ABSTRACT

In 1997, Manolo Guzmán defined the notion of “sexile” as the exile of those who have had to leave the security of their homes and the safety of their family to escape persecution. Here, we present a digital humanities project examining transnational movements as metaphors of sexile. Mapping Marronage: An Archipelago of the Sexiled: A Demonstration of Archivepelago

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ARCHITECTURAL THINKING

The connections between these writers are coded with icons representing the corresponding techniques of correspondence between writers including Web, Whitman, or Bliss. The use of these icons promotes a sense of exploration.

Using the index of names, we gradually push through those that are the most significant. We’re in the process of publishing a Python-based tool that allows the finding of names, categories, and other indicators of names

Ultimately, Archivepelago’s main features will include:
1) Interactive network maps demonstrating relationships in terms of correspondence, transmission of one another's works, social relations, and shared demographic or psychiatric characteristics such as religion.
2) Interactive geographic maps depicting the migration of individual writers and artists, and corresponding writing of correspondence in metropolitan contexts such as Paris, New York City, Algiers, and Mexico City.
3) The codification concept of several icons that represent each other as a resource for more information.

REFERENCES


Preliminary Findings:
• Running the Python script revealed connections that would have gone unnoticed even among scholars and collections with which we were most familiar.
• Walt Whitman and Oscar Wilde emerge as prolific hubs in this early history forming networks through each other’s work and correspondences.

Challenges and Ongoing Questions:
• Access to and organization of finding aids varies significantly. While some collections are open to the public, others are not made available online.
• English language literature is overrepresented within the corpus of finding aids. We are aware of the language biases that exist in these collections and hope to address them.
• We hope to refine our Python tools to better account for the unique characteristics and additional processes involved in creating a dataset.

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