The Digital Registry

• **Vision:**
  - Create a legally defended digital registry for all copyrighted works, all orphan works, and all works in the public domain
  - Collaborate with great libraries, cultural institutions and law firms to build and defend The Digital Registry against the threat of legal action
How it Works

• **The Problem:**
  – Delineation of public domain, copyright, modified copyright and orphan works is not currently clear or defensible for online works.

• **The Solution:**
  – A file linking material on a participating library’s server with a bona fide declaration of the work’s public domain status

• **The Approach:**
  – Start with IP indisputably within the public domain (i.e., pre 1923) that is legally unassailable
  – Partner ten libraries / cultural institutions with ten law firms to launch The Digital Registry
  – Grow the registry to include clear copyrighted works and additional public domain works
Partners: Cultural Institutions & Libraries

- **Who:** potential **cultural partners** for Beta Sprint
  - Select collections within universities
    - Harvard (The Peabody, Widener), Yale (Beinecke, Art Gallery etc), University of Michigan
  - Public Libraries
    - Boston (John Adams collection, A. Brown Music collection), New York, San Francisco
  - Religious Libraries
    - Notre Dame, Georgetown, Yeshiva University, Hartford Seminary (MacDonald Center)
  - Public Broadcasting
    - WGBH, WBUR
  - Historical Maps & Societies
    - David Rumsey Map collection, Massachusetts Historical Society
  - Museums
    - The MET, MIT Public Art Collection, Harvard Art Museums, Getty Scholarly Catalogue Initiative
  - National Library of Medicine (PubMed)
  - International Collections
    - Tourin, Italy

- **What:** **curated collections** with public domain and copyright materials
  - Libraries and institutions work with law firms to correctly tag and link selected collections to the digital registry
Partners: Law Firms

**Who:** potential partner [law firms](#) for Beta Sprint
- Goodwin Procter
- Patterson Belknap
- Jenner and Block
- Kenney and Wilson
- Quinn Emanuel
- WilmerHale
- Copyright Alliance law firms

**What:** [legal counsel](#) and protections
- Counsel on algorithms for correctly tagging public domain and copyright status works
- Counsel on any threats of litigation against Registry stakeholders
- Long term advisory role to the libraries and institutions with whom they share an interest in the propagation of the public domain
API Technical Design Principles

• Digital Registry Technology
  – Communicates with the Registrars, including registering new works and modifying existing registrations
  – Provides registry browse and search capabilities to the public
  – Simple (min. API, max. functionality), flexible (low-level access to the database) & extensible (easy features additions, backwards compatible)
Digital Registry Model: IMSLP Tagging System

• The International Music Score Library Project (IMSLP) Petrucci Music Library project is a model for the Digital Registry

• IMSLP Volunteer copyright reviewers (who pass copyright exam):
  – Check copyright status of each IMSLP submission in three major jurisdictions: life+50/Canada, the US, and life+70/EU.
  – Publically record copyright status of each file in 3 letter codes (V/V/V) corresponding to three countries (Canada / USA / EU) placed below the download link on every file:
    V = verified public domain
    (PD)C = checked: very high probability for PD but missing hard evidence
    U = unreviewed
    N = copyrighted
    !N = copyrighted but permission given
    red numeral = copyrighted, year of entry in PD (automatically releases file for access in that year)
  – Follow substantive rules: http://imslp.org/wiki/Public_domain

• Copyright reviewers who are musicologists and music publishing historians are able to precisely identify the publication in cases of uncertainty.
Digital Registry Model: IMSLP Tags
Digital Registry Model: IMSLP Public Domain Work

114 Songs (Ives, Charles)

It is unlikely that this work is public domain in the EU, or in any country where the copyright term is life-plus-70 years. However, it is in the public domain in Canada (where IMSLP is hosted) and other countries where the term is life-plus-50 years (like China, Japan, Korea and many others worldwide). As this work was first published before 1923 or failed to meet notice or renewal requirements to secure statutory copyright, it is almost certainly public domain in the USA as well.

Please obey the copyright laws of your country. IMSLP does not assume any sort of legal responsibility or liability for the consequences of downloading files that are not in the public domain in your country.

Composer Page: Ives, Charles

Movement/Sections: 114

First Publication: 1922

Genre Categories:
- Songs; for voice, piano; for voices with keyboard; scores featuring the voice; scores featuring the piano; English language; French language; German language

Scores

Performers submitting their own recordings should consider creating their own performer category.

Add File

Add Multiple Files

Complete Volume

Complete volume

Complete volume

The Digital Registry
Digital Registry Model: IMSLP Copyrighted Work
Goals of The Digital Registry

• Making the use of bits clear and unassailable

• Expanding creative commerce & culture
  – By classifying, disseminating and legally defending copyrighted and public domain works, The Digital Registry aims to further the cultural enrichment and creative commerce made possible by the internet for all citizens
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