ew research into music at the Bonn Electoral Court during Beethoven's youth is the subject of the recently inaugurated book series from the Verlag Beethoven-Haus, as part of its celebrated *Schriften zur Beethoven-Forschung*.

The first volumes of the series *Musik am Bonner kurfürstlichen Hof* document the results of two multi-year research projects carried out at the University of Vienna's Institute of Musicology, which are dedicated to systematically reconstructing the magnificent music library of Elector Maximilian Franz, as well as better understanding the contexts in which its operas and sacred music were performed.

Before Bonn was occupied by French troops in 1794. the entire library was evacuated, landing in Modena in the early 19th century, where parts of it are still preserved today; until these projects, the surviving manuscripts had never been systematically studied. The research team, which consists of Professor Birgit Lodes and Doctors Elisabeth Reisinger and John D. Wilson, has enjoyed a close cooperation with the Beethoven Haus, which has hosted an international conference, "Beethoven and the Last Generation of Court Musicians in Germany" as well as a special exhibition in the Beethoven-Haus Museum entitled "Operatic Life in Bonn during Beethoven's Youth." Containing a trove of previously unpublished documentary material and a wealth of other contributions by distinguished scholars, these volumes represent a significant influx of fresh insights into opera and sacred music in Bonn and at other German courts in the late 18th century.



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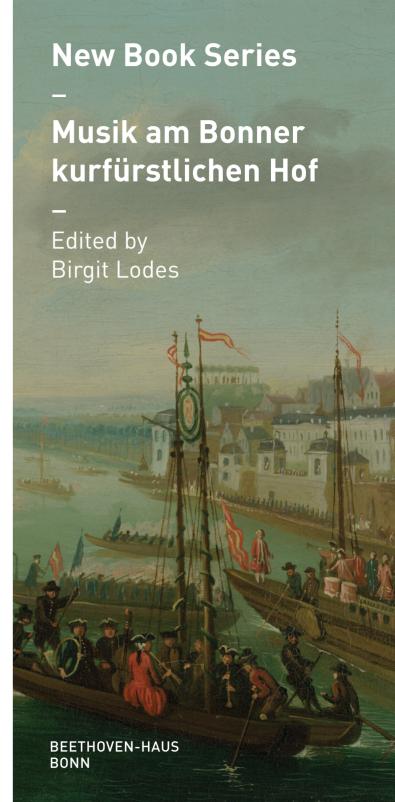
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Illustration

Visit of the Coadjutor Maximilian Franz (1756-1801) in Bonn, 1780: Arrival by Ship on the Rhine - Oil Painting by Franz Rousseau (detail) Beethoven-Haus Bonn. B 2243



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Bericht über den internationalen musikwissenschaftlichen Kongress Bonn, 3. bis 6. Dezember 2015

Herausgegeben von Birgit Lodes, Elisabeth Reisinger und John D. Wilson

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