PUBLIC DOMAIN PROJECT

A community project to preserve historical records
Sustainability in music

- How access to the Public Domain promotes creativity

- What means sustainability in this context?
- What is the public domain?
Circle of creativity

Shop GLAM

Creative works

User

publish perform

create

experience exposure
Sustainable music culture

Could be broken by:
- Law (Copyright)
- Licensing
- DRM

Could be broken by:
- Censorship
- Detoriation
- Unwillingness

Creativity never ends
Example: Remix vs. Law

- http://right2remix.org/
- Presentation by Leonhard Dobusch (German):
  https://media.ccc.de/browse/congress/2013/30C3_-_5433_-_de_-_saal_6_-_201312291715_-_recht_auf_remix_-_leonhard_dobusch.html
Availability on the free market

Estimated Book Titles Adjusted for Total Number of Books Published Per Decade

Source:
Lawrence Lessig’s focus is on the social dimension of creativity: how creative work builds on the past and how society encourages or inhibits that building with laws and technologies. In his previous books, CODE and THE FUTURE OF IDEAS, Lessig concentrated on the destruction of much of the original promise of the Internet. Now, in FREE CULTURE, he widens his focus to consider the diminishment of the larger public domain of ideas.

http://www.free-culture.cc/about/
Legally, what does free mean?

- Free as in freedom
- A work (Image, Score, Record etc.) is free when it is in the **Public Domain**
  - Legally the term *public domain* is the opposite of *copyright protected*
  - Copyright protection is time limited everywhere
- In German the legal term is *gemeinfrei*
International Copyright Law

Source: Balfour Smith (Center for the Study of the Public Domain)
After choosing a jurisdiction you will be guided through to several questions that help you to determine the copyright status of a work under review.

www.outofcopyright.eu
Movements in the civil society

The International Association On the Digital Public Domain

http://allmend.ch/
http://www.communia-association.org
Goals of the Public Domain Project

In our opinion it is necessary to:

Collect
Protect
and enable access to cultural heritage.

It belongs to all of us!
Free music for any use!

Use the music archive your way:
- Streaming
- Sampling
- Remixing
- Background music
- ...

Nobody to ask, just use it!
How we handle it

When it is out of copyright protection in Switzerland, we share it:

- 70 years after the author has died
- 50 years after publication
- Creative Commons „by“ or „CC0“ license
Quality matters!

Digitizing: Do it once and do it right

We share this attitude with:

Digitized Public Domain Books

Digitized Public Domain Music Scores
Achievements

2008 Discussions started
2009 First file server donated and installed
2010 Wikipedia DE “Wissenswert” Contest: We won and got the laser turntable
2011 A collector joins and donates 30 000 records
2012 Public announcement of the Swiss Foundation Public Domain
Facts

- 50,000 physical records in our collection
- 9,000 unique visits per month
- 700 digitized audio records
- 50 m² archive space
- 6 active people
- 0 Funding (still)
Parts of the project

**PUBLIC DOMAIN**

**English**
The free online music database

**Deutsch**
Die freie Musik Datenbank

**Français**
La base de données musique libre

**Italiano**
La banca dati musica libera

**Public Domain Radio**
Online Radio Channels

**Public Domain Downloads**
Free Music and video material

Deutsch • English • Français • Italiano
Parts of the project

- File archive
- Music encyclopedia
- Radio streams
- Swiss foundation Public Domain
File Archive

- Collecting records
  - Mainly Shellac records
- Digitize them
- Make the files available
- Store the original records
Music Encyclopedia

- Build a community driven encyclopedia
- Contains all known information about a archived music title
- Provides further information about:
  - Composer/Author
  - Artists
  - Lyrics, libretto
Foundation

Swiss Foundation Public Domain

Cultural foundation according to Swiss law

Address
PO Box 52
CH-8126 Zumikon
Switzerland

Telephone
+41-44-991 11 36

Federal company number
CH-020.7.001.862-3

Business identification number
CHE-303.203.653
Digitizing

- Recording in 24 bit/96 kHz
- Lossless, license and patent free file format:
  - FLAC
Laser turntable

- Financed by Wikimedia (DE):
Investigation of copyright status

- Most time consuming task of all:
  - A lot of information is missing on the records and on the Internet
  - Also there is seldom a release date!
  - You have to get information about:
    - Author(s)/Composer(s)
    - Lyricist(s)
    - Music arranger(s), Conductor(s) and Performer(s)
Investigation of copyright status

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<tr>
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<th>Vocalion Records</th>
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<tr>
<td>Label</td>
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<td>1921 (printed on record)</td>
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<td>Julián Robledo (1887-1940)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lyricist(s)</td>
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<td>Conductor(s)</td>
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## File list

This special page shows all uploaded files. When filtered by user, only files that user uploaded the most recent version of the file are shown. More options are available in the Gallery tool (requires javascript).

### File list

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Thumbnail</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>User</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
Share the data

- Integration into other projects like Wikipedia
- Integration into the europeana catalog
  - Needs Dublin-Core compliant RDFa semantic data
Outlook

Short term

• Get funding
• Public office to digitize
• Synchronization of MediaWiki metadata ↔ archive files (Tags, companion files)

Long term

• More languages
• Archive with controlled climate
We are looking for help!

- Volunteers
  - Authors
  - Linux/Mediawiki Administrators
  - SemanticMediaWiki/Wikidata Enthusiast
  - PHP/Perl/Python Developers
  - Translators (French, Italien, Mandarin, Japanese...)
  - YOU!

- Sponsors
  - Funding/Donations
  - Old records (78 RPMs etc.)
Contact

www.publicdomainproject.org

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Christoph Z.  nuess0r@pdproject.org

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PO Box 52  
CH-8126 Zumikon  
Switzerland  

Bank account:  
Schweizerische Stiftung Public Domain  
IBAN: CH67090000000854983518  
BIC/SWIFT: POFICHBEXXX