2 2 3 4 6									i		i					
6	Dissemination and colloquium	1,9	CESEM	CESEM												-				-	
7	Exporting watermark/paper type database to Bernstein Project: the Memory of Paper	0,4	CESEM	CESEM																-	
	Person*month total	54,6														-					
			•							1	st Pr	ogre		И1 Repc		M2		Fina		13 port	

Milestones

M1 - Description of all the music manuscript specimens

M2 - Launching of the website/databases

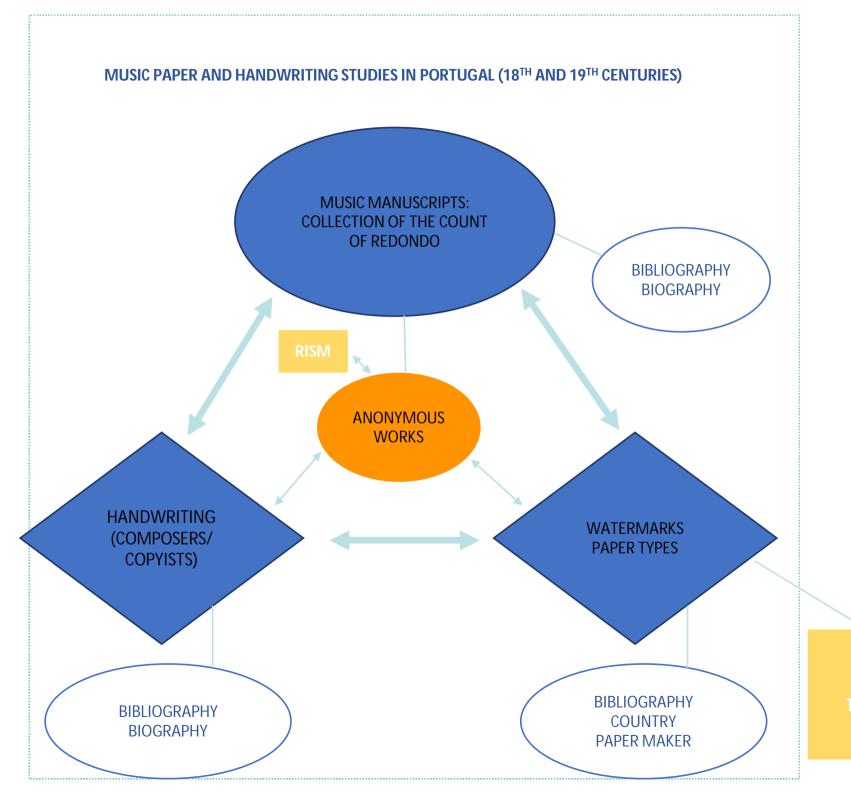
M3 - Colloquium and opening of the exhibition

month Grants 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 1 2 3 4 5 6

RF - Research Fellowship

IS1 - Initiation studentship 1

IS2 - Initiation studentship 2



BERNSTEIN PROJECT: The Memory of Paper

#### MarcMus - Cited Bibliography

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Thank you! Grazie! Danke! Děkuji! Merci! Þakka þér fyrir! Tack! Obrigado!