

Berner Fachhochschule Haute école spécialisée bernoise Bern University of Applied Sciences



Theater of Marcellus, Rome. User: Jensens. Wikimedia Commons (Public Domain).

Bootstrapping the International Knowledge Base for the Performing Arts: Key Stakeholders and Usage Scenarios

Beat Estermann, Rome, 7 June 2019

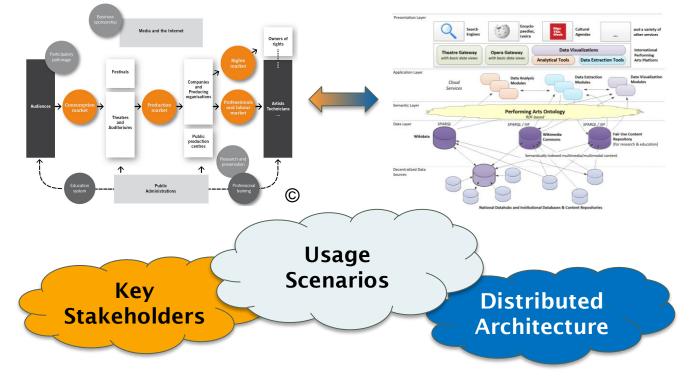
Bern University of Applied Sciences, Institute for Public Sector Transformation

Unless otherwise noted, the content of these slides is provided under the CC BY 4.0 license.

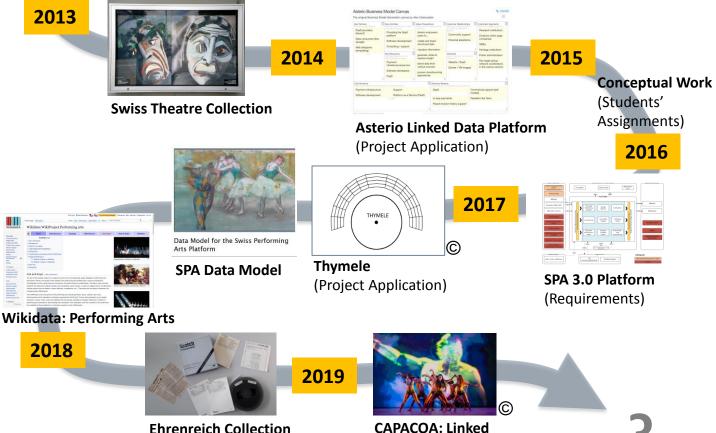
The Vision: Many Stakeholders - One Knowledge Base

Performing Arts Value Network

International Knowledge Base for the Performing Arts

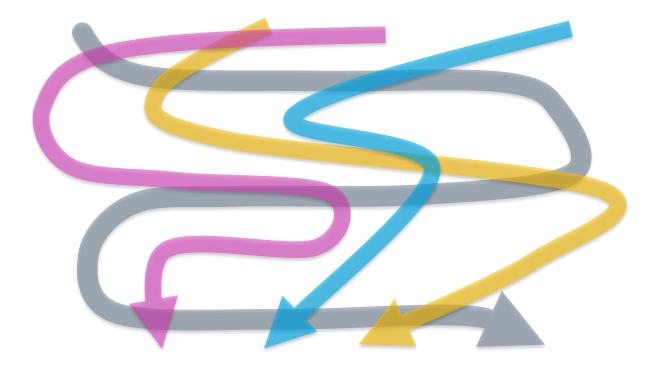


The Journey So Far... (from a personal point of view)



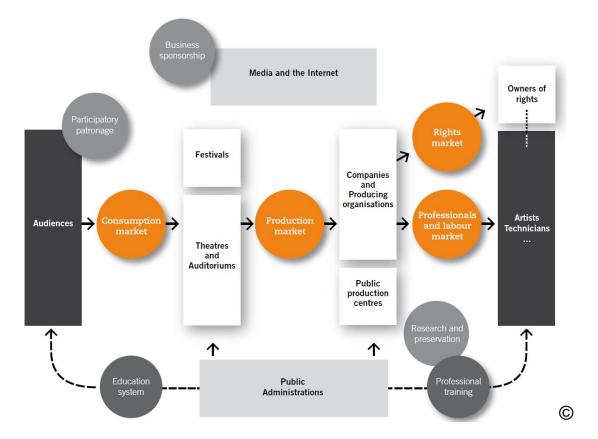
Digital Future Initiative

Many Trajectories - Similar Visions...



