Running since March 2013

Building better 'Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAM) Labs’

Keynote speech 2, Tuesday 1010 – 1110, 18 October, 2019
Fall Symposium on Digital Scholarship 2019 @HKBU
Multi-purpose Hall, Level 2, Madam Kwok Chung Bo Fun Sports and Cultural Centre (SCC)
Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong

- Working with researchers, artists, entrepreneurs, educators & innovators and British Library staff
- Competitions, awards, projects & other engagement
- Worked on / supported over 160 projects in 6 years
- Building global community of GLAM Labs

Mahendra Mahey, Manager of BL Labs
British Library, London, UK

British Library Labs
Experiment with our digital collections
http://www.bl.uk/projects/british-library-labs
Previously funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and now the British Library

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk
slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
http://bl.uk

For research, inspiration and enjoyment for everyone!

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
The British Library or ‘BL’

Inside the British Library
Space for 1200 readers, around 500,000 visitors per year

St Pancras, London, UK
Many books are stored 4 stories below the building
UK Legal Deposit Library – Reference only

Author right to payment each time their books are borrowed from public libraries

Founded in 1973 though origins stem back to British Museum Library 1753

Boston-Spa

Many items stored at Document Supply and Storage centre 48 hours away
Building 37 uses low oxygen and robots
Reading room and delivery to London

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Collections – not just books!

> 180* million items
> 14* m books
> 60* m patents
> 8* m stamps
> 4* m maps
> 6* m sound recordings
> 1.6* m musical scores
> 0.3* m manuscripts
> 0.8* m serial titles

*Estimates
Have you got X?

Looking for Physical Content in the British Library – 7% books

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/5/50/Real_wuerzburg.jpg

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
What is a (digital) GLAM Lab?
– a space to experiment and innovate online or onsite with digitised and / or born digital collections and data (similar to a traditional Lab)

• Expert support and advice (needs people)
• Essential equipment (software, hardware, storage, network)
• Essential ingredients (data, text, images (including 3D), sound, video, multimedia etc)
• Space ability to incubate and test ideas, make mistakes, create, validate, capture, record, reproduce, archive and share results
• Community, tutorials, examples, events, competitions, awards, projects
• Integrated into reference, research and other relevant workflows of GLAM organisations in which the Lab sits (business as usual services such as supporting new projects)
• Often found Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAMs)
• As well as universities…sometimes connected to Library and sometimes not
GLAM Labs address the following challenges

• Money spent on digitising / capturing digital – return on investment, how is it being used and what value and impact it is having, especially when opening collections for all.

• What digital collections are there that can be used openly and onsite and how do we tell people?

• How do we explore the ‘feel’ / ‘shape’ of collections at scale? Computational research – Digital Humanities and Scholarship

• How do we find, explore, augment discovery in often ‘messy’ cultural heritage data without public computational access through Application Programing Interfaces (APIs)?

• How do we discover, celebrate old culture & remix to create new culture?
Our Audience and Collections

Audience research & Digital interests

Digital collections we have

This is the ‘sweet spot’ where Labs works

It starts with making connections, engagement, talking to people, creating energy!
This can be hard work given often small size and variety of digital collections!

Often small in proportion to physical collections
*But how much at the BL?*
Who does BL Labs work with?

Researchers

Artists

Librarians

Curators

Working and Communicating

Software Developers

Archivists

Entrepreneurs

Educators

https://goo.gl/WutNyI

https://goo.gl/nKKhQ2

https://goo.gl/9NWZUW

http://goo.gl/nNKhQ2

https://goo.gl/0Q5Tf

https://goo.gl/x7b4tg

https://goo.gl/Fx8RG7

https://goo.gl/qh01Mi

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlx6
How @ BL Labs?

Labs need engagement, energy and ideas!
- Road-shows
- Events
- Meetings
- Conversations

New!

Digital Research Support
Tell us your ideas of what to do with our digital content

Awards
Show us what you have already done with our digital content in research, artistic, commercial, learning and teaching, staff categories

Projects
Talk to us about working on collaborative projects

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
The story of the digital collection…

Good to know the background ‘story’ and biases of a digital collection if you want to use it for projects …
What percentage/proportion of our physical collections are digitised?

