# Development of an Application Profile relevant to specialised music collections in an African context

Pat Liebetrau Digital Imaging South Africa (DISA) August 2007





- Digital Imaging South Africa (DISA)
  - Supporting scholarly research
  - Skills in digital technologies
  - Capacity building
  - Collaborative effort
  - Anti-apartheid journals
  - Archival documents
  - Multimedia .....



# Music as part of the struggle

... resistance is .... also about staying human in the face of inhumanity ... affirming life in the face of a rigid denial of it .. (Rhythms of resistance)

- Political use of popular music
- Music as "hidden history" / "popular history"
- Music and musicians often banned and censored ....





## Digitisation

- Fractured private collections
- Difficult to access
- Physical media deteriorating
- Online access to support scholarly research



# The music projects

#### SAMAP (South African Music Archive Project)

- South African music
- HYMAP (Hidden Years Music Archive Project)

#### ILAM (International Library of African Music)

Largest archive of African music in sub-Saharan Africa



SAMAP - Mission -	Windows Internet Explorer		
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<u>Project</u> <u>Background</u>	University of KwaZulu-Natal Contact Us		•
Mission and Vision	SAMAP		
Project Partners			
<u>Committee</u>	SOUTH AFRICAN MUSIC ARCHIVE PROJECT		E
<u>Guidelines</u>			
<u>Reports</u>	VISION AND MISSION		
<u>Links</u> Submissions			
Talking Drum International Library of African Music	The digital conversion of South African music archives will provide a valuable research resource for postgraduate study, and will also undoubtedly nurture considerable public interest in this material.		
<u>Search SAMAP</u>	The project aims to create an online resource on indigenous South African music and associated cultural heritage, so as to promote multidisciplinary research into the field of popular music and culture.		
	The development of a national resource will require the survey of potential collaborators and institutions that work in similar domains, so that knowledge and resources can be shared.		
	The project will network with South African collectors to gather, preserve, and make accessible through electronic services South African indigenous music in digital form, for research, teaching and learning. In the process, academic research will engage with other systems of knowledge, and thus expand research capacity in the field of indigenous knowledge in South Africa.		
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#### http://ilam.ru.ac.za/page.php?pID=16

r 🏟 🛛 🔏 International Library of African Music (ILAM)



## Welcome to ILAM

the largest archive of African music in sub Saharan Africa

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#### learn more...

Home

History

Products

Publications

Services

Staff

Ethnomusicology

**Current Projects** 

News Archive

Links

Contact Us

#### More about ILAM

Founded in 1954 by **Hugh Tracey**, ILAM is the greatest repository of African music in the world. A research institution devoted to the study of music and oral arts in Africa, it preserves thousands of historical recordings going back to 1929 and supports contemporary fieldwork. It is currently digitizing its collections. Its journal, African Music, is nearly into its fourth decade.

ILAM aims to discover, record, analyze, and archive the music of sub-Saharan Africa, with the object of establishing a theory of music making in Africa and assessing the social, cultural, and artistic values of African music. It is a subdivision of the Institute of Social and Economic Research at the Rhodes University campus in Grahamstown, South Africa.

#### quick search

International Library of African Music

#### latest news

#### ILAM Outreach Concert 04.04.07

As a way of preserving African heritage and also as part of our outreach proramme, ILAM hosts quarterly concerts featuring both well known and local artists. Here, an exerpt from a local Newspaper "Grocotts Mail", reporting on the concert held on Friday, 16th March 2007.

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ILAM

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Photo courtesy of ILAM





Photo courtesy of ILAM



#### Aims

- *create* an online resource of Southern African music
- record indigenous knowledge
- promote multidisciplinary scholarly research
  - supported by National Research Foundation (NRF)
  - > a theory of music making in Africa
  - > assessing the social, cultural, and artistic values of African music
- preserve cultural music collections
- *contribute* to multimedia archive of struggles for freedom



### An African context

- Open source
- Open access
- Open standards
- Open data



## **Greenstone Digital Library Software**

- Version 2.72; 2.73 (unstable); 2.74 (available for download)
- Open source and licence-free
- fully-searchable, metadata-driven digital library
- easy to install and manage
- each collection is built separately to retain own identity
- customisable to search across collections or on one collection





http://www.greenstone.org/

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🔘 Welcome :: Greenstone Digital Library Software

#### greenstone digital library software

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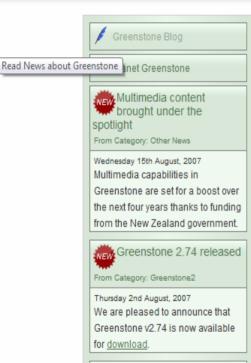
greenstone digital library

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Home Download Examples Wiki Support



Congratulations, Veronica! From Category: Other News Thursday 5th July, 2007 Greenstone team member wins prize at JCDL for "realistic books"

#### About Greenstone

Greenstone is a suite of software for building and distributing digital library collections. It provides a new way of organizing information and publishing it on the Internet or on CD-ROM. Greenstone is produced by the <u>New Zealand Digital Library Project</u> at the <u>University of Waikato</u>, and developed and distributed in cooperation with <u>UNESCO</u> and the <u>Human Info NGO</u>. It is *open-source*, <u>multilingual</u> software, issued under the terms of the GNU General Public License. Read the <u>Greenstone Factsheet</u> for more information.

