
Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: The Seán Ó Riada Project

Creator: Patrick Egan

Affiliation: University College Cork

Template: DCC Template

Project abstract:

Digital humanities and ethnomusicology PhD, abstract for thesis:

"This thesis explores how cultural data of musical practice is contextualised during the process of digital visualisation and ethnographic research. The investigation utilises a two-pronged approach to examine music related projects from an archive, the Seán Ó Riada Collection, and focuses on how mid-twentieth century Irish artist Seán Ó Riada rose to prominence. Humanities scholars and digital humanists are increasingly engaged with digital technology in their work. Although ethnography and digital visualisation have often been used in research, both processes are beginning to be used in tandem. This project makes an original contribution to the scholarly literature through interrogations of how a hybrid of concepts and methodologies drawn from digital humanities and ethnomusicology may work in tandem or may be complementary. Practice theory is advanced as a suitable methodology for historical analysis, facilitating an investigation of musical practice in order to reveal evidence of change or continuity during the development of Seán Ó Riada's career. Analysis of music related documents discovered within the Collection is framed by the circumstances through which projects were rehearsed and presented to audiences in a number of different mediums. I argue that the development of digital datasets and iterations of visualisation enable more informed questions and suitable theories to emerge when engaging with the contents of archival collections. I also argue that as a result of this activity, the selection process for suitable methodology and theory (such as event-based research) are important considerations when attempting to combine the practices of ethnography and digital humanities. This thesis also examines the complexities that emerge with exploring musical practice with digital cultural data, arguing for deeper engagement with data and digital tools in the structures where they are recombined and represented. Digital practices are perceived as challenging, informative and evolving processes of engagement. The debate concerning the use of more elaborate systems of classification for the representation of cultural data is not solved, instead it is utilised constructively and considered as part of an ongoing, self-reflexive process of research that enables knowledge discovery. In addition, this study introduces a series of semi-structured interviews that were carried out in order to assess the accounts of performance related activities, related by contemporaries and critics of Seán Ó Riada. The ethnographic section of this thesis demonstrates how ethnomusicology contributes to an improved interpretation and understanding of digital data. This study contributes to the ongoing discussion about digital humanities activities in ethnomusicology and ethnomusicology in digital humanities. It demonstrates the use of novel digital processes alongside long-form ethnographic fieldwork to contextualise historic materials in archive collections."

ID: 148887

Start date: 01-09-2014

End date: 01-09-2018

Last modified: 14-11-2024

Copyright information:

The above plan creator(s) have agreed that others may use as much of the text of this plan as they would like in their own plans, and customise it as necessary. You do not need to credit the creator(s) as the source of the language used, but using any of the plan's text does not imply that the creator(s) endorse, or have any relationship to, your project or proposal

The Seán Ó Riada Project

Data Collection

What data will you collect or create?

Textual and numeric metadata and data from close reading will be collected. This data relates to cultural life in Ireland in the 1960s and will be conducted for four years, or for the duration of this project by the principle investigator, Patrick Egan.

Data will be re-used from descriptive list and close reading of documents that are present in the Seán Ó Riada Special Collection at University College Cork. Data will also be used from close reading at archival repositories across Ireland. Data will also be re-used from Irish newspaper databases, which are digitised newspapers from the 1950s and 1960s. In addition to this, data will be gathered from close reading of archived documents at Raidió Teilifís Éireann (RTÉ) archives in Dublin.

The total volume for this data will be 5MB, which will be raw data in .csv format. The .csv format is widely used, both in the Digital Humanities and in archives, so this format will be familiar to researchers in these areas of research. The .csv format is also being used in the field of Ethnomusicology. Additional costs will not need to be considered. Data will be easily shared on web repositories such as GitHub.com and Zenodo.org.

The format of each dataset will be an open .csv file, which will be easily opened by software that is non-proprietary, and this will facilitate sharing and long-term access without barriers to using the data. This format will also allow for data to be combined with other datasets, as each record will be entered into the datasets in a way that facilitates machine reading if needed.

