



**www.performing-arts.eu**

fachinformationsdienst für darstellende kunst

# From raw data to rich(er) data

Lessons learned while aggregating metadata

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**SWIB 2019**

**Session: Aggregation and Interlinking**

# Back to 2016 – What this talk will be about

- Review 2016



- What worked out and what did not?
- Which challenges did we face then and which do we face now?
- What does the metadata management workflow look like today?
- Not every challenge is solved yet,  
so we are looking forward to feedback and suggestions for tools



# Specialized Information Service Performing Arts



„Past forward“  
Project documentation  
Recording, 2018  
[Tanzfonds Erbe]

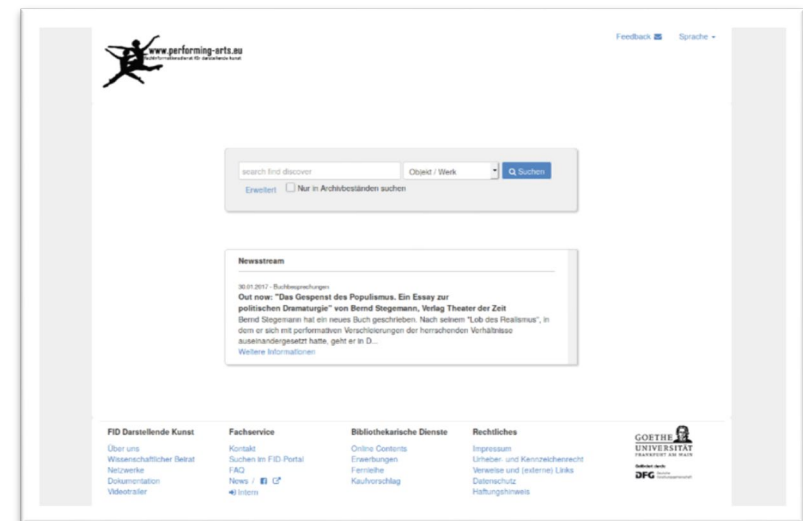
# Specialized Information Service Performing Arts

- Aggregates metadata from GLAM institutions from the performing arts domain (at the moment especially German-speaking institutions from Germany, Austria and Switzerland)
- Funded by the German Research Foundation
- What we are doing is best seen here:



- And here:

<http://www.performing-arts.eu>



# Specialized Information Service Performing Arts



Feedback

Sprache

search find discover

Objekt / Werk

Suchen

Erweitert

☐ Behalte die Filtereinstellungen.

Suche:

Suche einschränken

☐ Nur in Archivbeständen suchen

Suchfilter entfernen

Datengeber: Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Düsseldorf

Datengeber

Universitätsbibliothek Frankfurt am Main **301.880**

Verbund Deutscher Tanzarchive **99.884**

Akademie der Künste Berlin **37.575**

Universitätsbibliothek Johann Christian Senckenberg **16.828**

Freie Universität Berlin, Institut für Theaterwissenschaft, Theaterhistorische **15.421**

Objekt / Werk

Person / Organisation (62.000)

Ereignis (2.654)

Treffer 1 - 20 von 12.699 für Suche "", Suchdauer: 0,10s

Sortieren

Relevanz

1



**Fridolin, oder Der Gang nach dem Eisenhammer : mit obrigkeitlicher Bewilligung wird heute Mittwoch den 15ten April 1818 aufgeführt ; Schauspiel in fünf Aufzügen**

In Theater in Düsseldorf

Holbein, Franz Ignaz von (Beitragende), Dragheim, Karl (SchauspielerIn), ...

Trost, 1818

1 Plakat : sw ; 33 x 19 cm

Druckschrift Theaterzettel

Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Düsseldorf

Verfügbarkeit KVK

2



**Die Entführung aus dem Serail oder Belmonte und Constanze : mit obrigkeitlicher Bewilligung ; Einladungs-Billet ; hochzuehrende Herrn und Damen! Unterzeichnete Gesellschaft, hat die Ehre Sie zu benachrichtigen, daß sie mit ihren 3 1/2 Schu...**

Bretzner, Christoph Friedrich (Beitragende)