From Different Perspectives...

Performing Arts Value Network (Bonet & Schargorodsky 2018)



Bonet & Schargorodsky 2018, p. 45, all rights reserved.

Key Stakeholders and Usage Scenarios



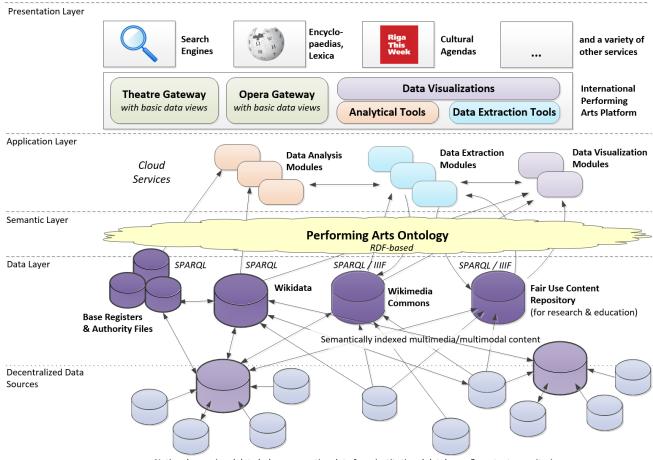
How about **your usage scenarios**? – *Leave your comments in the draft document for consultation!*

Stakeholder Requirements Regarding Data Coverage

Type of Data (Classes and Attributes)	Production	Presentation & Promotion	Coverage & Re-use	Live Audiences	Online Consumption	Heritage	Research & Education
Performing Arts Productio	n						
- title	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
- genre	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
 work(s) performed, set list 	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
- production company	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
- venue	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
- first performance date	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
- premiere type	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
- number of representations	х	х					
 people in key roles of the production process (stage director, conductor, choreographer, set designer, costume designer, dramaturge, translator, adaptor) 	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
 people in key roles of the performance (cast, musicians) 	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
- technical staff	x	х					
A A A ALA A MARKEN							h

WW YE

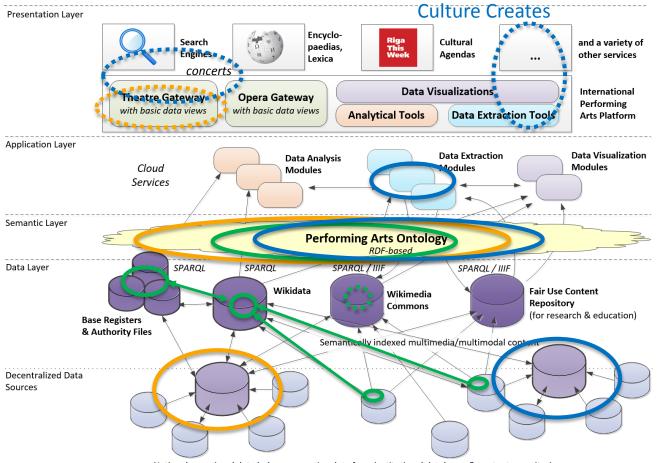
Platform Architecture



National or regional data hubs, aggregating data from institutional databases & content repositories

State of Implementation

Swiss Performing Arts Database Wikidata / Wikimedia Commons



National or regional data hubs, aggregating data from institutional databases & content repositories

