# Preface

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the 16th International Society for Music Information Retrieval Conference (ISMIR 2015). The annual ISMIR conference is the world's leading research forum on processing, analyzing, searching, organizing, and accessing music-related data. This year's conference, which takes place in Málaga, Spain, from October 26th – 30th, 2015, is organized by the ATIC Research Group of the Universidad de Málaga.

The present volume contains the complete manuscripts of all the peer-reviewed papers presented at ISMIR 2015. A total of 278 submissions were received before the deadline, out of which 242 complete and well-formatted papers entered the review process. Special care was taken to assemble an experienced and interdisciplinary review panel including people from many different institutions worldwide. As in previous years, the reviews were double-blinded (i.e., both the authors and the reviewers were anonymous) with a two-tier review model involving a pool of 257 reviewers and a program committee. Reviewers and PC members were able to bid for papers. Each paper was assigned to a PC member and three reviewers. Reviewer assignments were based on topic preferences, bids, and PC member assignments. After the review phase, PC members and reviewers entered a (name-disclosed) discussion phase aiming to homogenize acceptance vs. rejection decisions.

Compared to previous years, the size of the program committee increased significantly and now comprises 61 members. Taking care of four submissions on average, the PC members were asked to adopt an active role in the review process by conducting an intensive discussion phase with the other reviewers and by providing a detailed meta-review. Final acceptance decisions were based on 973 reviews and meta-reviews. From the 242 reviewed papers, 114 papers were accepted resulting in an acceptance rate of 47.1%. The table shown on the next page summarizes the ISMIR publication statistics over the last years.

The mode of presentation of the papers was determined after the accept/reject decisions and has no relation to the quality of the papers or to the number of pages allotted in the proceedings. From the 114 contributions, 24 papers were chosen for oral presentation based on the topic and broad appeal of the work, whereas the other 90 were chosen for poster presentation. Oral presentations have a 20-minute slot (including setup and questions/answers from the audience) whereas poster presentations are done in two sessions per day, the same posters being presented in the morning and in the afternoon of a given conference day.

| Year | Location | Oral | Poster | Total Papers | Total Pages | Total Authors | Unique Authors | Pages/ Paper | Authors/ Paper | Unique Authors/ Paper |
|------|----------|------|--------|--------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------|
| 2000 | Plymouth | 19 | 16 | 35 | 155 | 68 | 63 | 4.4 | 1.9 | 1.8 |
| 2001 | Indiana | 25 | 16 | 41 | 222 | 100 | 86 | 5.4 | 2.4 | 2.1 |
| 2002 | Paris | 35 | 22 | 57 | 300 | 129 | 117 | 5.3 | 2.3 | 2.1 |
| 2003 | Baltimore | 26 | 24 | 50 | 209 | 132 | 111 | 4.2 | 2.6 | 2.2 |
| 2004 | Barcelona | 61 | 44 | 105 | 582 | 252 | 214 | 5.5 | 2.4 | 2 |
| 2005 | London | 57 | 57 | 114 | 697 | 316 | 233 | 6.1 | 2.8 | 2 |
| 2006 | Victoria | 59 | 36 | 95 | 397 | 246 | 198 | 4.2 | 2.6 | 2.1 |
| 2007 | Vienna | 62 | 65 | 127 | 486 | 361 | 267 | 3.8 | 2.8 | 2.1 |
| 2008 | Philadelphia | 24 | 105 | 105 | 630 | 296 | 253 | 6 | 2.8 | 2.4 |
| 2009 | Kobe | 38 | 85 | 123 | 729 | 375 | 292 | 5.9 | 3 | 2.4 |
| 2010 | Utrecht | 24 | 86 | 110 | 656 | 314 | 263 | 6 | 2. | 2.4 |
| 2011 | Miami | 36 | 97 | 133 | 792 | 395 | 322 | 6 | 3 | 2.4 |
| 2012 | Porto | 36 | 65 | 101 | 606 | 324 | 264 | 6 | 3.2 | 2.6 |
| 2013 | Curitiba | 31 | 67 | 98 | 587 | 395 | 236 | 5.9 | 3 | 2.4 |
| 2014 | Taipei | 33 | 73 | 106 | 635 | 343 | 271 | 6 | 3.2 | 2.6 |
| **2015** | **Málaga** | **24** | **90** | **114** | **792** | **370** | **296** | **7** | **3.2** | **2.6** |

The ISMIR 2015 conference runs for a 5-day period. The selected submissions are presented over a period of 3.5 days, preceded by a day of tutorials and followed by half a day of late-breaking/demo & unconference sessions. Moreover, a satellite event called "Hacking Audio and Music Research" (HAMR) is offered, which is held on October 24th and 25th. We now give a summary of the highlights of the conference.