1818

1 Plakat : sw ; 20 x 16 cm

Druckschrift Theaterzettel

Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Düsseldorf

Verfügbarkeit KVK

3



**An sämtliche geehrteste Herren Musik- und Theater-Freunde, Liebhaber und Musiker, zum neuen Jahre 1818**

Fischer, Joseph (VerfasserIn)

1818

**vufind**  
Search. Discover. Share.

based search  
portal with **EDM**  
instead of  
**MARC21...**

# Specialized Information Service Performing Arts



Suche: (GND 116713631)



RITA SACCHETTO AS SHE APPEARS IN PRIVATE LIFE

## Sacchetto, Rita

Tänzerin, Sängerin, Schauspielerin  
geboren 15. Januar 1880 in München  
gestorben 18. Januar 1959 in Genua-Nervi

### Biografische Angaben

Gräfin Zamoyski; Geburtsjahr nach anderen Quellen: 1879  
und 1886

### Namensvarianten

Sacchetto, Margherita; Zamoyski, Rita

### Weiterführende Links

International Standard Name Identifier (ISNI)

Filmportal

Virtual International Authority File (VIAF)

Wikidata

Gemeinsame Normdatei (GND) im Katalog der  
Deutschen Nationalbibliothek

Bayerisches Musiker-Lexikon Online

Bibliothèque nationale de France

Kalliope Verbundkatalog

Wikipedia (Deutsch)

Wikipedia (English)

### Quelle:

<http://d-nb.info/gnd/116713631/about> (Lizenz: CC0 1.0)

via lobid-gnd

Suche einschränken

☐ Nur in Archivbeständen suchen

### Datengeber

► Universitätsbibliothek  
Frankfurt am Main

301.880

► Verbund Deutscher  
Tanzarchive

99.884

Treffer 1 - 2 von 2 für Suche '(GND 116713631)', Suchdauer: 0,04s

Sortieren

1



**Die Stumme von Portici : Dienstag, den 31. März 1908: Gastspiel Rita Sacchetto ; grosse historische Oper mit Ballett in 5 Aufzügen**

In Düsseldorfer Stadttheater

Auber, Daniel-François-Esprit (Komposition), Scribe, Eugène (Beitragend)  
1908

1 Faltbl. : 46 x 31 cm, gefaltet 31 x 23 cm

Druckschrift Theaterzettel

Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Düsseldorf

Verfügbarkeit KVK

2



**Gastspiel der lyrisch-dramatischen Tänzerin Rita Sacchetto : Freitag, den**

... extended by  
fact sheets for  
agents and  
events

- The Specialized Information Service in numbers:

**~800.000  
Objects**

(Theatre bills,  
Photos,  
Videos,  
...)

**~60.000  
Persons**

(Actors,  
Dancers,  
Directors, ...)

**~6.000  
Organizations**

(Ensembles,  
Institutions,  
Groups, ...)

**~60.000  
Events**

(Festivals,  
Performan-  
ces,  
Conferences,  
...)





