

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

From: Kevin Marsh, ACOC Representative

Subject: Proposed revision to instruction 6.14.2.5, "Preferred Title Consisting Solely of the Name of One Type of Composition"

ACOC thanks the RDA Music Joint Working Group this proposal to revise the instructions at 6.14.2.5, "Preferred Title Consisting Solely of the Name of One Type of Composition". ACOC supports the proposal in clearing up ambiguity around what language to record for types of composition.

The proposed revision is agreed to.

In theory this proposal may seem at odds with RDA's language intention. However, in practice, recording types of composition in the language preferred by the agency could result in multiple preferred titles for a single work. "Pieces" is not a good example as "pieces" is not a cognate of "pièces" (see the Yale link). However, "stücke" does illustrate the point.

Under AACR2 a work called stücke by the composer would have the uniform title stücke, and all cataloguing agencies would apply the same uniform title.

Under RDA a work called stücke by the composer would have the preferred title:

pieces (cataloged by an English language agency)
pièces (cataloged by a French language agency)
stücke (cataloged by a German language agency)
pezzo (cataloged by an Italian language agency)

This proposal brings back the uniformity in recording types of compositions. The revision is welcomed, and if accepted ACOC would like to see the Yale guidelines – at <http://www.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/types.htm#S> – updated to remove the references to English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.