3 %* digitised

Digital Partnerships
Commercial & Other Organisations

* estimate

724 Digitisation / Born Digital Projects
15 %* Openly Licensed – most online
85 %* Available onsite only at the moment

Digitisation / Curating Born Digital
Costs money, time, resources

Research driven digitisation
Heritage Made Digital

#bldigital

http://www.turing.ac.uk
https://www.turing.ac.uk/research/research-projects/living-machines

Heritage Made Digital
Born Digital

http://www.webarchive.org.uk/ukwa/

Bias in digitisation

724 Digitisation / Born Digital Projects
15 %* Openly Licensed – most online
85 %* Available onsite only at the moment

What percentage/proportion of our physical collections are digitised?

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
British Library Digital collections & Datasets

Broadcast News (TV and Radio)

Music (Recordings & Sheet) & Sounds

Playbills, Books, Newspapers (includes OCR)

Images, Manuscripts & Maps

Usage data

@hk baptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
Have you got X digitised / in digital form?

Looking for Digitised / Digital Content in the BL

Finding Open British Library Cultural Heritage Datasets

Collection Guides (236 as of 18/10/2019)
https://www.bl.uk/collection-guides/

Datasets about our collections
Bibliographic datasets relating to our published and archival holdings

Datasets for content mining
Content suitable for use in text and data mining research

Datasets for image analysis
Image collections suitable for large-scale image-analysis-based research

Datasets from UK Web Archive
Data and API services available for accessing UK Web Archive

Digital mapping
Geospatial data, cartographic applications, digital aerial photography and scanned historic map materials

Digital Collections as Data!

https://data.bl.uk
Download collections as zips, no API
Each dataset has a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) can be referenced for research
Over 130 datasets available, some derived

https://bl.oar.bl.uk
BL Labs data moving to BL Open Access Repository Late October 2019

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Digital Scholarship methods / Computational Methods
Affordances of digitisation / digital content

Location based searching & Geo-tagging

Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence

Using Application Programming Interfaces for datasets e.g. Metadata, Images

Visualisations

Corpus analysis, Text Mining & Natural Language Processing

Annotation

Transcribing

Crowdsourcing Human Computation

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
What engagement does the BL have with people wanting use our digital content?

• Dialogue typically:
  – you are ‘lucky’ & we have the digital content / data relevant to your project
  – we don’t have exactly what your looking for, but is there anything of interest? Let’s talk…
  – engagement can be **hard work** and it’s constantly required to maintain interest in our digital collections!

• We also tend to attract projects with ‘fuzzier’ boundaries and possibly open to more interdisciplinary / collaborative research

• Artists / Creatives find this dialogue easier…
Phases of interaction at BL Labs

Ideas always change, once people experience the data and culture of the organisation! We use computational methods where appropriate.

Phase 1
Exploration

Phase 2
Query-Focussed

Phase 3
Wrap-up

Submit idea based on exploration first for support

Submit question

Rethink
Iterate

Next steps

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary @BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk
slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
Onsite
Challenges of access to Digital Collections at the BL

Labs Residency Model

Onsite @ British Library

Competition / Digital Research Support Application
Hot Desks and Digital Research Spaces in Reading Room

READING ROOM

NOT ONLINE

OPEN

£

724 Digitisation / Capturing Born Digital Projects
15 %* Openly Licensed – most online
85 %* Available onsite only at the moment

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
Onsite-only access to digital collections?

- We are collaborating with the Royal Danish Library (first national library in world to offer onsite computation) and UK Web Archiving Team
- Test read-only ‘computational browsing’ service on all reading room computers till end of 2019 with staff and researcher groups
- Residency model – previously hot desks
- BL Labs Research Spaces in Social Sciences Reading Room 1
- End of October 2019 and test with staff and researcher groups
A Jupyter Notebook time machine – in browser executable code to data and live results

Courtesy of Andrew Jackson
UK Web Archive

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Jupyter Hub Notebooks and 19\textsuperscript{th} Century Newspapers

Courtesy of Yann Ryan
Newspaper Data Data Curator
Examples of using our Digital Collections for projects

