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**The Second and the Third Book of Correspondence by the First
Croatian Musicologist Franjo Ksaver Kuhač (1834-1911)**

Summary

In the process of research on musicians, musical personas and musical life of the past, the documentation, i.e. archival documents and music material are the most objective sources one can find. However, there are also some other sources, more subjective ones, such as personal writings, which can be of great significance to the researcher, offering not only data on some events, but also the personal attitude towards them. The written legacy of Franjo Ksaver Kuhač (1834-1911), recognised as the first Croatian musicologist (music historian and ethnomusicologist), is kept mainly in three institutions, among which is the Croatian State Archives. Among various types of the preserved material, there is a comprehensive collection of Kuhač's letters. The correspondence is collected in thirteen books, so-called *Briefcopirbücher*, as he personally named them. The correspondence covers the time span from 1860 to 1911, known as the period of the awareness of national culture and heritage in order to promote new national identity. It counts a total of some 3300 letters, in fact copies and concepts of his letters which were sent to the addressees. Those letters are valuable source of information about cultural, political and musical events as well as Kuhač's life, work and his activities. Most of the letters were written in German, in Gothic script. The first volume of the correspondence has been published in 1989 and 1992 (prepared and edited by Ladislav Šaban). The second and the third book (1864-1874) are being prepared, which requires transliteration into the Latin script and translation into Croatian. They give evidence on the period marked by important political and cultural changes, as well as Kuhač's strivings to collect financial and moral supports for his endeavours in collecting South Slavic folk-songs.