This data could complement existing datasets on Irish cultural life in the 1960s, for example letters that were shared between popular figures in artistic and political life. It would be possible to connect metadata relating those materials with the metadata from the letters in the Seán Ó Riada Collection, for example, names of people, addresses, topics contained within the letters and other relevant information that could facilitate digital analysis. As a result of the archival nature of these documents, it is envisioned that the data are of long-term value and should be preserved.

How will the data be collected or created?

Data will be collected through close reading of documents within archives and the literature. In each case, an iterative approach will enable constant re-editing and documentation of each piece of evidence. The methodology used for this project is based on practice theory, a form of historical enquiry that focuses on events through time to analyse how tradition had either been reinforced or changed by cultural tastemakers during the 1950s and 1960s. However, in this project, there is also an emphasis on broader cultural changes in society, and so key historical events are also included in this analysis. In addition to quantitative data being collected from archival sources, a series of interviews is also planned, which will contribute key insights into the central research question. This data will not be stored for more than five years after the research project has been completed, in line with University's policy on data retention.

Each dataset will be separately created, and structured in a way that they can be easily accessed. During editing of these datasets, a record of each update will be kept with note-taking on decisions that were made during the process. To ensure quality, citations of each record of evidence will be kept, and a link will be made to versions of the datasets in the Wayback Machine, in case these website URL's are not live after the project has been completed. Peers will be consulted during the process of data collection, in order to ensure that data is being correctly recorded.

Data will be updated on a local computer, but it will also be uploaded to online repositories www.GitHub.com and www.Zenodo.org when completed. Controlled vocabularies will be used where possible, in particular the use of DublinCore will ensure that data is machine readable to a degree.

Documentation and Metadata

What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?

In order for the data to be accessible and interpreted in future, a README file will accompany the data, which will outline the different fields included in the .csv files. These datasets will be described in the README, and in particular details of the creation of the documents. Also provided in the README will be a description of how the data could be used in future, to connect with other projects.

Documentation of where data was collected will be provided in the descriptions of each of the datasets, for example how data was located, processed, and stored. An in-depth documentation of how data was collected and processed will also be provided in the PhD thesis, should future scholars need to access that data.

Resultant visualisations from the PhD thesis will be documented and saved in the WaybackMachine. The code that was used to create these visualisations will be documented and uploaded to www.GitHub.com, and a detailed set of notes added in the PhD thesis.

All resultant data will be made available for future scholars to access, and no constraints will be placed on the data. A CC BY license will be included in all publications of the data that are made available.

Ethics and Legal Compliance

How will you manage any ethical issues?

Ethical issues will be managed in line with University College Cork's SREC (Social Research Ethics Committee) policy. Documentation produced on ethics will be provided in an appendix of the PhD thesis.

How will you manage copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues?

Copyright will be managed through full disclosure of sources, and data will be made available for re-use through Creative Commons licensing. No restrictions will be placed on re-use, but credit will be needed for publication of data that is re-used.

Storage and Backup

How will the data be stored and backed up during the research?

Storage of data will be on personal website, www.o-em.org in the form of an SQL database, with an API service built on top to make JSON version of the dataset free to use. Data will be backed up by website backup software Jetbackup in an automated manner with daily occurrences, and the ability to restore backups from older versions of the saved files.

However, this type of commercial storage is not suitable for long-term access, and so a second copy will be made available on UCC servers and also in an independent repository. For example, a further copy of the data will be available on the repositories Zenodo.org and www.GitHub.com in JSON format for open access. In the event of an incident, the project data and software developed for data visualisation will be available on these repositories.

How will you manage access and security?