BL Labs has over 160 examples on our website of the use of BL Data

- Research
- Entrepreneurs (Commercial)
- Educational (Learning and Teaching)
- Artistic
- Also a Staff Award!

http://tiny.cc/zzzg7y
Research
Example of pattern of research (1, 2, 3)

1. Finding invisible / well hidden things in ‘messy’ historical data
2. Unearthing / unlocking hidden histories & data to stimulate new research
3. Celebrating hidden histories / data creatively through events, art & performance
Victorian Meme Machine

Bob Nicholson

Bob Nicholson interviewed on BBC Radio 4 Making History Programme:
http://goo.gl/fmV9ep

And telling jokes to the public:
http://goo.gl/xIDRhz

Bob obtained further funding from his university
Looking for more collaborations

Get access before you start!

https://twitter.com/VictorianHumour

Victorian Comedy Night, 7 Nov 2016

Digitised 19th Century Newspapers & Books

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

http://victorianhumour.tumblr.com/

Bob Nicholson interviewed on BBC Radio 4 Making History Programme:
http://goo.gl/fmV9ep

And telling jokes to the public:
http://goo.gl/xIDRhz

Bob obtained further funding from his university
Looking for more collaborations

Get access before you start!

https://twitter.com/VictorianHumour

Victorian Comedy Night, 7 Nov 2016

Digitised 19th Century Newspapers & Books

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

http://victorianhumour.tumblr.com/
Political Meetings Mapper

London Chartist venues on Booth's map

Shepherdess Walk

“"I was able to do in minutes with a python code what I’d spent the last ten years trying to do by hand!""

- Dr. Katrina Navickas, BL Labs Winner 2015

Digitised 19th Century Newspapers

Chartists Walking Tour and Re-enactment London

Domain knowledge makes things easy!

http://politicalmeetingsmapper.co.uk/maps/

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary @BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
Black Abolitionist Performances & their Presence in Britain

Frederick Douglass  Ellen Craft  Josiah Henson  Ida B Wells

Hannah Rose Murray

Some problems require machine learning!

http://frederickdouglassinbritain.com/

Digitised 19th Century Newspapers

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary @BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Construct a suicide corpus from 19th century digitised British Library newspaper collection using R stats software

Surendra Singh

Think laterally!

Digitised 19th Century Newspapers

@hk baptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
British Library Flickr Commons – One Example Collection

Can be effective way to provide access and stimulate engagement with your digital collections (also FREE!)

Since Dec 2013
All pubic domain, >17 million tags
Over 1 billion views
https://www.flickr.com/photos/britishlibrary/

If the BL is there, why can’t you?
Join?
https://www.flickr.com/commons/register/

@hkbpistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk
slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
Tagging a million images

Iterative Crowdsourcing

Top British Library Flickr Commons Taggers
18 hard core taggers
How to reward and keep motivated?

Average for ‘crowd’ is 1 tag per person

Mobile games for ‘Ships’, ‘Covers’ and ‘Portraits’

Cardiff University’s Lost Visions Project

Interface for tagging

http://goo.gl/j6fxac

Cardiff Book History

Lost Visions New AHRK “Big Data” project to tag British Library’s image collection

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
SherlockNet: Karen Wang, Luda Zhao and Brian Do

bit.ly/sherlocknet

>15.5 million tags added
>100,000 captions

Tags

Captions

"a man standing in a field with a cow"

"a close up of a bird on a tree branch"

Pooled surrounding OCR text on page from similar images

Using Convolutional Neural Networks to Automatically Tag and Caption the British Library Flickr Commons 1 million Image Collection

Used Microsoft COCO (photographs) & British Museum Prints and Drawings collections as training sets.

12 categories
Adam Crymble: Crowdsource Arcade

What if crowd sourcing looked like this?

Using Arcade Games to help Tag images

Game Jam

Art Treachery
Platformer, arcade, casual
Action, puzzle
Chasing treasure in the lost lands of the ancient Lemurian empire.

