Unhiding the audiovisual past at Columbia University Libraries

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ALA Annual 2019: ALCTS TSWEIG

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Background

- 2015: Libraries' Strategic Directions (SD) launched, Provost's Advisory Committee on Libraries re-convened
 - Expedited processing/cataloging, improve discovery/access
 - 2016 PACL report: special concerns over audiovisual formats and hidden collections
- 2016-2018: Hidden Collections & Preservation of Time-Based Media initiatives (SD Advance Knowledge)
- 2018-2019: Time-Based Media Pilot Project: Two concurrent phases
 - Previously digitized content unavailable to users (DCG)
 - Columbia Center for Oral History (CCOH)
- 2019-2021: process remaining backlog of analog audiovisual recordings



Project Scope: Pilot phase, 2018-2019

Comprising special collections from:

- Rare Book and Manuscript Library
- Columbia Center for Oral History
- University Archives
- C.V. Starr East Asian Library
- Avery Fine Art and Architectural Library
- Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
- Gabe M. Wiener Music & Arts Library
- Lehman Social Sciences Library / Global Studies Division

Material types:

- 10,000" physical objects: audio cassettes, audio reels, audio discs, videotapes, films
- 6,500[~] intellectual entities



Stakeholders

- Time-Based Media Initiative Steering Committee
- **Distinctive Collections Group (DCG)**: directors of special collections libraries (CUL)
- Columbia Center for Oral History (CCOH): curatorial, archival processing, metadata remediation and enhancement
- Preservation and Digital Conversion Division (PDCD): digitization preparation, vendor liaison, quality control
- Digital Library and Scholarly Technology (DLST): digital preservation, asset management, software and web development (including homegrown DAMS: Hyacinth)
- Original and Special Materials Cataloging (OSMC): metadata remediation and enhancement
- Additional staff implicated at all special collections units



Working across departments

4.1: Workflow: Previously digitized content (DCG))

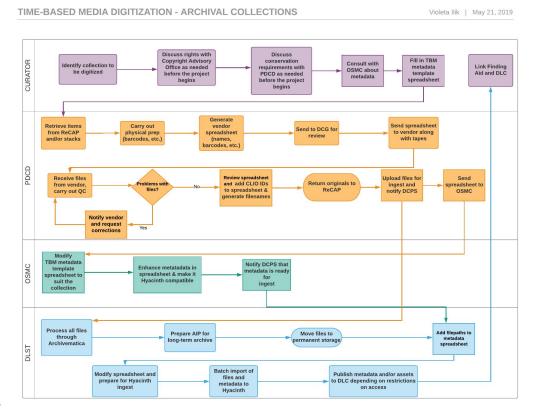
Departments:

Curator (Rare Book and Manuscript Library etc.)

Preservation & Digital Conversion Division

Original and Special Materials Cataloging

Digital Library & Scholarly Technologies



Collaboration points:

Evaluating selections and preparing deadlines

Creating or augmenting initial metadata spreadsheet per collection with technical metadata

Remediating and enhancing metadata per specifications for ingest

Unifying descriptive, preservation, and technical metadata; publishing content



Working across departments

4.2 Workflow: Columbia Center for Oral History (CCOH)

Departments:

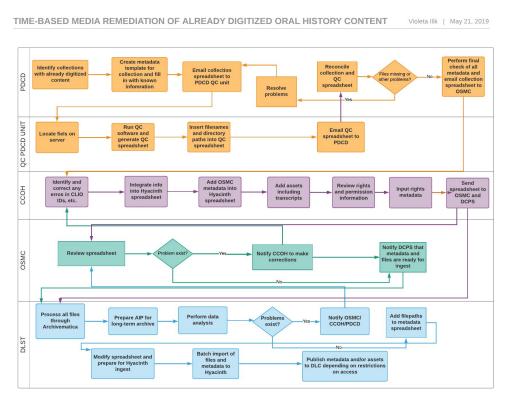
Preservation & Digital Conversion Division

Curator (Oral Histories)

Original and Special Materials Cataloging

Digital Library & Scholarly Technologies





Collaboration points:

Identifying what oral histories had been previously digitized and collating assets (audio, transcripts

Developing metadata standards for oral histories, remediating legacy records

Refining asset structure to account for legacy practice of recording multiple oral histories onto single master tape

Unifying descriptive, preservation, and technical metadata; syncing ILS and DAMS metadata; publishing content

Working across departments

4.3 Preservation of digital content using Archivematica



- Open-source OAIS-compliant digital preservation system
- Ingests Submission Information
 Packages (SIPs) and prepares
 standards-based Archival Information
 Packages (AIPs) for long-term storage
- Performs automated and customizable digital preservation actions
- Generates METS files containing technical, structural, descriptive, rights, and PREMIS preservation metadata



5: Side implications of project

Accessibility/usability of materials: from separate Carnegie grant project

- Rights module for parsing and displaying restrictions
- Synchronized transcription for oral history audio

Collection management

- Inventories
- Reference priorities





6: Challenges

Scale of Operation

- Project planning around earlier steps
- Overlapping project deadlines
- Bottlenecking
- Cross-departmental communication

