



# Europeana – Putting it all together

Nick Poole

Chair

Council of Content Providers & Aggregators

# What is a Digital Library?

“A **digital library** is a library in which collections are stored in digital formats (as opposed to print, microform, or other media) and accessible by computers.[1] The digital content may be stored locally, or accessed remotely via computer networks. A digital library is a type of information retrieval system.”

-Source: Wikipedia, 2010

**NOT** just about libraries – digital libraries are created and managed by museums, archives, galleries, historic properties, universities and many others.

# i2010

“**i2010** was the EU policy framework for the information society and media (2005-2009). It promoted the positive contribution that information and communication technologies (ICT) can make to the economy, society and personal quality of life. The strategy came to an end in 2010 and has been followed by a new initiative – the **Digital Agenda.**”

-Source: European Commission, 2010

I2010 was the context within which the European Commission decided to invest in Digitising European Cultural Heritage, including collections from museums, archives and libraries.

# Council of Europe

2005 – Council Recommendations on Digital Libraries

2006 – Commission recommendation to Member States

2006 – Member States ratified the Council's conclusions

2007 – European Parliament endorsed the creation of a European Digital Library (which became Europeana)

UK agreed to prioritise Digitisation, Digital Preservation and Online Access to Cultural Heritage and to report back every two years on progress.

# Europeana is...

- Formerly the ‘European Digital Library’
- A ‘common, multi-lingual access point to Europe’s shared cultural heritage’
- Prototype online since 2008 at <http://www.europeana.eu> – with 10m records and counting
- A constellation of projects
- An international community of practice
- A principle

# Europeana website

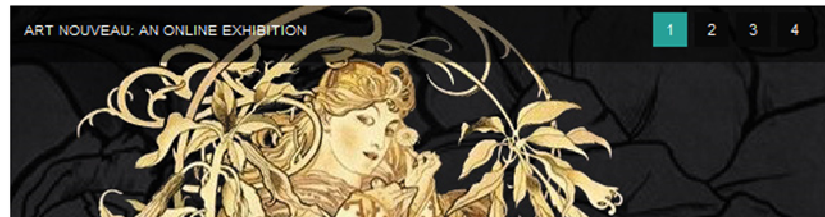


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# Europeana website















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|  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
|  <p><b>Svartedauen - det blev stille</b><br/>Anders Olsson<br/>ABM-utvikling</p>              |  <p><b>17. maifeiring i Oslo</b><br/>Hildegunn Bjergen<br/>2009<br/>ABM-utvikling</p> |  <p><b>Slipesteinen</b><br/>Asbjørg Hammersborg<br/>ABM-utvikling</p>  |  <p><b>Sjalet fra Aruba</b><br/>Hildegunn Bjergen<br/>ABM-utvikling</p>        |
|  <p><b>Overbeck's rejuvenator</b><br/>Siri Slettvåg<br/>ABM-utvikling</p>                     |  <p><b>Beskyttelse</b><br/>Anders Olsson<br/>ABM-utvikling</p>                        |  <p><b>På Opstødfeltet</b><br/>Grålum barneskole<br/>ABM-utvikling</p> |  <p><b>"Krøblingen" på Snurruhaugen</b><br/>Karen Brabæk<br/>ABM-utvikling</p> |
|  <p><b>Om hundrede aar er ikke alt glemt.</b><br/>Lina- Sofie Normann<br/>ABM-utvikling</p> |  <p><b>Nålpute</b><br/>Asmund Holt<br/>ABM-utvikling</p>                            |  <p><b>Skipsstol</b><br/>Anne Wallin<br/>ABM-utvikling</p>           |  <p><b>Krydderopsats</b><br/>Magni Karlsmoen<br/>ABM-utvikling</p>           |

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# Europeana web services



# Europeana Projects

# Europeana Projects

- **Europeana Local** [www.EuropeanaLocal.eu](http://www.EuropeanaLocal.eu)  
Is an aggregator (**no portal**). Helps local and regional museums, archives, audio visual collections and libraries to bring their content to Europeana.eu.
- **EFG** [www.EuropeanFilmGateway.eu](http://www.EuropeanFilmGateway.eu)  
Is a portal. Creates European Film Gateway (a portal) and makes more film accessible to Europeana.
- **Athena** [www.AthenaEurope.org](http://www.AthenaEurope.org)  
Is an aggregator (**no portal**). Helps museums bring their content to Europeana.eu
- **APEnet**  
Is a portal. Creates European Archives Portal and makes more archives accessible to Europeana
- **PrestoPrime**  
Is a network of excellence for the preservation of audio visual archives and will deliver content to Europeana
- **STERNA**  
Semantic, web based thematic European reference network application building a distributed digital library focussing on natural science, natural history, and biodiversity material.