Relevant Base Registers / Authority Files

Databases

- ISNI
- VIAF
- MusicBrainz
- Discogs
- IMDb
- Songkick
- Wikidata

Entities

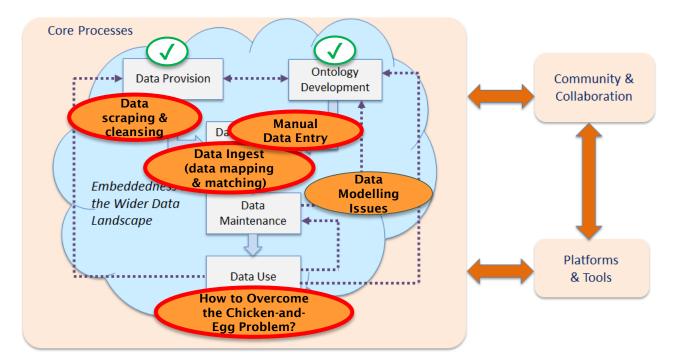
- Works (literary, musical, choreographic)
- Editions/Translations of Works
 - Character Roles
- Performing Arts Buildings
- Humans (writers, composers, performing arts professionals)
- Organizations (presenting organizations, musical ensembles, theatre troupes, dance troupes)

They play a key role in **interlinking datasets** from various sources.

Some statistics (Wikidata, April 2019)

- 420'000 musical works
- 21'000 plays
- 820 choreographic works
- 11'000 character roles
- 20'000 performing arts buildings
- 260'000 musicians
- 250'000 actors/actresses
- 87'000 musical ensembles
- 5'000 theatre troupes
- 340 dance troupes and steadily growing...

Current Challenges



Source of the graphic: eCH-0205 – Linked Open Data

Bootstrapping the Knowledge Base

Bootstrapping From Two Angles

- 1. Piecing together information about the past, based on the data held by heritage institutions or the performance history of individual organizations
- 2. Tapping into the **performing arts value chain**, aggregating data about **current and future performing events**.

Guiding Principles

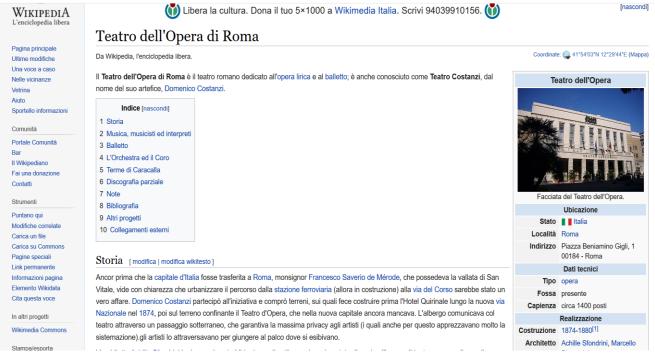
- Start out from larger, well-maintained existing databases that contain data about works, venues, persons, and organizations involved in performing arts productions.
- Collective efforts to aggregate data should be driven by flexible usage scenarios that yield incremental benefits, with a focus on low-hanging fruits.

Low-Hanging Fruits (Theatre Archives)

- Provide a **high-level overview** of what material can be found in the various archives; facilitate a first search for material.
- Create a "Worldcat" for theatre, a **central finding aid** with pointers to archival materials with direct references to entries in the institutions' online catalogues and if possible to the digital documents themselves.
- Improve the **interlinking** between archival databases.
- **Complement the data** held by a given archive with data obtained from third party sources.
- Use anniversaries as an occasion to systematically process and publish the data in a specific area (e.g. performance history of a specific theatre company, of an artist, etc.). Anniversaries are a good occasion to attract public attention and to obtain extra funding; at the same time, coherent, systematically curated data corpuses are particularly attractive for researchers.

Low Hanging Fruits (Wikipedia)

Use Wikidata-driven infoboxes for a variety of articles.



© CC BY-SA

Low-Hanging Fruits (Presentation & Promotion)

• Expose data about current and future performances in a format that allows **search engines** to aggregate them more easily.

Which low-hanging fruits are there in your area?

Thank You for Your Attention!

Keep in touch!

Beat Estermann

Bern University of Applied Sciences Institute for Public Sector Transformation

beat.estermann@bfh.ch +41 31 848 34 38