Production hurdles

- The nature of audio-visual metadata
 - Working with legacy metadata
 - Creating minimal-level standards
- Changes in requirements
 - File specs (e.g. "rendered" files)
 - Item/asset structure vs. asset-only (regularly enabling new metadata fields)
 - Mapping MARC-to-Hyacinth (homegrown DAM)
- Re-designing digital asset management in real time
 - Hyacinth 3

Field	Hyacinth element name	default mapping	pbooks_and_l edgers	mapping = oral_history	
Primary Name Role (Personal or corporate)	name-1:name_role-1:name_role_term.value	100 or 110 \$e (text) or \$4 (code)	n/a	default	
Conference Name Role	name-1:name_role-1:name_role_term.value	711 Sj	n/a	default	
Primary Conference Name Role	name-1:name_role-1:name_role_term.value	111 Sj	n/a	default	
Primary Name (Corporate)	name-1:name_term.value + name-1:name_term.name_type "corporate" + name-1:name_usage_primary "TRUE"	110 1 or 110 2 subfields \$a, \$b, \$c, \$d, \$g \$n	default	default	
Name (Corporate)	name-1:name_term.value + name-1:name_term.name_type "corporate"	710 1, and 710 2. For both, use subfields a,b,c,d,g,n	default	default	
Primary Name (Conference/Meeting/Event)	name-1:name_term.value + name-1:name_term.name_type "conference" + name-1:name_usage_primary "TRUE"	111 2 \$a \$c \$d \$e \$ n \$q	n/a	default	
Name (Conference/Meeting/Event)	name-1:name_term.value + name-1:name_term.name_type "conference"	711 2 \$a \$c \$d \$e \$ n \$q	n/a	default	
Primary Name (Personal)	name-1:name_term.value + name-1:name_term.name_type "personal" + name-1:name_usage_primary "TRUE"	100 1, subfields a,b,d,q	default	default	
Name (Personal)	name-1:name_term.value + name-1:name_term.name_type "personal"	700 1 \$a,\$b,\$c,\$d,\$g, \$q	default	default	
Note	note-1:note_value	500 \$a	default	default	
Biographical note	note-[x]:note_value + note-[x]:note_type="biographical"	545 \$a	n/a	default	



Project Documentation, Communication & Tracking

- Project documentation on the DLST Project Wiki -- including tracking spreadsheet
- Data Dictionary Wiki documenting commonly used elements for audio/visual materials
- Metadata Wiki documenting decisions, files and notes
- Hyacinth Column Headings Wiki containing directions on conversion to ingest format
- OpenRefine Wiki documenting conversion scripts and GREL code snippets
- JIRA for specific technical issues



Project Documentation, Communication & Tracking

4) Tibor Serly Papers (IN HYACINTH)

PRD Metadata for Remediation (posted 08/01/2018)

Remediated metadata (status 08/02/2018)

Issue: The spreadsheet contains multiple file versions (master, service). It is currently unresolved how Hyacinth will handle this. The spreadsheet will need to be adjusted once this has been determined.

Remediated metadata (Updated column headings for file types, 09/07/18)

Remediated metadata completed by DLST (9/17/2018)

AIP file inventory

Content and metadata imported to Hyacinth (09/20/2018). (need permission to see it. Please email Violeta at vi2143@columbia.edu for access)



