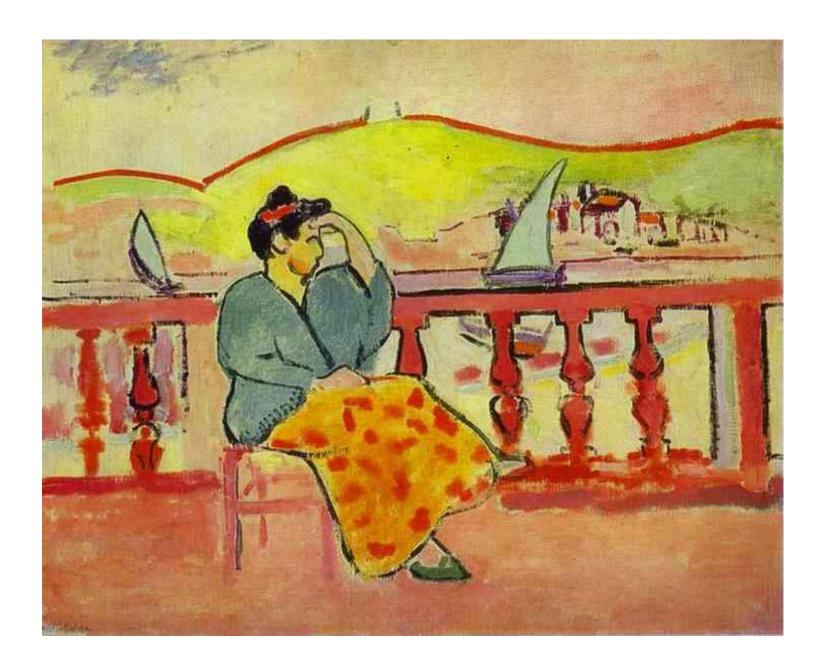# *Rethinking Cataloguing*

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Rethinking cataloguing

- Introduction
  - Complexity of the the cataloguing function
  - What we have now
- RDA
  - New developments
- Our Strenghts
- Our weakness
- Rethinking

Cataloguing: context

- Users
- Resources

    and in between these

- OPAC's, Portals etc
    - **Controled** bibliographic databases ←
      Cataloguing
- Web search engines
    - **Uncontrolled** metadata indexes

Cataloguing?

Cataloguing: Description of the resources according to **very varying requirements**

- user needs – many different types of users
- LMS limitations - multilingual authorities
                            - multilevel descriptions
- for what type of catalogue is it intended?
- who makes the description?

→**Complexity**

Creation of metadata

- Original input by cataloguer
- New! End-user can furnish data
  - Social networking phenomenon
- Automatic creation of metadata

- Sharing effort:
  - Sharing the workload:
  - Re-use of existing metadata

  Variable levels of skill and ability
  Problems of incompatibility in sharing

Traditional Catalogues

- **Descriptive bibliographic data**
  - Nationall Library catalogues
  - CERL
  - Worldcat

- **Authority Data**
  - PND
  - VIAF
  - CERL

-> **Controlled bibliographic world**

New systems

- **"Descriptive" bibliographic data**
  - Amazon
  - LibraryThing
  - Google

- **Authority Data**
  - Wikipedia
  - FOAF (fiend of a friend)
  - Worlcatidentities

  No bibliographic control

Cataloguing rules

- **International** principles and guidelines
  - Paris principles
  - ISBD

- Cataloguing rules of very variant type
  - Local
  - National
  - **International** – AACR2

  →**Great diversity of rules and guidelines**

What more in relation to cataloguing?

- **Conceptual model** for metadata
  - FRBR (functional requirements for bibliographic records)
  - FRAD (functional requirements for authority data)

- **Metadata formats**
  - MARC21
  - UNIMARC
  - MODS

Cataloguing guide lines: new developments

- **Statement of international cataloguing principles** (IFLA)
  - Mainly based on Paris Principles
  - Consultation worldwide
- **RDA** (mainly Anglo Saxon, ambition to become international)
  - Very interesting development, details follow

RDA 1: context and progress

- 1997 Joint Steering committee for the revision of AACR2
- 2007 Oct. **Important redirection** of the work: More global view
- 2009 Jan. First release
- 2009 Dec. Implementation

US, Canada,UK, AUS

Libraries, publishers, DCMI, IEEE-LOM

RDA: general principles (1)

- Highest principle: convenience of the user

- Broad applicability:
  - Open to all types of (Web)resources
    - Content
    - Media
    - Carrier

Applies also to a wide variety of schema's

RDA General principles (2)

- Based on **FRBR/FRAD** conceptual model
- Principles that **guide**, not rules that constrict
- Principle of **one time input** (no data redundancy) and **use and reuse** it for all
  - Away with punctuation!
- Extensive **clustering** and **navigating** capabilities
- Respect for **legacy data**

RDA manual

- Separate descriptions of **each entity**

   -Work -Expression -Manifestation

   - Person -Body -Concept etc.