# Tutorials

Six tutorials take place on Monday, providing a good balance between culture and technology. Three 3-hour tutorials are presented in parallel on Monday morning, and three in parallel on Monday afternoon.

Morning sessions:

- Tutorial 1: Why singing is interesting (Simon Dixon, Masataka Goto, Matthias Mauch)
- Tutorial 2: Addressing the music information needs of musicologists (Richard J. Lewis, Ben Fields, Tim Crawford)
- Tutorial 3: Markov logic networks for music analysis (Helene Papadopoulos)

Afternoon sessions:

- Tutorial 4: COmputation and FLAmenco: Why flamenco is interesting for MIR research (Emilia Gómez, Nadine Kroher, Jose Miguel Díaz-Báñez, Sergio Oramas, Joaquín Mora, Francisco Gómez-Martín)
- Tutorial 5: Using correlation analysis and big data to identify and predict musical behaviors (Jeff C. Smith)
- Tutorial 6: Automatic music transcription (Zhiyao Duan, Emmanouil Benetos)

# Keynote Speakers

We are honored to have two distinguished keynote speakers:

- Prof. Mark Sandler from Queen Mary University of London, UK.

- Prof. J. Stephen Downie from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.

# MIREX

The Music Information Retrieval Evaluation eXchange (MIREX) is a collective effort to evaluate cutting-edge methods for various MIR tasks. Since 2005, MIREX has been an integral part of ISMIR. This year, ISMIR features the following MIREX-related events:

- Plenary summary of tasks and results of MIREX 2015
- Report of the "Grand Challenge 2015: User Experience" (GC15UX)
- Plenary discussion of MIREX 2016 and GC16UX
- Poster session of MIREX 2015 participants

# Late-Breaking/Demo & Unconference

Friday afternoon is dedicated to late-breaking papers and MIR system demonstrations. Abstracts for these presentations are available online. Moreover, as in previous years, we have a special "unconference" session in which participants break up into smaller groups to discuss MIR issues of particular interest. This is an informal and informative opportunity to get to know peers and colleagues from all around the world.

# Music Program

ISMIR 2015 includes a music program, which is centered around one curated concert that takes place on Wednesday, October 24th, at Sala Unicaja de Conciertos María Cristina. The aim of the concert program is two-fold: to encourage the use of Music Information Retrieval (MIR) techniques in the creation of new music and to explore music that can suggest novel ideas for research in the MIR field.

## Social Events

ISMIR 2015 not only offers interesting papers, posters, and tutorials, but also aims at giving the participants an unforgettable stay. The social program provides participants with an opportunity to relax after meetings, to experience Málaga, and to network with other ISMIR participants. The social program includes:

- Monday, October 26, Welcome cocktail at "Vinoteca Museo Los Patios de Beatas".
- Wednesday, October 28, Concert at "Sala de Conciertos María Cristina" that includes, not only the music from the "ISMIR 2015 Call for Music" but also Live Flamenco Dancing & Music.
- Thursday, October 29, Gala Dinner at "Hacienda del Alamo" and ISMIR 2015 Pandora Jam Session.

## Conference Venue

More than 3,000 years of history have passed since Málaga's establishment by the Phoenicians. Today, Málaga is a beautiful, friendly, and cosmopolitan city that enchants tourists from all over the world. The conference venue is the hotel NH MALAGA, located in the heart of Málaga's city centre. The venue is within walking distance to main attractions, including the Cathedral, the Picasso Museum, Larios Street, Muelle 1 (Pier 1), Alcazaba, and the sea promenade. Be sure to take the chance to explore Málaga and enjoy your stay in Spain!

# Acknowledgments

We are very proud to present to you the proceedings of ISMIR 2015. The conference program was made possible thanks to the hard work of many people including the members of the local organization team, the many reviewers, the meta-reviewers from the program committee, and the members of the conference committee. Special thanks go to this year's sponsors:

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  - Málaga Convention Bureau

Last, but not least, the ISMIR program is possible only thanks to the excellent contributions of our community in response to our call for participation. The biggest acknowledgment goes to you, the authors, researchers and participants of this conference. We hope you all have a wonderful and unforgettable stay in Spain!

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