

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

Pat Liebetrau
Digital Imaging South Africa (DISA)
August 2007



Southern African Freedom Struggles 1950 - 1994

- 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



Photo - Robbie Bishop - Springs Rock Festival, 1979

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

[Project Background](#)[Mission and Vision](#)[Project Partners](#)[Committee](#)[Guidelines](#)[Reports](#)[Links](#)[Submissions](#)[Talking Drum](#)[International Library of African Music](#)[Search SAMAP](#)[University of KwaZulu-Natal](#)[Contact Us](#)

SAMAP

SOUTH AFRICAN MUSIC ARCHIVE PROJECT

VISION AND MISSION

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.

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.



3rd Ear Music - 19th Edition - Dec 2005 - updated: 22/12/05 - [previous edition](#)

3rd Ear Music's [Hidden Years Archive Project](#) is a unique collection of alternative SAfrican music. Live Recorded desk-mixes from Township to City Festivals, Concerts, Clubs & independent Studios - 1964 to date. For archive re-issues & current 3rd Ear productions speak to us! - we can customize copies provided all the necessary permission, copyright & licensing is cleared. See [copyright note below >>](#)

Search 3rd Ear

Search



QuickLinks



3rd Ear reissues:

[Sipho Mchunu - umhlabo umhlabo 1990 \(The World is Coming Back\)](#)

[Hugh Masekela - I'm Not Really a Rapper 1990](#)

[Finch & Henson - The Very Best of 1974 to 1990](#)

[Mike Dickman - As Yet Unreleased 1968 to 1974 - Work in Progress](#)

> **Hidden Years Music Archive for 2 John Lennon Books**

Hidden Years Music Archive Photos, taken from the sound-mixer at gigs - in the USA & SAfrica - now featured in



> **HY Woodstock & USA Photos**

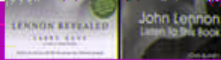
1969 Photos by David Marks / John Brody (RIP) [...read more >>](#)



...read more >>

Messiahe
T. Bird - Malawi
Malombo

Where are they now
[Manhattan Brothers](#)
[David Marks](#)
[Bob Denton](#)
[Mike Dickman](#)
[Tighthead Fourie](#)
[Noise Khanville](#)



[...read more >>](#)

> **3rd Ear Music's Hidden Years Music Archive Project & the University of KwaZulu-Natal announce the National Research Foundation Grant**

The project is expected to generate multidisciplinary research interest in the fields of Library and Information Studies, Law, English, History, Politics, Music and Education, amongst others. [...read more >>](#)



[Hugh Masekela](#)
[Kippie Moeketsi](#)



> **Juluka's Sipho On Comeback**
Sipho Mchunu is a brave man. 1 partner Johnny Clegg to be with Juluka was no more. [...read more >>](#)

The music projects

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ILAM



Welcome to ILAM

The largest archive of African music in sub-Saharan Africa

[Learn more...](#)

GO

Concert

erving African
as part of our
me, ILAM hosts
ts featuring
and local
excerpt from a
"Grocotts Mail",
concert held
March 2007.

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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

latest news

ILAM Outreach
04.04.07

As a way of pres
heritage and als
outreach prorar
quarterly conce
both well know
artists. Here, ar
local Newspaper
reporting on the
on Friday, 16th



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


greenstone digital library software

[en](#) [fr](#) [ru](#) [es](#)[Home](#) [Download](#) [Examples](#) [Wiki](#) [Support](#) Greenstone Blog[Read News about Greenstone](#) [Internet Greenstone](#) Multimedia content
brought under the
spotlight

From Category: Other News

Wednesday 15th August, 2007

Multimedia capabilities in
Greenstone are set for a boost over
the next four years thanks to funding
from the New Zealand government.

 Greenstone 2.74 released

From Category: Greenstone2

Thursday 2nd August, 2007

We are pleased to announce that
Greenstone v2.74 is now available
for [download](#).

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 [New Zealand Digital Library Project](#) at the [University of Waikato](#), and developed and distributed in cooperation with [UNESCO](#) and the [Human Info NGO](#). It is *open-source*, [multilingual](#) software, issued under the terms of the GNU General Public License. Read the [Greenstone Factsheet](#) 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

Dublin Core (DC)



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

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

File Edit Help

Gather Enrich Design Create Format

Collection

- AC0746-F2B6.mp3

Element	Value
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
tr.SubmissionNumber	
tr.CreationDate	
tr.CapturedBy	
tr.QualityControlDate	
tr.QualityController	
tr.DISARceiptDate	
tr.DISASQualityControl	
tr.DISASQualityController	

Show Files All Files

Manage Metadata Sets...

No Metadata Element Selected

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	O	NR
dc:Creator	Lyricist/Composer/Performer/Arranger	R	R
dc:Contributor	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	O	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	O	NR
dc:Relation	Track	O	NR
dc:Coverage	Geographical area from which the music originates and about which the music covers	O	R
dc:RightsManagement	Copyright symbol	O	R
dc:Language	Language of the lyrics	O	R

Profile as a means to ensure quality

- Enforce standards across the collections
- Ensure accuracy and integrity
- Work flow – tracking
 - Accountability
 - Seamless
 - Production figures

Collection

- AC0746-F2B6.mp3

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tr.DISARceiptDate	
tr.DISASQualityControl	
tr.DISASQualityController	

Show Files All Files

No Metadata Element Selected

[Manage Metadata Sets...](#)

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>