

Literary Fiction in Norwegian Lending Libraries in the 18th Century

This database compiles titles of literary works from a representative selection of ten Norwegian lending libraries in the 18th century. It can be used to find out where copies of Charlotta Dorothea Biehl's translation of *Don Quixote* were available to readers at the time, to investigate how many libraries had the German original of Schiller's *Die Räuber*, or for establishing how many books in French stood on the shelves of the academy library in Trondheim.

The full view of the database gives an overview of the holdings in Danish and foreign literary fiction within commercial and public lending libraries in the Norwegian cities of Christiania (now Oslo), Bergen, Trondheim and Drammen.

The database was compiled by Karin Kukkonen and Marit Sjelmo for the NRC-project «Literary Citizens of the World. Tracing the Transnational Crossroads of Books in Early Modern Norway» (LitCit). <https://www.nb.no/en/forskning/literary-citizens-of-the-world-litcit/>

For digital versions of the books in Danish (or Danish-Norwegian), see the bibliography *Norske bøker 1519–1850* <https://www.nb.no/bibliografi/nor1519/>

The catalogues of the following lending libraries make up the database

These catalogues were selected for the widely different purposes they served, from a publisher's side business in loaning out books that are also for sale, to private collections that were opened to the public, to educational libraries that are also open to alumni and the general public, as well as the libraries of reading societies.

Christiania (=Oslo)

Christiania = *Christiania Læse-Sælskabs Nye Skrifter* (Christiania, 1784).

http://urn.nb.no/URN:NBN:no-nb_digibok_2018110626014

(A reading society)

Diurendahls = *Fortegnelse over endeel indbundne Bøger, som ere til Leie hos Boghandler Diurendahl i Christiania* (Christiania, 1797).

(A lending library run by the bookseller Diurendahl.)

Deichmanske = *Katalog over Cancelliraad Carl Deichmans Bibliotek; skjenket til Christiania by, 1780* (facsimile Oslo, vol. 1 1976).

http://urn.nb.no/URN:NBN:no-nb_digibok_2018082048001

(The private collection of Carl Deichman was accessible to the public and became the founding collection of Christiania's/Oslo's city library. The catalogue was compiled for Deichman's original collection.)

Katedralskolen = *Katalog over Christiania Katedralskolens Bibliothek* (Christiania, 1883).

(The library of Christiania cathedral school was open to pupils, teachers, alumni (and their families). Only books published before 1800 were taken up in the database.)

Landcadet = *Udtog af Catalogen over det Kongl. Norske Landcadet-Corpses offentlige Bibliotek* (Christiania 1812).

http://urn.nb.no/URN:NBN:no-nb_digibok_2013090527040

(The library of the military school in Christiania was open to pupils, teachers and alumni. Only books published before 1800 were taken up in the database.)

Trondheim

Trondheim 1783 = *Indbydelsens Plan til et almindeligt Læse-Selskab i Trondheim* (Tronhiem, 1783).

http://urn.nb.no/URN:NBN:no-nb_digibok_2013090927002

(A reading society)

Trondheim V = *Catalog over Det Norske Videnskabersselskabs Samlinger* (bd. 1, København, 1808).

http://urn.nb.no/URN:NBN:no-nb_digibok_2017101626010

(Norway's oldest academy was founded in 1760, and made its library accessible to the public. Only titles published until 1800 were included in the database.)

Bergen

Bergen 1790 = *Fortegnelse over Det Bergenske Læse-Selskabs samtlige Danske Bøger* (Bergen, 1790).

(A reading society; the catalogue covers only books in Danish.)

Bergen Utenlandske = *Fortegnelse over de Böger som Læseselskaben for Udenlandsk Literatur har anskaffet i aarene 1796–1800* (Bergen, 1800).

(A reading society specializing in books in languages other than Danish.)

Drammen

Schousted = announcements in *Norske Intelligenz-Seddeler* 26 Aug 1789, 14 Oct 1789, 5 May 1790, and 6 April 1791

(Schousted was a bookseller who also offered book loans.)

Bibliographical Information

The entries hold information on author name, title, publication year, original language, language of translation and genre.

Titles are entered as they appear in the catalogues (and not with full bibliographical information). Additional information to the entries in the catalogues has been provided for author name and publication year (following the information in Danish national bibliography; see rex.dk), original language, translated language and genre.

The genre categories are:

Novel, play (this includes opera libretti), narrative poem, stories, and collection.

It was not always possible to identify the particular edition of a text if the original catalogue does not hold that information already. These cases are highlighted by comments in the database.