# Europeana Projects

- **BHL Europe**
- Improves the interoperability of Europe's biodiversity heritage libraries by introducing common standards and creates a portal to facilitate the search for taxa specific biodiversity information. It will give access to relevant content through Europeana.
- **EU Screen**
- Will work towards standardisation in the audio visual sector and provide solutions to achieve interoperability in the sector. It will develop long term solutions to rights issues. Is a portal and gives access to the material also through Europeana.
- **Europeana Travel**
- Overall objective to digitise content on the theme of travel and tourism for Europeana from Europe's national and research libraries.
- **MIMO Musical Instrument Museums Online**
- Digitises content and creates a common access portal for musical instruments. MIMO also gives access to its content through Europeana.
- **JUDEICA Jewish Urban Digital European Integrated Cultural Archive**
- Identifies content in European Institutions demonstrating the jewish contribution to the cities of Europe. Content will be digitised & accessible through Europeana.

# Europeana Knowledge

- White Paper on Publishing Linked Data
- Public Domain Mark jointly with Creative Commons
- Investigations into metrics & cost models for Digital Content
- Published information on Value Propositions
- EU-wide research programme
- Future investigations into geocoding, mobile, gaming

# Europeana Network

- Hundreds, if not thousands of cultural heritage professionals
- Skills-sharing and networking
- Professional development and support
- Research, innovation & spin-off projects
- Coming together at 3-day plenary starting 13 October, Hague

# Comité des Sages

- Proposed by Sarkozy
- Formally created by Commissioners Nellie Kroes and Anrdoulla Vassiliou
- “The task of the Group is to make recommendations to the European Commission, European cultural institutions and any stakeholders, on ways and means to make Europe's cultural heritage and creativity available on the Internet and to preserve it for future generations, looking in particular at funding sources, at how cultural organisations and the private sector can interact in the digital age, and at responsibilities and solutions for digitising material that is in the public domain or still in copyright”

# Comité des Sages

- Members
  - Maurice Lévy (Chief Executive Officer of Publicis)
  - Elisabeth Niggemann (Director General of the German National Library)
  - Jacques De Decker (writer)
- Now in consultation with the sector about how to accelerate the rate of Digitisation

# Council of Content Providers

- Cross-industry group of more than 100 publishers, broadcasters, mobile platforms and cultural heritage organisations
  - Building a thriving, dynamic community of Content Providers and Aggregators
  - Connecting this community with the Board and Executive of Europeana
  - Providing resources which identify and help overcome barriers to participation
  - Reaching out to non-participants and proactively making the case for participation
  - Championing Europeana to cultural institutions and their users throughout Europe
- Advises Europeana on priorities and promotes participation in the European Digital Agenda in Member States

# Digital Agenda 2010

“The Digital Agenda is Europe's strategy for a flourishing digital economy by 2020. It outlines policies and actions to maximise the benefit of the Digital Revolution for all. To achieve these goals, the Commission will work closely with national governments, concerned organisations and companies. An annual Digital Assembly will bring stakeholders together to assess progress and emerging challenges.”

-Source: Commission website

[http://ec.europa.eu/information\\_society/digital-agenda/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/digital-agenda/index_en.htm)

# So...why does it matter?

- Worldwide, the culture sector is emerging from one generation of technology and into the next
- The next generation is about creating deep, value-driven user *experiences* which augment the value of digital cultural content
- Open distribution is good for business – use=value=sustainability
- Some elements of an online cultural offer work at aggregated/syndicated scale (eg. digital preservation) where they don't work at an institutional level

# Europeana is...

- Far more than a website
- It is the identity of the European Commission's investment in research, innovation and networking across Europe
- It is the name of the principle that people have a democratic right to access and engage with their culture, and that future generations come pre-loaded with the expectation that they can exercise this right online.
- Europeana is digital cultural heritage in Europe

# Now get involved

- Come to the Europeana Plenary
- Join the Council of Content Providers and Aggregators
- Contact your national contact point
- Upload some content
- Get networked
- Join the party!

# Contact



Nick Poole

CEO

Collections Trust

<http://www.collectionstrust.org.uk>

<http://international.collectionstrustblogs.org.uk>

<http://www.collectionslink.org.uk>

<http://www.culturegrid.org.uk>