Library’s Music Room Sees Changes Since Last Spring

By GARY HANOVICH

You won’t find art and sculpture books in the second floor library stacks anymore, nor will you find music books anymore in the large sunny room to the north of the second floor lobby.

All these books have been relocated in a process of expanding and improving the Fondren Library’s Music and Fine Arts room, under the direction of Mrs. Madith De Zurko, map and music librarian.

Art and sculpture books and periodicals are now on the shelves in the large room, with music books in the smaller room adjacent to the Fine Arts Room and accessible to the stacks.

The most important addition to the Fine Arts Room is the radio-stereophonic tape console located in the desk. Two sets of earphones (two more will be installed soon) are connected to the console and allow one to listen without disturbing others. The set-up was installed by Bill Franklin, a Rice student working for the library circulation department.

The large and varied record collection expanded over the summer, now has a growing companion collection of recordings. Record booths have been repainted and decorated with exhibits from the library’s old sheet music collection. A new Garrard record changer with stereo cartridge was installed in one booth and another was converted to tape.

One familiar facet of the room has not changed: the Jacques Lipschitz sculpture of Gertrude Stein still sits prominently on the desk. The statue was donated to Rice in 1953 by Mrs. Kenneth Dale Owen in memory of her father, Robert Lee Blaffer.