Tag Arcade
Action, puzzle
Tagging for the 2015 British Library Crowdsource Arcade

https://goo.gl/L986D4

30 mins talk
Labs Symposium (2015)

5 min interview (2015)

http://goo.gl/0APpE8

http://goo.gl/OH9pOZ

http://goo.gl/7z0j8p

https://goo.gl/SSRsdd

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk
Independent Researchers
British Library Georeferencer Project
Geotagged over 40,000 Maps out of 50,000

http://www.bl.uk/maps

1 million images from scanned books
The History of Reffley Spring

The Pleasures of Reffley

British Newspaper Archive

Andrew Clapham

www.reffleyspring.co.uk
My website, "Netley Abbey Matters"

www.netleyabbeymatters.co.uk

Brenda Findlay

British Newspaper Archive

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Using the British Newspaper Archive Site for Family and Social History Research of Sunderland and other

Keith Gregson
Historian & author

www.keithgregson.com

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjjX6
Commercial
The 19th century “British Classics” Collection on Library Wall

by Artefacto
(Sara Wingate Gray and Kate Lomax)

http://www.artefacto.org.uk/content/north-londons-first-outdoor-digital-bookshelf/
Redesigning Alice: Etsy and the British Library joint project

Digitised Book Cover

https://www.etsy.com/shop/DinaMalkova

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
Movable Type: The Card Game

1 million images from scanned books

https://goo.gl/nPZ9wt

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6

@hk baptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

Robin David
1 million images from scanned books

Badgical Kingdom

http://www.badgicalkingdom.co.uk
Poetic Places

http://www.poeticplaces.uk/

1 million images from scanned books

65,000 Public Domain digitised 19th Century Books

Sarah Cole

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary @BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Fashion Presentation @ London Fashion Week
Nabil Nayal SS19: The Library Collection
The Seder Oneg Shabbos Bentscher

David Zvi Kalman
Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

University of Pennsylvania

Digitised Hebrew Manuscript Images

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Educational
Vittoria’s World of Stories

World of Stories

By children and parents from Vittoria Primary School, Islington

https://goo.gl/mYw7UM

1 million images from scanned books

Chapter 1 - Mood tale
The fisherman’s wife and the golden fish
King Jahljir and the lady
The girl who cried wolf
The girl who cried beauty
The puppy and the mother
The call of the pack
Chapter 2 - Wild and free
Chapter 3 - Magical creatures
Once upon a tale
The magic gran
Why whiskers

Chapter 4 -

The story of Markwood
The shy
Beauty and the Beast
The Princess and the Pea

Chapter 5 - Things that go bump in the night
At night
The Magician
Something in the kitchen

Chapter 6 - Everyday adventures
N również in Pakistan
The everyday meal and the spoon
Above it there was nothing

Chapter 7 - Sweet dreams
Little dreams

Acknowledgements
List of contributors and illustrators

The fisherman’s wife and the golden fish

Once upon a time in the kingdom of Jahljir, a king called Jahljir married a queen who was beautiful and kind. The queen loved to fish and asked her husband to take her fishing every day. Jahljir was a lazy king and didn’t want to go fishing. So he asked his prime minister, who was clever, to come up with a plan.

The prime minister suggested that Jahljir build a new palace and invite all his friends to a grand party. The queen was excited about the idea and agreed to go fishing that day.

Jahljir went to the palace and had a grand party. He invited all his friends and the queen heard about it. She went home, packed her clothes and left the palace. Jahljir was shocked and called his prime minister to ask what happened.

The prime minister replied, “Your majesty, the queen left the palace. She was tired of living in the palace and wanted to live a simple life.”

Jahljir was angry and asked, “How could you let her go?”

The prime minister replied, “Your majesty, you asked me to think of a plan and I did. The queen left the palace because she was unhappy with your behavior. She wanted to live in peace and quiet.”

Jahljir realized his mistake and apologized to the queen. He asked her to return to the palace and promised to be good. The queen forgave him and returned to the palace.

From that day on, Jahljir was a good king and the kingdom prospered. He learned the importance of being kind and understanding.