Access to the data will be open, but management of the accounts hosting the data will be controlled by Patrick Egan, and all published versions of the datasets will be accompanied by contact information for the principle investigator. There is a risk that data may be compromised in the event of a breach of security on the web server used for the duration of the PhD project. However, collaborators will be enabled to access all data both on personal website and on GitHub.com. In the long term, it is hoped that the project will be preserved and made permanently available on a trusted national repository, such as the Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI). Patrick Egan's personal account on the Digital Repository of Ireland will be controlled by Patrick Egan, and access will be provided by Patrick and the administrators at the DRI.

Selection and Preservation

Which data are of long-term value and should be retained, shared, and/or preserved?

Data collected during this project from interviews will be destroyed after a period of 5 years after the project has been completed, as future research into the topic will not require access to interview material after this time. There will be a grace period, where researchers may investigate the project to understand how findings were made, but after this period of time, the research data from interviews will not be available.

Other data such as metadata relating to the project will be made available in perpetuity. For example, metadata describing documents from the Seán Ó Riada Collection at the Boole Library will be important for future scholars working on the collection. This data has been appraised by archivists at the Boole Library at University College Cork. The datasets are deemed to be of archival value, and in particular they allow archivists to search amongst different areas of the Seán Ó Riada Collection, in ways that were previously inaccessible. For example, detail on the musical projects of Seán Ó Riada will allow archivists to pinpoint different files and

metadata about those manuscripts will be useful.

Other foreseeable research uses in other projects will include broader national and international studies on Irish culture and Irish studies.

What is the long-term preservation plan for the dataset?

In long term, data will be made available on open repository Digital Repository of Ireland (DRI), a trusted national repository, which will allow the continued access to the material once ingested.

Data Sharing

How will you share the data?

Information about the datasets involved in this PhD project will be made available on the personal website of Patrick Egan. A description of the data collecting will feature the potential uses, and this will also be shared both on personal websites and on GitHub and Zenodo. Information about the datasets and any attendant metadata will be ingested into the trusted national repository, the Digital Repository of Ireland.

Are any restrictions on data sharing required?

No restrictions on data sharing

Responsibilities and Resources

Who will be responsible for data management?

Patrick Egan is responsible for implementing, reviewing and revising the Data Management Plan (DMP). Data management activities, data ownership and data curation will be the sole responsibility of Patrick Egan.

What resources will you require to deliver your plan?

Specialist expertise in javascript may be required should software fail due to legacy code, in particular where Internet browsers have updated.

Charges will not be applied by data repositories.

Planned Research Outputs

Collection - "Events"

A listing of all events discovered through searches of the literature and archival documents relating to Seán Ó Riada's performances and significant historical life events

Collection - "Letters Dataset"

A listing of letters that were sent to Seán Ó Riada and from Seán Ó Riada, based on data collected from the Seán Ó Riada Collection Descriptive List.

Collection - "Seán Ó Riada Scores"

The complete list of manuscript scores created by Seán Ó Riada, based on visits to the Seán Ó Riada Collection at the Boole Library in University College Cork

Collection - "Seán Ó Riada Projects"

A complete list of "creative outputs" undertaken by Seán Ó Riada, evidence from literature and archives.

Collection - "Books"

A listing of books owned by Seán Ó Riada, evidence collected from searches of items within Special Collections at the Boole Library, University College Cork.

Planned research output details

| Title | DOI | Type | Release date | Access level | Repository(ies) | File size | License | Metadata standard(s) | May contain sensitive data? | May contain PII? |
|-----------------------|-----|------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|--|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Events | | Collection | 2018-09-01 | Open | None specified | 1 MB | Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International | None specified | No | No |
| Letters Dataset | | Collection | 2018-09-01 | Open | None specified | 1 MB | Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International | None specified | No | No |
| Seán Ó Riada Scores | | Collection | 2018-09-01 | Open | None specified | 1 MB | Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International | None specified | No | No |
| Seán Ó Riada Projects | | Collection | 2018-09-01 | Open | None specified | 1 MB | Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International | None specified | No | No |
| Books | | Collection | 2018-09-01 | Open | None specified | 1 MB | Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International | None specified | No | No |