“...an aggregate of experience, which continually surprises us”
About me

I’m based at the British Library

I’m metadata coordinator for Europeana Sounds, helping data providers to publish their audio and audio-related content on Europeana

I worked on the Europeana Sounds project from 2015-17; and Europeana Creative from 2013-15

Before that I worked on various digitisation projects at British Library, Horniman Museum and University of London
What this paper is about

Background about aggregation and the role of Europeana Sounds

What are the benefits of aggregation?

How can you aggregate onto Europeana?

MINT in a minute: an introduction to the metadata mapping tool

What can happen to your material on Europeana?

Questions and contact details
I researched quotations on aggregation, and got this...
From the author Ron Carlson: “Life is an aggregate of experience, which continually surprises us”
Europeana Sounds

Aggregated around 500,000 audio recordings and 225,000 audio-related objects from February 2014 to January 2017.

20 data providers took part, from 10 countries.

eSounds/BL is now a partner in the EC-funded Digital Service Infrastructure project - now in its fourth year (DSI4).

Europeana Sounds is a “Dark Aggregator” - it only aggregates for Europeana and has no platform of its own

...and we’re looking for more data providers to join us!
Why get involved?

Be part of a multi-lingual database

Be part of a well-known portal

Make your content discoverable alongside other related content

Be part of a thriving network of data providers

Get your content used in innovative ways, for educational and/or commercial use
See your material alongside related material

Recordings made by Percy Grainger (British Library)

Letters from Grainger to Edvard Grieg (Bergen Public Library)
Matching musical instruments to their music
You can share your collection on Europeana if...

1) You have your collection online, your sounds are freely accessible worldwide and you want to share them; or

2) You have digitised (some of) your audio collection, your audio is freely accessible worldwide (on SoundCloud, audioboom or elsewhere) BUT you do not have a searchable online collection.

For both 1 and 2, you would need to be responsible for clearing your collection and be able to sign the Data Exchange Agreement (DEA) with Europeana.
Metadata makes the journey; audio stays put

Data provider stores audio files on its website.

Metadata (who, what, where, when, how, etc) is either on its catalogue or also on data provider’s website.

Upload of metadata from .csv, .xml or OAI-PMH onto MINT.

Transformation of metadata into European Data Model (EDM) XML.

Publication on MINT.

Europeana harvests metadata from Europeana Sounds and publishes it on its portal.

Europeana “points back” to the digital objects residing on data provider’s site.
Introducing MINT - the Metadata INgestion Tool!

Created and maintained by National Technical University Athens

Open Source

Can be accessed via password on the web - no downloading of software required

Transforms metadata into “Europeana Data Model” XML files, ready for export to Europeana

Useful if you have good curatorial/cataloguing skills, but not necessarily skills in XML, XSLT, Python, Javascript, C++, SPARQL, PLECTRUM…
(sorry, I made that last one up)
MINT, in a minute: mapping interface
MINT in a minute: review panes
MINT in a minute: review panes
MINT in a minute: preview panes
What can happen to your collection, once you’ve shared it on Europeana?
“Birdie Memory” - using sounds from Europeana

Homepage of https://www.birdiememory.com/en/
Upcoming Europeana exhibition: Music in WWI

Russian prisoners of war, with harmonica (National Library of Denmark, CC-BY-NC-ND)
“Life in a trench in Belgium”
Thank you for listening - any questions?

If you’d like to share your audio collection on Europeana, please fill out this quick survey:

https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VBRSS7H

Please do get in touch if you want to discuss metadata issues - even if you already working with another aggregator I’d be delighted to hear from you!

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