Unlocking our Sound Heritage: IIIF AV at the British Library

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Save our Sounds Programme

Projects

- Sound Heritage
- Universal Player
- Radio Archive
- Digital Audio Collection
- Unlocking Our Sound Heritage

Access and Engagement

Comms and Stakeholder Engagement
Aims of Unlocking Our Sound Heritage

1. Transform access to and preserve the UK’s most vulnerable and at-risk audio heritage

2. Raise awareness of the importance and value of the nation’s sound heritage

3. Create sustainable centres of excellence in digital audio preservation around the UK

4. Involve new audiences in engaging with their audio heritage in innovative ways
Hub Partners
### High level numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Digitisation</td>
<td>160,000 items and c.470,000 recordings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Discoverability</td>
<td>c.470,000 catalogue records</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access</td>
<td>100,000 recordings online with the aim of making 40% downloadable</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Onsite access to 346,000 to 460,000 recordings at the BL and 27,000 to 460,000 at the hubs collectively</td>
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## Five Year Timetable

| Year one 2017/18 | • Started on 1st July 2017  
|                 | • Recruitment and setting up at the British Library |
| Year two 2018/19 | • Hub funding starts.  
|                 | • Recruit hub staff, set up studios & train hub teams |
| Year three 2019/20 | • New web space ready for public launch in October 2019 |
| Year four 2020/21 | • Hub funding ends  
|                 | • Celebrate the launch of the national network  
|                 | • Series of conferences on using audio archives |
| Year five 2021/22 | • Pop up archive touring  
|                 | • By the end of the project, approx. 470,000 recordings will have been preserved & at least 100,000 available online |
Budget

The total project budget is £19 million

- £9.5 million from the HLF
- £5.6 million from British Library’s grant in aid
- £1.5 million from other grants (£500,000 from Garfield Weston and £250,000 from Foyle)
- £1.8 million volunteering
- £0.5 million British Library’s commitment to managing and maintaining the outputs of the project for five years after the end of the HLF funding
Highlights so far

• A fawn-breasted bowerbird in Papua New Guinea mimicking the sound of construction works

• Kylie Minogue’s first UK concert performance at the Hammersmith Palais, London in the late 1980s

• David Bowie press conference which ends with him giving a solo performance of 'Space Oddity'

• 1979 interview with Frank Zappa, who shares his disappointment over a bad peach melba

• A 1996 Cambridge Union debate involving Theresa May and Alan Titchmarsh
## Real Timetable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>2014/15</td>
<td>• Planning &amp; data modelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015/16</td>
<td>• Start engaging with IIIF community around AV</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016/17</td>
<td>• Begin digitisation at BL</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Start of Mellon grant to help progress IIIF AV</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017/18</td>
<td>• Universal Viewer AV development</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Start publishing manifests</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018/19</td>
<td>• Launch new sounds.bl.uk website</td>
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Mass Digitisation
Tape of the day! @DigitalScape_Ir found this lovely reel made up of a mixture of tape 😁 @BLSoundHeritage

Katie Tavini @KatieTavini
2:15pm - 11 May 2018
User Experience
How useful is a scrub bar in an Oral History recording over 100 hours long?
Aim is to offer ~40% of recordings online for download.

Not a 1:1 mapping between access copy and recording, so we can't just let them download the access mp4.

www.bl.uk
Redaction

Oral History (in particular)

Durations on a file that the public can’t hear (but staff can)

www.bl.uk
Redaction - waveforms

Share the sounds & stories you love with

Up to 30 seconds of audio you can get tattooed and play back using your mobile device and the Skin Motion app.

Start here
Photo credits:
(follow my amazing colleagues on twitter):

@KatieTavini
@Sound_Archivist
@CherylTipp

Project links:
https://www.bl.uk/projects/save-our-sounds
@BLSoundHeritage
And thank you
Andy Irving

Andrew.Irving@bl.uk

Inbox  Is this goodbye? - your person

Inbox  We don't want to lose you... -