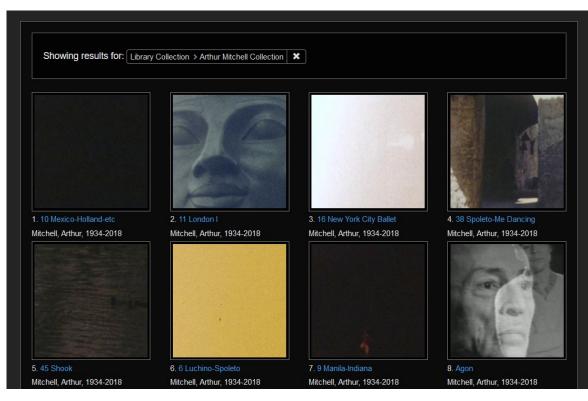
Project Statistics & Assessment

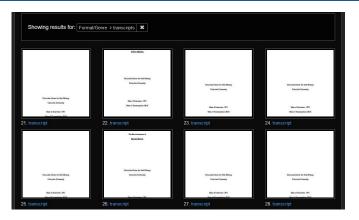
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Śx	1												
	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	н	1	J	К	L	M
1	Name of Collection / Content (with link to CLIO collection record)		PDCD Spreadsheet Posted (with link)		Number of Items		Reviewed by Dina (with date if available)	OSMC Revised Spreadsheet Posted (with link)	Content Processed through Archivematica (with link to inventory)	Content ingested into Hyacinth (with Hyacinth link)	Curatorial review of metadata / rights / presentation	Content published to DLC (staging)	Content integrated int
2	Totals			4166	3178	6044		Ĭ			Ĭ .		
	Abe Kobo Collection	Starr	11/12/2018	1	1	2	11/13/2018	12/06/2018	11/16/2018	12/14/2018		12/14/2018	
	Abraham Anderson interviews with Diana Trilling	RBML		4	1	6							
	Albert Ellis Papers	RBML	01/19/2019	1	1	2	01/29/2018	01/29/2018		01/31/2019		01/31/2019	
3	Albert Goldman Papers	RBML	11/12/2018	207	181	324	11/13/2018	02/19/2019	12/6/2018	02/27/2019		02/27/2019	
	Albert Goldman Papers Pt. 2	RBML	01/03/2019	5	5	6	01/04/2019	04/16/2019	1/10/2016	04/19/2019		4/19/2019	
В	American Bureau for Medical Aid to China Records	RBML	02/19/2019	28	22	38	03/27/2019	05/07/2019				100	
9	Amiri Baraka Papers	RBML	09/26/2018	225	194	379	09/26/2018	10/24/2018	10/10/2018	11/14/2018		12/14/2018	
0	Amos Vogel Papers	RBML	11/12/2018	1	1	1	11/13/2018	12/4/2018	11/16/2018	12/14/2018		12/14/2018	
1	Andrew W. Cordier Papers	RBML	10/01/2018	51	38	63	10/01/2018	11/27/2018	10/09/2018	12/03/2018		12/14/2018	
2	Angelika Balabanova Sound Tapes	RBML	07/24/2018	11	5	11	yes	08/02/2018	09/12/2018	10/25/2018		12/14/2018	
3	Arthur Mitchell Collection	RBML	11/12/2018	43	41	43	11/13/2018	04/16/2019	02/01/2019	4/19/2019		4/19/2019	
4	Bella Abzug Papers	RBML	01/08/2019	42	40	55	4/16/2019	05/01/2019					
5	Barbara Curtis Adachi Bunraku Collection	Starr	11/12/2018	7	7	14	11/13/2018	12/10/2018	11/16/2018	01/10/2019		01/10/2019	
В	Barney Rosset Papers	RBML	11/12/2018	1	1	1	11/13/2018	12/12/2018	11/16/2018	01/17/2019		01/17/2019	
7	Bob Fass (TBM)	RBML	part of the new digitiz	ation project;	no remedi	ation spre	adsheet will be subm	itted					
8	C L R James Papers	RBML	11/12/2018	6	6	10	11/13/2018	12/17/2018	11/16/2018	01/17/2019		01/17/2019	
9	Chaliapin Family Papers	RBML	11/12/2018	1	1	1	11/13/2018	12/26/2018	11/16/2018	1/2/2019		01/02/2019	
0	Chinese Independent Film Archive: Zi'en Cui	Starr	09/06/2018	2	1	2	09/06/2018	09/07/2018	09/27/2018	10/23/2018		12/14/2018	
1	Cecile Starr Papers	RBML	11/12/2018	1	1	2	11/13/2018	12/12/2018	11/16/2018	01/17/2019		01/17/2019	
2	SOURCE TRANSPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF	RBML			100		2.00(00)20000000000000000000000000000000	Will be processed through OH	Service CANADAY 1				
	Columbia Armenian Archive		12/14/2018	1	1	1	12/20/2018	workflow	01/10/2019				
3	Columbia University historical recordings collection	RBML	01/08/2019	8	8	12	01/16/2019	01/31/2019	2/15/2019	02/27/2019		02/27/2019	
4	Columbia University Media Collection	Univ Arch	12/14/2018	200	2	3	01/02/2019	01/03/2019		01/22/2019		01/22/2019	
5	Columbiana Library	Univ Arch	12/17/2018		1	2	01/02/2019	03/25/2019	01/15/2019	04/17/2019		04/17/2019	
3	Conant Audio-Visual Collection	Starr	02/14/2019	83	74	87							
7	Composers Forum Concerts	Music	02/04/2019	451	159	458			3/29/2019				
3	David Dinkins papers	RBML	10/01/2018	-	2	2	10/01/2018	10/04/2018	10/26/2018	11/01/2018		12/14/2018	
9	David Hamburg Papers	RBML	10/11/2018	20	7	32	10/11/2018	10/18/2018	10/29/2018	11/14/2018		12/14/2018	
0	Department of Intercollegiate Athletics Records	Univ Archiv	11/30/2018	1	1	1	12/03/2018	12/06/2018	12/03/2018	12/14/2018		12/14/2018	

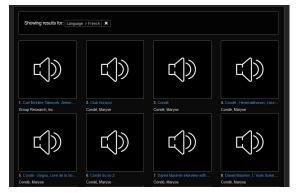


Unhiding the past

8: Examples of finished collections/items/assets







Outcomes, lessons learned, future directions

Phase 2 (Oct. 2019 -): Even More Materials

- Workflows and documentation are stable, but perhaps not final
- Adding positions, but also adding production specs
 - Current charter cites 60,000 additional items to be processed 2019-2021

Future Directions

- Archives Space Integration
 - Clean-up of legacy finding aids
 - Linking between Archives Space and digital assets/metadata
- Project management division



Questions?



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