The end.
Pocahontas and After

Michael Walling
Lucy Dunkerley
John Cobb

Digitised Canadian Photographs

https://goo.gl/sMN4Qs

POCAHONTAS AND AFTER

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
Much more often Eve is seduced by a snake that has feminine characteristics, most often ‘feminine visage’, since ‘like emboldens like’. The homoerotic transgressive possibilities of this tempter’s embodiment were doubtless clear to contemporaries. In the Furtmeyer Bible, the serpent looks very much like Melusine, a mythical nymph associated with sex.
Pocket Miscellany

- pocket-sized radical teaching materials -

Creation of Adam

Creation of Eve

Temptation by the Devil

Medieval sexual imagination

Sodom (homosexuality)

Trans* and intersex bodies

Medieval racism

People of colour

Medieval disability

Mobility aid

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Staff
Evolving English: VoiceBank

Jonnie Robinson (Lead Curator Spoken English Collection, Sound and Vision)

Please read all the text as far as the black line ('Then Mr Tickle went home'), and continue to the end if you have sufficient recording time:

Mr. Tickle

It was a warm, sunny morning.

In his small house at the other side of the wood Mr Tickle was asleep.

You didn’t know there was such a thing as a Tickle, did you?

Well, there is!

Tickles are small and round and have arms that stretch and stretch and stretch.

Extraordinary long arms!

Mr Tickle was fast asleep. He was having a dream. It must have been a very funny dream because it made him laugh out loud, and that woke him up.

He sat up in bed, stretched his extraordinary long arms, and yawned an enormous yawn.

https://goo.gl/S5Eg8w

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs  @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol  mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
British Library Time Lapse Films

Digitisation of Maps KAR
The Klencke Atlas 1660

Wet cleaning of PDP/F 1069
Silk Colours of the Royal East India Volunteers dating from 1777-1779

Digitisation of ADD 11831
The Book of Ester 17th Century

Tangut fragment conservation

Creating the Tempest

Painted Silk Sutra Wrapper
IOL.MSS.KHOT.S.46

Elizabeth Hunter and Carl Norman
Senior Imaging Technicians, St Pancras Studios

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Picturing Canada and Interactive Map

Phil Hatfield, Lead Curator Digital Map Collections, Contemporary British
Joan Francis - Administration Officer, Contemporary British Published Collections
Two Centuries of Indian Print

https://www.bl.uk/projects/two-centuries-of-indian-print

Layli Uddin, Priyanka Basu, Tom Derrick, Megan O’Looney, Alia Carter, Nora McGregor, Nur Sobers Khan, Laurence Roger
Sound Tours - Unlocking Our Sound Heritage

Led by Chandan Mahal and Mary Stewart

Korantema Anyimadu, Amelia Francis, Ayomide Oluyemi and Shani Page-Muir

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary @BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
The Foundling

An animation by Leo Crane

www.figuration.co/foundling
Artistic
David Normal – Artist
Crossroads of Curiosity – Collage Paintings

It was beyond my wildest dreams'
Mario Klingemann – Code Artist
Our first Artistic Award winner!

44 Men who Look 44 (Notice the direction faces)

Mario Klingemann
German artist

Mario Klingemann is a German artist and Google Arts and Culture resident known for his work involving neural networks, code, and algorithms. He is considered a pioneer in the use of computer learning in the arts. [Wikipedia]

Known for: Digital art, Conceptual art

A Hat on the ground spells trouble

http://goo.gl/dM8ieA

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk
slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Mario Klingemann – AI Portraits

The Butcher’s Son
2018 LUMEN Prize winner
https://lumenprize.com/a-i-portrait-scoops-gold/

The future of AI art goes up for auction at Sotheby’s for $50,000

Mario Klingemann’s “Memories of Passersby I” generates portraits using neural networks. But that’s not what makes it art.

https://goo.gl/ggpw1n

https://lumenprize.com/a-i-portrait-scoops-gold/
James Heald – Wikimedia and Map work

50,000 Maps Found in Flickr 1 million Human & Computational Tagging & Community engagement Geo-referencing work

Geotagging maps

https://commons.wikimedia.org/

https://goo.gl/WYZCB2

https://goo.gl/HNQq5e

https://commons.wikimedia.org/

https://goo.gl/djtm1b

@hk baptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra mahey @britishlibrary @BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlx6
Imaginary Cities Exhibition – 5 April to 14 July 2019
Michael Takeo Magruder

