EUROPEAN FILM ARCHIVES COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
(A PROPOSAL)

Nacho Lahoz (CulturArts-IVAC)

Collections management tools in 21st Century
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Why a common system

- Current problems in many film archives
    - Different standards, if there are.
    - Commercial software, based on standards for libraries and non-film collections
    - Lack of software designed for film collections: adaptation to other products (and standards)
    - Deficient users access: there isn't a whole and consistent information of our collected heritage
    - Inadequate system that provoques
        - Isolated results
        - Unshared work
    - Expensive but inefficient system based on different commercial softwares
    - Internal differencies on the interoperability advantages perception: CWS is only for film collections
    - Waste of efforts in collective projects: Defining new metadata schemas each time (film collections)

Why a common system

- **Milestones**
- To integrate the management of film and non-film collections
  - Implementation of CWS
  - Respecting the standards for non-film collections
  - Integration of devices, film-making pieces collections (not related to works)
- Better, easier and efficient cataloguing
- Interoperability and LOD
  - To share and update our work continuosly
  - Making it available for citizens
- Lower cost than individual systems:
  - Lack of economic resources are the main reason for not having implemented CWS. 10 of 18 answers Survey on the CWS implementation (G. Eckes).
  - Also, the high costs and time required for database transformation.
- Profession enrichment
  - Common tools, criteria, problems
  - More consistency
  - Practitioners training and development (in collaboration with FIAF CDC)

Why a common system

- Political advantages for FHIs.
- To access film heritage is a citizens right
- Giving access to the European film heritage is our commitment,
- A common management system will help us to improve access and should
  - Increase our social, cultural and political recognition
  - Reinforce our position between the European Cultural Heritage Institutions
  - Help FHIs to became part of the studies and curricula of archivists, librarians, documentation professionals

- Spirit of collaboration between film archives:
  - With a system like this, European film archives could help our colleagues all over the world.
  - Will allow a permanent training on film heritage cataloguing

What tasks?

- Film and non-film collections
- Analog, digitized and born digital
- Devices and elements not related to works.
  - Cataloguing
  - Acquisitions (with forms for external inputs)
  - Property Rights (intellectual or not)
  - Holdings and storage needs
  - Preservation needs
  - Reproduction (analog)
  - Restoration
  - Digitization
  - Digital preservation and migration control
  - Digital repositories
  - Loans, use of archival film footage
  - Access to the collections:
    - Web: general public (through EFG?); with control of the information we publish
    - FTP services
    - Film archives' programming: complete information on available prints, physical state.
    - Different user levels

What tools at the moment?

- **CWS:** consistent conceptual model for film archives, its hierarchical deployment allows the integration of any information related to works and items
- FIAF moving image cataloguing manual, adopting CWS
- FIAF glossaries: filmographic and technical terms
- Vocabularies
- Value lists
- Web resources for entities (authorities)
- Integration of ACE services
  - EFG
  - FORWARD

Difficulties to develop this tool?

- Adaptation to LOD, particularly CWS
- **Some advices from colleagues yet working with CWS**
- Transformative data projects are change management projects
- Data entry must be undertaken by practitioner roles, directly (Stephen McConnachie)
- Standardisation is a never ending process, an institutional behaviour, not a finished state. (Stephen McConnachie)
- Organizational problems: Greater demands on digital literacy and finding **consensus in the interpretation of standards** (Elzbieta Wysocka)

- **Extrem need of training**
- LOD
- The integration of different collections and standards
- CWS and the Guidelines for implementors
- FIAF cataloguing rules
- Interoperability tools and requirements
- The new collections management system
- Film archive cataloguers

- ACE should organize cataloguing workshops

How to organise and develop this system?

- ACE or individual film archives?
- What film archives are interested in it?