Musicologists on GitHub: User Experience and the ELVIS Database

Nina Penner and Emily Hopkins
Who We Are

Emily Hopkins
• SIMSSA Project Manager
• MA Musicology, McGill (2015, Prof. Roe-Min Kok)
• BMus in Oboe Performance, University of British Columbia (2011)

Nina Penner
• PhD Musicology, McGill (2015, Profs Lloyd Whitesell and Trevor Ponech [English])
• MA Musicology, University of Toronto (2009)
• BMus in Clarinet Performance, University of Toronto (2007)
ELVIS Database

Search
Powerful multi-field search for scores in symbolic notation with metadata.

Download
Add scores to your cart as if shopping, then download only the files you need.

Upload
Upload pieces, movements, and collections of symbolic notation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>.gitignore</td>
<td>New: Ignoring local virtualenv.</td>
<td>21 days ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>README.md</td>
<td>Added: Better Readme</td>
<td>5 months ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>celery_start.sh</td>
<td>Fixed: Changed celery paths for server too.</td>
<td>2 months ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>daily_backup.sh</td>
<td>WIP: Improved backup scripts.</td>
<td>22 days ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manage.py</td>
<td>Refactor: Switched to a different directory structure.</td>
<td>2 months ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>requirements.txt</td>
<td>Docs: Updated requirements.txt.</td>
<td>20 days ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>start.sh</td>
<td>WIP: Ran 2to3 on project.</td>
<td>21 days ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stats_solr_query.py</td>
<td>Fixed: Moved more files.</td>
<td>4 months ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>test_sql.py</td>
<td>Refactor: Renamed dates.</td>
<td>1 month ago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>weekly_backup.sh</td>
<td>Fixed: Actually gettint the variable now.</td>
<td>22 days ago</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Three Kinds of Issues:

1) **Bugs** (e.g., broken links)

2) **Problems Requiring Domain-Specific Knowledge** (i.e., knowledge of music)

3) **Usability Improvements**
Catching Bugs

Ian Lorenz (new grad student) was trying to make an account and came across this problem using Safari. He says after filling out the info and doing the I’m-not-a-robot bit it shows this error, and has done so several times:

Any idea what might be going on? Thanks!

Hey Emily,

Thanks for sending this my way. Was able to find and fix the bug pretty quickly. Turns out those new captchas were causing some problems after the Python 3 transition. Since I implemented both those things in the last couple days of work, I didn’t notice the issue.

Please let me know if everything’s working now!

He says it’s working now, thanks Alex!
Composition Start and End dates: Year reads "NONE-1793" #86

Closed emilyhopkins opened this issue on Aug 10 · 8 comments

emilyhopkins commented on Aug 10

For pieces with only one year for composition, the entry sheet says to only put a date in the second box (Composition End Date). When I do this, the entry prints "NONE-1793" (for example). It should just read "1793."

lexpar commented on Aug 10

On what page/pages does it do this - or - where did you notice this?

emilyhopkins commented on Aug 10

Sorry, it's in the information for the piece when I go to my collections and look at the string quartets I've uploaded. It's in some of Jacob's pieces too; older and more recent uploads.
You're going to have to give me a screenshot, because I'm not seeing this NONE anywhere.

Login problem solved sorry. Screenshot of None:
(By Date of Composition)
Bug: Names with non-ASCII Characters

cannot enter non-ASCII characters for movement titles

#92

NinaPenner opened this issue on Aug 12 · 1 comment

NinaPenner commented on Aug 12

I am now able to enter a piece with a filename with non-ASCII characters but it won't let me enter non-ASCII characters for movement titles.

lexpar added the bug label on Aug 12

lexpar commented on Aug 12

Fixed in bfad1de

lexpar closed this on Aug 12
Domain-Specific Issues

**Instrumentation entry constraints/guidelines? #76**

*Closed*

emilyhopkins opened this issue on Aug 3 · 0 comments

emilyhopkins commented on Aug 3

It would be good to standardize how instrumentation is entered -- numbers of instruments, standard abbreviations, etc. IMSLP's abbreviations might be a good starting point? [http://imslp.org/wiki/IMSLP:Abbreviations_for_Instruments](http://imslp.org/wiki/IMSLP:Abbreviations_for_Instruments)

(Maybe in the Instrumentation Tooltip or other documentation?)

lexpar closed this issue from a commit 13 days ago

New: Merged piece forms. ...

lexpar closed this in [3ca63d2](#) 13 days ago
Clarify Number of Voices entry #77

Closed emilyhopkins opened this issue on Aug 3 · 1 comment

emilyhopkins commented on Aug 3

Some instrumental pieces in the database list '0' for the number of voices (Haydn Oboe Concerto, for example) but the description implies that instrumental works should have the voices accounted for -- if so this may be impossible/impractical for orchestral works in particular. This should be clarified/explained/revised.

lexpar commented on Aug 3

I we should open this up for discussion at the next meeting!

lexpar closed this 17 days ago
Selecting a negative number of voices? #108

sagransj opened this issue on Aug 18 · 2 comments

sagransj commented on Aug 18

I don’t think it makes sense for this to be an option! It’s not possible to enter a minus sign into the number of voices field, but if you enter a number and then use the down arrow on your keyboard you can get something like this:

```
Num. of Voices -4
```
It would be great if users had the option to group composers by date and by region in the "Browse" section.

Thanks for this - I had plans drawn out to implement this and some other things in late August, but got caught up with some other things. Will implement this soon. :)
Upload a Piece

Basic Piece Information

A title and composer are required fields to create a piece. Suggestions are offered for composers which already exist in the database, and selecting one of these suggestions will add the piece to the existing composers’ oeuvre.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Ach wie flüchtig, ach wie nüchtern, BWV 26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Composer</td>
<td>Bach, Johann Sebastian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composition Status</td>
<td>Brass, Philippe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Baudeweyn, Noel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bastard, Jean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Barbingant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Original Upload: “Additional information”

Upload a Piece

Additional Information

These fields make it easier to find the piece using the database search engine. Each field can accept multiple inputs separated by semicolons. For example, if the piece has a harpsichord, violin and cello, you can input "harpischord; violin; cello" in the instrumentation field.

Collections: Yale Collection
Languages: German
Genres: e.g. Mass
Num. of Voices: e.g. 2
Place of Origin: Germany
Sources: e.g. McGill
Instrumentation: SATB

Piece Comment

Missing: *Die Freude wird zur Traurigkeit* (Alto), and *Die höchste Herrlichkeit und Pracht* (Soprano).
Original Upload: “Upload Files”

### Upload a Piece

#### Upload Files

Depending on whether the piece is split into movements or not, you may upload files to attach to the piece itself or create movements and attach pieces to them individually.

#### Piece Files

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>File Source</th>
<th>Files</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Piece Files" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Add File

#### Movements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Movement Title</th>
<th>Files</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ach wie flüchtig, ach wie nichtig</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Movement Files" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>So schnell ein rauschend Wasser schießt</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Movement Files" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Die Freude wird zu</td>
<td><img src="image" alt="Movement Files" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Add Movement

Submit
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