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Hey there Young Sailor
Ling Low 2016 – Hey there Young Sailor

The Impatient Sisters

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bcOP1E5bRE0

1 million images from scanned books

VIMEO.COM/SWEETANDLOWFILMS
@SWEETNLOWFILMS ON INSTAGRAM
@SWEETNLOWLING ON TWITTER

@hk baptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Fashion Utopias

Kris Hofmann & Claudia Rosa Lukas

1 million images from scanned books

https://vimeo.com/174946933

https://vine.co/v/i1XbU7xQzXg

http://goo.gl/bNxGZZ

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
A poster per day

1 million images from scanned books

https://goo.gl/TVAzWU
British Library face swap

1 million images from scanned books

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

https://vimeo.com/237769058
slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Digitised Somali sound recordings

Nomad

Objects

A collection of 3D objects, photographs and audio recordings from the British Museum and Nomad workshops.

view objects

Mixed Reality

Nomad is a Mixed Reality experience for the Microsoft HoloLens developed by Mnemoscene. The experience layers sound recordings from the British Library, digitised objects and photographs from the British Museum and Powell-Cotton Museum, and people presented as 3D holograms into the user’s real-life environment.

https://nomad-project.co.uk

Abira Hussein
Sophie Dixon
Edward Silverton

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
Another Intelligence Sings

Digitised environmental sound recordings

https://goo.gl/nndhdk

Amanda Baum

Rose Leahy

Rob Walker
A dozen BL Labs Lessons!

https://www.flickr.com/photos/26765085@N08/3365589331

Some difficult messages for risk averse institutions
Early ‘BL Labs’ lessons 1

https://www.theodysseyonline.com/one-size-does-not-fit-all

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
Engagement starts with people!

Start a conversation, generate positive energy, encourage fun/play/experimentation!

Try to support as many ideas as is humanly possible, be kind, nice, want to share and genuinely want to help people!
Run Competitions

Good way to kick start engagement.

Ensure entrants own their own Intellectual Property (IP)!

Publish all ideas, good way to generate ideas for use.
Start small but think big!

Start with small experiments, digital use can be really simple, but OK to think big!
Early ‘BL Labs’ lessons 5

Keep it open, share, simple and don’t overcomplicate / over bake

British Library Labs Project
British Library Labs GitHub Account

Repositories 24  People 0  Projects 0

Grow your team on GitHub

Sign up

Find a repository... Type: All  Language: All

Slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Access & Reuse Pathways

Access and reuse is considered in different forums depending on the type of material and, if images, the stage of digitisation. However, there are some circumstances when formal Access & Reuse approval for the release of material is required. Examples include if the image size is too big or if text written by BL staff is being released under a CC BY licence. See the table in the next slide for the next steps when Access & Reuse approval is and isn’t required.

You have some material you want to release digitally as:

1) Public Domain
2) CC BY (for BL copyright material)
3) CC0 (for BL database material)

Policies and processes for digital re-use are critical
(Many cultural heritage organisations don’t have any!)
Early ‘BL Labs’ lessons 7

Be brave! Fail fast!

A difficult messages for risk averse institutions
Reject perfectionism, enemy of rapid progress!
Good enough is sometimes...good enough!

A difficult messages for risk averse institutions
Early ‘BL Labs’ lessons 9

- 'Begun in Kiryu, Japan, finished in France'
- 'Bali? Java? Mexico?'
- Variations on USA:
  - U.S.
  - U.S.A
  - U.S.A.
  - United States of America
  - U.S.A?
  - United States (case)
- Inconsistency in uncertainty
  - U.S.A. or England
  - U.S.A./England?
  - England & U.S.A.

Services that allow *useful* exploration of cultural heritage data are rare!

Data is often messy for computational analysis

slides: shorturl.at/bjIX6
Training or Collaboration?

