Sheet Music Metadata Harvesting: One Library’s Experience in a Consortium

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METADATA – A FUNCTIONAL DEFINITION*

- Helps you find and/or manage information
- Serves particular purposes
- Can be used by people or by machines
- Often has structure and/or content rules
- Can be created by people or by machines

*With thanks to Tom Turner, former Metadata Librarian, Mann Library, Cornell University
BENEFITS OF METADATA

- Overcomes chaos and infoglut (makes stuff easier to find and manage)
- Saves time
- Lowers costs
- Complements what search engines, lists, and directories do
- Can be shared, reused, and redistributed
METADATA PROJECTS: A CHECKLIST OF QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- Who will be using the digital collection, and how?

- How large is the digital project? What software and hardware will you use?

- What is the role of metadata in the project, and at what point will it be created? What is the workflow?

- What is the desired scope and depth of the metadata records?

- Who will be creating the metadata, and how? Is there existing metadata?

- Is staffing adequate? Can you afford the metadata you want?

- What standards will you use or adapt?

- Who needs to be involved in decision-making?

- How will this metadata be integrated into the library’s other collections, databases or catalogs?
MY OWN ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Quality control on reloads:
  - What is the match point?
  - Who will check the reloaded data?
The **Kansas City Sheet Music Collection** contains over 660 titles published from 1874 to 1966.

**Scope**
- Sheet music published in Kansas City during this period.
- Several celebrate / are about Kansas City.
WHO’S MISSING?

- Staff involved on initial project
  - Special Collections
  - University of Missouri Library Systems Office
LOAD 1 PROBLEMS

- Bad characters: &tc as an example
- Subfield 4 displayed code rather than full form
- Bad punctuation when multiples of same field collated in same field
- Copyright violations
- Lack of knowledge on part of cataloging as to what they did after someone pulled data
- Missing note about cover art
POST-LOAD 1 STEPS

- Call staff at University of Missouri Library Systems Office to discuss updating descriptive information
  - How did they get the original data?
  - How much could we change?
  - Can they re-load in a timely fashion? What other priorities, projects are they working on?
  - What is the match point?
  - How should we re-send the data?
  - Can they handle new data without digital images?
CLEAN UP – 1

- Pulled all the titles into a file.
- Converted to a tab-delimited Excel file.
- Determined changes to be made
  - Format of notes
  - Meta Labels
- Kept the Filename number
  - Used as match point
- Support staff member reviewed file and made changes
CLEAN UP – 2

- Caught any images that are still under copyright and had image removed and surrogate added
- Sent the revised data to University of Missouri Library Systems Office
COPYRIGHT CONSIDERATIONS

- Awareness of copyright law for sheet music
- Digitizing
- Removing digital objects
  - Works not in public domain (1924–1966)
- Description
  - With object if outside copyright limits
  - Without object if within copyright limits
AFTER CLEAN UP & BEFORE METADATA RELOAD

- Keep in Contact with Sheet Music Consortium
- Keep bugging the UM Library Systems Office to re-load the data.
AMORA

INDIAN INTERMEZZO, SONG
By Lucien Denni
Words by Thomas B. Roberts

Sung by
AMORA

Words by
THOS. B. ROBERTS

Music by
LUCIEN DENNI

Allegretto grazioso

With summer moon-light shining
They glided onward in his

soft thro' the trees,

And waters rippling by the sweet-scented breeze,

While all the forest seemed asleep but these two.

Title Amora / music by Lucien Denni ; words by Thos. B. Roberts.


Publisher Kansas City, Mo. : J.W. Jenkins' Sons Music Co., 1913.


Add Title First line of text: With summer moonlight shining soft thro' the trees. First line of chorus: My sweet Amora, always I'll adore her. Subtitle on cover: Indian intermezzo, song.

Format 1 score (5 p.) ; 34 cm.

Identifier M1630.2.D46 A56 1913

Source UMKC: Music Z copy forms part of the Kansas City Sheet Music Collection.


Filename 000083
Subject Indians of North America -- Songs and music.;"Popular music -- United States -- 1911–1920.";"Songs with piano.";"Indians of North America -- Pictorial works.";"Couples -- Pictorial works.";"Canoes and canoeing -- Pictorial works.";"Lakes -- Pictorial works.";"Kansas City Sheet Music Collection."

Title Amora / music by Lucien Denni words by Thos. B. Roberts.

Publisher Kansas City, Mo. : J.W. Jenkins' Sons Music Co., 1913.