The aim of the Greenstone software is to empower users, particularly in universities, libraries, and other public service institutions, to build their own digital libraries. Digital libraries are radically reforming how information is disseminated and acquired in UNESCO's partner communities and institutions in the fields of education, science and culture around the world, and particularly in developing countries. We hope that this software will encourage the effective deployment of digital libraries to share information and place it in the public domain. Further information can be found in the book How to build a digital library, authored by two of the group's members.

The complete Greenstone interface, and all documentation, is available in

http://www.greenstone.org/blog



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## Dublin Core (DC)

- Descriptive metadata
- http://dublincore.org/documents/dces/



🔹 Greenstone Librarian Interface v2.72 Mode: Expert Collection: Template (template)



File Edit

#### 🚯 Gather 📓 Enrich 🔅 Design 🐻 Create 🔅 Format

Collection	Element	Value	
AC0746-F2B6.mp3	dc.Title	Sitima senda na moto	
	dc.Creator	Josiasi Yemba Mate (composer)	
	dc.Subject and Keywords	Indigenous music	
	dc.Subject and Keywords	Topical song	
	dc.Subject and Keywords	Kathandi	
	dc.Subject and Keywords	Mbira	
	dc.Description	Translation: The train goes with fire. Topical song with kathandi mbira and f	
	dc.Publisher	International Library of African Music	
	dc.Contributor		
	dc.Date	1952-02-21	
	dc.Resource Type	Central African music	
	dc.Format	78 RPM acetate record	
	dc.Format	00:02:45	
	dc.Format	Sound Forge v.8	
	dc.Format	Technics SP - 10 MKII direct drive turntable	
	dc.Format	Studer Revox interface SP 10-8	
	dc.Format	Vestax BDT-2500 belt-drive turntable	
	dc.Resource Identifier	AC0746-F2B6	
	dc.Source	F2B6	
	dc.Source	Master no. xyz7203	
	dc.Source	Tape no. F44	
	dc.Language	Mbunda	
	dc.Relation	AC0746	
	dc.Coverage	Northern Rhodesia	
	dc.Coverage	Zambia	
	dc.Coverage	Barotseland	
	dc.Coverage	Mongu	
	dc.Rights Management	©International Library of African Music	
l	tr.SubmissionNumber	Since national Elbrary of Annean Plaste	
	tr.CreationDate		
	tr.CapturedBy		
	tr.QualityControlDate		
	tr.QualityController		
	tr.DISAReceiptDate		
	tr.DISAQualityControl		
	tr.DISAQualityController		
Show Files All Files 💌			
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Manage Metadata Sets			



#### Metadata creation

- Students funded by NRF
  - Music training
  - Interest in music
- Student training
  - Skills acquisition
- Controlled vocabularies (format; genre)
  - Minimise errors
- International standards
  - date
  - > time



## **Development in progress**

- African music thesaurus
- Guidelines for description
- Quality control guidelines



## **Development of a Profile**

- Dublin Core
- Additional elements?
- Minimum requirements for good records?
- Audio recordings only?
- Text documents (eg sheet music)?



## Challenges

Keep it simple

but

- Rich metadata
- Oral traditions
- Not well documented
- Large amount of Optional elements



#### Guidelines and observations

dc Term	Guidelines and observations	Required/ Optional	Repeatable/ Non-repeatable
dc:Title	Often no available title	0	NR
dc:Creator	Lyricist/Composer/Performer/Arranger	R	R
dc:Conrtibutor	Engineer/Producer/Musician	R	R
dc:Subject	Preferably from a controlled vocabulary	R	R
dc:Description	Text description or list of contents	R	NR
dc:Publisher	Publisher of the recorded music	0	R
dc:Date	Date of recording, date of event ISO format	R	R
dc:ResourceType	Select from a controlled vocabulary	R	R
dc:Format	Physical format, recording length ISO format, digitisation hardware and software	R	R
dc:Identifier	Institutionally defined. Preferably a URI/URL	R	NR
dc:Source	Album, Event	0	NR
dc:Relation	Track	0	NR
dc:Coverage	Geographical area from which the music originates and about which the music covers	0	R
dc:RightsManagement	Copyright symbol	0	R
dc:Language	Language of the lyrics	0	R



#### Profile as a means to ensure quality

- Enforce standards across the collections
- Ensure accuracy and integrity

- Work flow tracking
  - Accountability
  - Seamless
  - Production figures



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Collection	Element	Value			
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	tr.SubmissionNumber				
	tr.CreationDate				
	tr.CapturedBy				
	tr.QualityControlDate				
	tr.QualityController				
	tr.DISAReceiptDate				
	tr.DISAQualityControl				
	tr.DISAQualityController				
Show Files All Files	No Metadata Element Selected				
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## **Community of Practice**

- group of practitioners sharing a common interest
- willingness to work together
- specific area
- common goals
- hasten skills transfer
- virtual collaboration



### Requirements

- Collaboration
- Training
- Testing
- Feedback
- Publishing



#### Contacts

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#### SAMAP:

http://aboutdisa.ukzn.ac.za/samap/search.htm

ILAM

http://ilam.ru.ac.za/index.php