Exploring data is difficult to do with large datasets

Often requires specific skills and capabilities that many of our users and cultural heritage organisations don’t have.
Early ‘BL Labs’ lessons 11

BL Labs 2018 Artistic Award Runner Up: 'Nomad'

Nomad is a collaborative project between Abira Hussein, an independent researcher and curator, and Sophie Dixon and Ed Silverton of Mnemoscene. They were the runners up in the BL Labs Artistic Award category for 2018, and they’ve written a guest blog post about their project for the Digital Scholarship blog.

Nomad: Reconnecting Somali heritage

The project has been supported by the Heritage Lottery fund and premiered at the British Library and British Museum during the Somali Week Festival 2018. Centred around workshops engaging Somali communities in London, Nomad explores the creative use of Mixed Reality and web-based technology to contextualise archival Somali objects with the people and traditions in which they belong.

Celebrate the uses of digital collections!

Run Awards for those already using your digital materials, Great way to find who is doing what with your digital content.

Engages & inspires your users to come up with their own ideas
Success is rare, failure is common, take risks!

Right people, place & right time…so it won’t always happen…

Embrace failure, learn from it, it’s our best teacher!

⚠️ A difficult message for risk averse institutions

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Hard work, no magic formula!
Building a Global GLAM Labs community
Growing GLAM Labs International Community

Data from Building Library Labs Survey 2018

Get data here: https://goo.gl/66icov (you need a google account, you can get one here: https://goo.gl/CGdUhY)

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Building Library Labs
September 2018
London

Building Library Labs
March 2019
Copenhagen

It's all about the PEOPLE in these GLAM Labs!
Next annual event Library of Congress!
late April / Early May 2020

Programme: https://goo.gl/JujjQ5
YouTube: https://bit.ly/2YMxXYj

Slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk
GLAM Labs Book Sprint...

Over 120 pages output from 2 events
Sep 18 London, Mar 19 Copenhagen

A read sprint after and regularly?

https://www.booksprints.net/

23-27 September, 2019 – Doha, Qatar
5 days 16 people! Other teams in different time zones editing, proofing and illustrating each day when other group sleeping

@hkbaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
GLAM Labs Book

Available in International Open Access Week – (end of October 2019)

@hkibaptistu @BL_Labs @mahendra_mahey @britishlibrary
@BL_DigiSchol mahendra.mahey@bl.uk

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
GLAM Labs: Communication Tools

Every other month Zoom Meetings

Website
http://glamlabs.io
Soon!

Mailing list changing to very soon to:
http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/GLAMLABS.html

Global GLAM Labs list to increase collaboration
http://tiny.cc/World-GLAM-Labs

http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/LIBRARYLABS.html!
Over 150 people joined!

Contact:
mahendra.mahey@bl.uk
+447871287026

GLAM Labs
WhatsApp

Send international number to
mahendra.mahey@bl.uk
+447871287026

Slack
https://glam.labs.slack.com

Website
http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/GLAMLABS.html
http://glamlabs.io

Slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
Africa (Regional GLAM Labs Events)

First event in Sub Saharan Africa

Livingstone Museum, Zambia
1 August 2019

“Building and providing the benefits of a global digital cultural heritage Labs community”

October 13-15, 2019, Cairo, Egypt

slides: shorturl.at/bjlX6
European GLAM Labs Event

17-19 March, 2020
National Library of Latvia, Riga, parallel to Digital Humanities Nordic 2020
Australia GLAM Labs Event

Mid March, 2020 (possible)
State Library of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
Global GLAM Labs Event

4-6 May 2020
Library of Congress, Washington, USA
African GLAM Labs Event

11-12 June, 2020

Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Egypt
Asian GLAM Labs Event?

????
Where?
GLAM Data Labs network - Our Aims

• Make existing or planned GLAM Labs be the best they can be
• Increase our joint understanding
• Build a supportive, kind, generous caring network
• Tell the world what we do and what you do
We want you to join us!

• Are you a national, state, university, public Gallery, Library, Archive or Museum that wants, or has a Lab?

• We are very poorly resourced! Do you want to be part of the network? Contact us?

• Our emerging values:
  – Leave your ego at the door please we have no use for it here.
  – Work hard, but also have fun!
  – Mistakes are the greatest gifts and teachers!
  – We want input from everyone. Make our time count.
  – Any constructive contribution and honest question is welcomed, stupid questions are the best!