Contributor Roberts, Thos. B. (Thomas B.) Lyricist.;"J.W. Jenkins' Sons Music Company, Publisher."

Add Title First line of text: With summer moonlight shining soft thro' the trees;"First line of chorus: My sweet Amora, always I'll adore her";"Subtitle on cover: Indian intermezzo, song"

Format 1 score (5 p.) 34 cm.
Identifier M1630.2.D46 A56 1913

Source UMKC: Music Z copy forms part of the Kansas City Sheet Music Collection.

Notes For voice and piano.;"Advertising includes musical incipits.";"Cover illustration: Indian couple rowing a canoe.";" Sung by Miss Myrtle Souders --Cover."

Filename 000083
File Not Found
the expected file was not found on the disk

Title As long as I have you / by Earl Haubrick, Al Lewis [and] Howard Simon.

Creator Haubrich, Earl. cmp.
Publisher Kansas City, Mo. : J.W. Jenkins Sons Music Co., c 1926.

Add Title First line of text: Each moment in the day I bless the chance that made
me glance your way. First line of chorus: I'll shed my tears, I'll know no
fears as long as I have you.

Format 1 score ([5] p.) ; 31 cm.
Identifier M1621.H38 A8 1926
Source UMKC: Music Z copy forms part of the Kansas City sheet music
collection.

Notes For voice and piano. Caption title. With ukulele diagrams and chord
symbols included. Cover illustration: Man and a woman about to kiss.
Verso of cover: Excerpt of Make the dream of the rose come true. Back
cover: Excerpt of Love's melody.
Subject Love songs.;"Popular music -- United States -- 1921-1930.";"Songs with piano.";"Couples -- Pictorial works.";"Flowering trees -- Pictorial works.";"Kansas City Sheet Music Collection."

Title As long as I have you / by Earl Haubrick, Al Lewis [and] Howard Simon.

Creator Haubrich, Earl, Composer.
Publisher Kansas City, Mo. : J.W. Jenkins Sons Music Co., c 1926.

Add Title First line of text: Each moment in the day I bless the chance that made me glance your way.;"First line of chorus: I'll shed my tears, I'll know no fears as long as I have you."

Format 1 score ([5] p.) 31 cm.
Identifier M1621.H38 A8 1926
Source UMKC: Music Z copies form part of the Kansas City sheet music collection.
Notes For voice and piano.;"With ukulele diagrams and chord symbols included.";"Cover illustration: Man and a woman about to kiss amongst cherry blossoms and trees.";"Verso of cover: Excerpt of Make the dream of the rose come true.";"Back cover: Excerpt of Love's melody."

Filename 000134
Subject Kansas City Sheet Music Collection. Piano music (Ragtime)
Popular instrumental music 1901–1910.

Title Pickled beets rag / by Ed Kuhn.

Creator Kuhn, Ed. cmp.
Publisher Kansas City, Mo. : J.W. Jenkins Son's Music Co., c1909.

Format 1 score, 5 p. ; 35 cm.

Identifier M31.K85 P53 1909

Source UMKC: Music Z copy forms part of the Kansas City Sheet Music Collection.

Notes Caption title. For piano. Cover illustration: Drawing of two drunken beets with human heads and arms and legs staggering down a street with a smiling moon watching them.

Filename 002987
Subject Kansas City Sheet Music Collection.; "Piano music (Ragtime)"; "Popular instrumental music -- 1901–1910."

Title Pickled beets rag / by Ed Kuhn.

Creator Kuhn, Ed, Composer.

Publisher Kansas City, Mo. : J.W. Jenkins Son's Music Co., c1909.

Format 1 score, 5 p. 35 cm.

Identifier M31.K85 P53 1909

Source UMKC: Music Z copy forms part of the Kansas City Sheet Music Collection.

Notes For piano.; "Cover illustration: Drawing of two drunken beets with human heads and arms and legs staggering down a street with a smiling moon watching them."

Filename 002961
CONSIDERATIONS FOR FUTURE PROJECTS

1. Will this be part of a larger project? Will the data and image be harvested?
2. Are all the participants at the table while planning the project?
3. Who will create the metadata?
   1. Create a template?
   2. Define special meta tags? Use existing local standard? Use existing national standard?
4. Where should the metadata reside?
5. Use the questions found in Slide 4.
6. Watch copyright carefully!
YOU CANNOT WIN IF YOU DO NOT PLAY … GET DISCOVERED!

- Get harvested
- Share your metadata
  - Aggregators are good … and they are here to stay
  - Make the biggest pile you can
- Quantity trumps quality

· (courtesy of Karen Calhoun)
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