- Descriptions of the **linking of records** by identifiers (uniform persistent resource identifiers)

- Appendices

RDA: Web tool

- Written as a Web tool
- Sections arranged in logical workflow order
- Elements follow FRBR order
- Assist with learning
- Prototype under construction

RDA and other standards

- RDA/ONIX framework for resource categorisation
- RDA/MARC21 mapping
- RDA/Dublin core mapping
- Discussion with DC/IEEE-LOM

RDA: broadening the scope (1)

- April/May 2007 Data model meeting, different metadata communities (**RDA, DCMI, W3C**…)
  - DCMI/RDA task group

- Febr. 2008: **RDA Vocabularies project**
  - Definition of **RDA Element Vocabulary**
  - **RDA value vocabularies** using RDF/RDFS/SKOS
  - Develop a **RDA Application Profile** based on FRBR and FRAD

RDA: broadening the scope (2)

- RDA metadata standard compatible with Web Architecture

- Fully interoperable with other Semantic Web Initiatives

- Semantic Web community gets a wealth of metadata terms apt for use and re-use

New needs for LMS

- Incorporate RDA Web tool
- Fully implement FRBR
- Represent the hierarchical structures in a user friendly way
- Optimise navigation
- Take advantage of clustering facilities

Our strenghts (1)

- The existence of important **legacy** bibliographic **files**
- The enormous **professional experience** worldwide
- The growing tendencies of **cooperation** and of sharing of data

Our strenghts (2)

- The development of the IFLA "**Statement of international cataloguing principles**"

- The establishment of sound Web driven (international) cataloguing guidelines **RDA** based on FRBR/FRAD

Our strenghts (3)

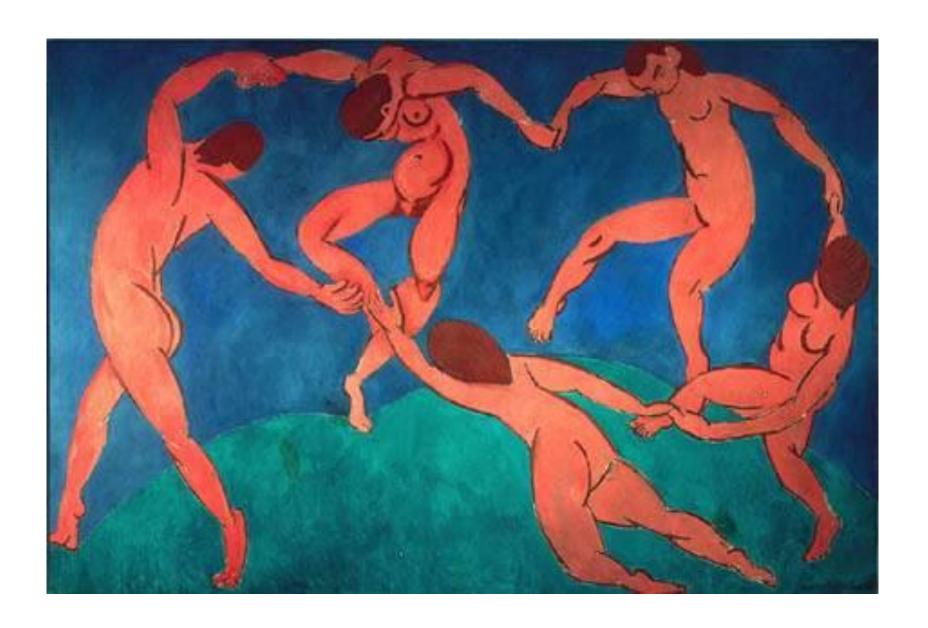- The added value of the emerging **social networking data**

- The value of all this richness for **other sectors** (musea, archives and other information sectors)

Our weakness

- The difficulty to take distance from **past** cataloguing principles, while we are progressing in the digital world
- The resistance in fully exploiting the **FRBR**/FRAD conceptual model
- Not embracing opportunities of the **Semantic Web**

Rethinking cataloguing

- Start using **RDA** as quick as possible
- Fully implement the **FRBR/FRAR** conceptual model based on (international) standardized cataloguing codes and metadata schema's
- Take advantage of **Semantic Web** technologies to fully exploit the rich information embedded in the legacy bibliographic records
- Reinforce the benefits of professional cataloguing/indexing along with "social tagging" through the **Web 2.0** technologies

Future ambition

- We want to step **beyond the library** world and move cataloguing the Web
- We want to continue to build on **standards** and **protocols** for sharing, to the benefit of our users
- We are ready to cope with the **digital future**!