Music Research Data Management

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Learning About Music Research Data Management Through Writing: Lessons from a Book Project

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Outline

1. Background on our book project
2. Learning about music RDM
3. Our RDM philosophy
Different disciplines vary widely in their research funding, technical infrastructures, collaboration networks, source materials, subject populations, methodologies, ethical considerations and types of research outputs. Therefore, to be most effective, data curation requires discipline-specific approaches.


- Currently addressing editorial feedback
- A long (but rewarding) journey!
Learning about music RDM
Music RDM Resources

- Music-specific resources few and far between
- Limited research that explores data practices of music researchers and performers
- Underlying issue with vocabulary, and understanding of RDM in music community
A significant amount of digital research data is being created by UAL’s (University of the Arts London) researchers, yet they often fail to see it as data per se.

Ways of thinking about RDM...
Music RDM – Data Focus

- Focus on the “stuff”
- What role does the stuff play in music research/performance?
- Build on best practices regarding file formats, storage, preservation, etc.
- Draw on parallels with analog world and archives
Music RDM - Lifecycle Focus

Data curation approach, where data is considered within a lifecycle, e.g.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lifecycle Stage</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Plan</td>
<td>Describe the data and how the data will be managed and made accessible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collect</td>
<td>Observations (analog or born digital) are placed into digital form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assure</td>
<td>Inspect the quality of the data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Describe</td>
<td>Using the appropriate metadata standards, thoroughly describe the data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preserve</td>
<td>Submit the data to an archive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discover</td>
<td>Locate and obtain data and accompanying metadata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integrate</td>
<td>Combine disparate data to form one homogeneous set of data for analyzation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyze</td>
<td>Analyze the data</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Music RDM - Disciplinary Focus

- Each sub-discipline has a different relationship with data
- What role has data played in the development of the discipline?
- What are some emerging trends with regard to data use?
- What are some sub-discipline specific issues?
Music RDM – Methodology Focus

- What guidance does the specific methodology provide regarding RDM?
- Quantitative, qualitative, arts-based approaches:
  - What counts as data?
- What are some issues inherent to a particular methodology?
RDM Philosophy

- Scholar/practioner perspective
RDM Philosophy

Image from “Arts based research” by Lisa Hammershaimb and Lynne Rabak, https://www.slideshare.net/lisahammershaimb/abr-slides-final-35481872
RDM Philosophy

- What counts as data?
THANKS!
Any questions?
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