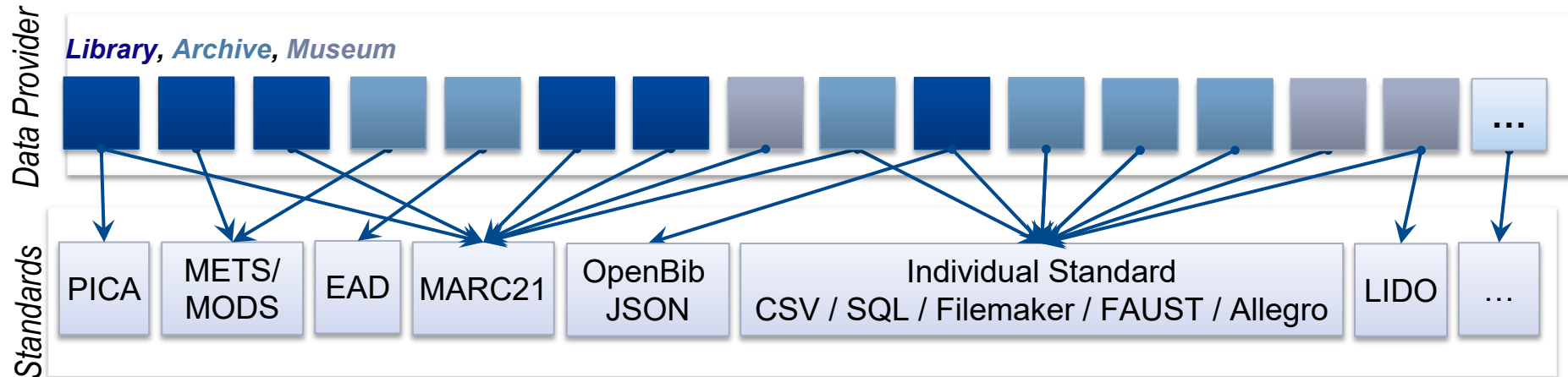
## The Challenges then and now



„The Laughing  
Audience and A  
Chorus of Singers“  
Copperplate by  
William Hogarth, 1733  
[Theatre Museum of  
the State Capital of  
Düsseldorf]



# Raw data - challenges



## Typical challenges regarding the original metadata

- Different ways and frequency of delivery (mail, harvest, floppy disks, ...)
- Different data formats and metadata standards
- Different scope and detail of description, no common vocabulary
- Little or no documentation
- Unstructured data / free text / “hidden information“
- Expectations vs. actual existing data

# Raw data - challenges

## Those challenges are basically the same as in 2016

- We face many of these challenges for each new data provider
- Many conversions and mappings are needed
  - ⚡ potential loss of information
- Normalization, enriching and interlinking is needed
- Many small conversion steps that depend on each other
- Amount of data and steps to perform increases with each new data provider
- You can produce wonderful rich(er) data, but there is one thing to keep in mind: Giving back

# How to give back?

## Giving back to data providers

- Possibility to give back is very heterogeneous (various in-house systems, man power, financial situation, “mapping back”?)
- Take time to plan how to give back (which format/standard?) in close communication with the data provider
- Easy first step: hand data providers the results of your analysis
- Give out best practice recommendations (e.g. KIM)
- Make the data providers see the benefits

# How to give back?

## Giving back to the (tech or subject-specific) community

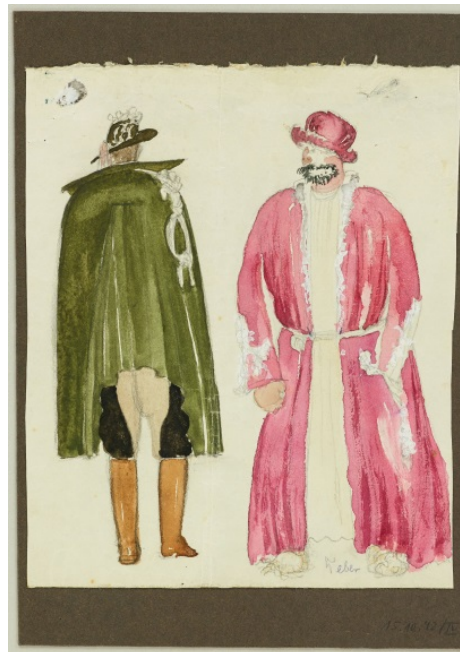
- Give out best practices
- Give out recommendations for tools
- Make code and documentation available
- Use mailing lists, ask questions, do pull requests
- Provide API / access

**Update needed**

**Todo with  
highest priority**

# Workflow

→ „Behind the scenes“



„The Taming of the Shrew  
[IV]“

Set design draft  
by Traugott Müller, 1942  
[Freie Universität Berlin,  
Institut für  
Theaterwissenschaft,  
Theaterhistorische  
Sammlungen]

# Workflow in 2016

- 1) Analysis and normalization
- 2) Transformation to XML
- 3) Mapping to aggregation format EDM
- 4) Enrichment (entityFacts, geonames,...)
- 5) Deduplication (tbd)
- 6) Mapping to Solr-Indexformat

METS/MODS

MARC21

LIDO

PICA

CSV

Filemaker

FAUST

???

...then a miracle occurs...

EDM/DM2E

...some more magic...

VuFind

still missing

Advantage:  
 Step 4-6 is the same for all data

# Workflow in 2019

## What is still the same in 2019?

- Thorough **analysis** and **documentation** of delivered data is still the key step
- still following the principle of doing as many steps as possible for **all data** in the same way
- The wonderful world of XPath, XSLT and Xquery
- Europeana Data Model (EDM) as data model
- “Basic” methods to normalize and interlink the data
- Still no deduplication, no API (yet)

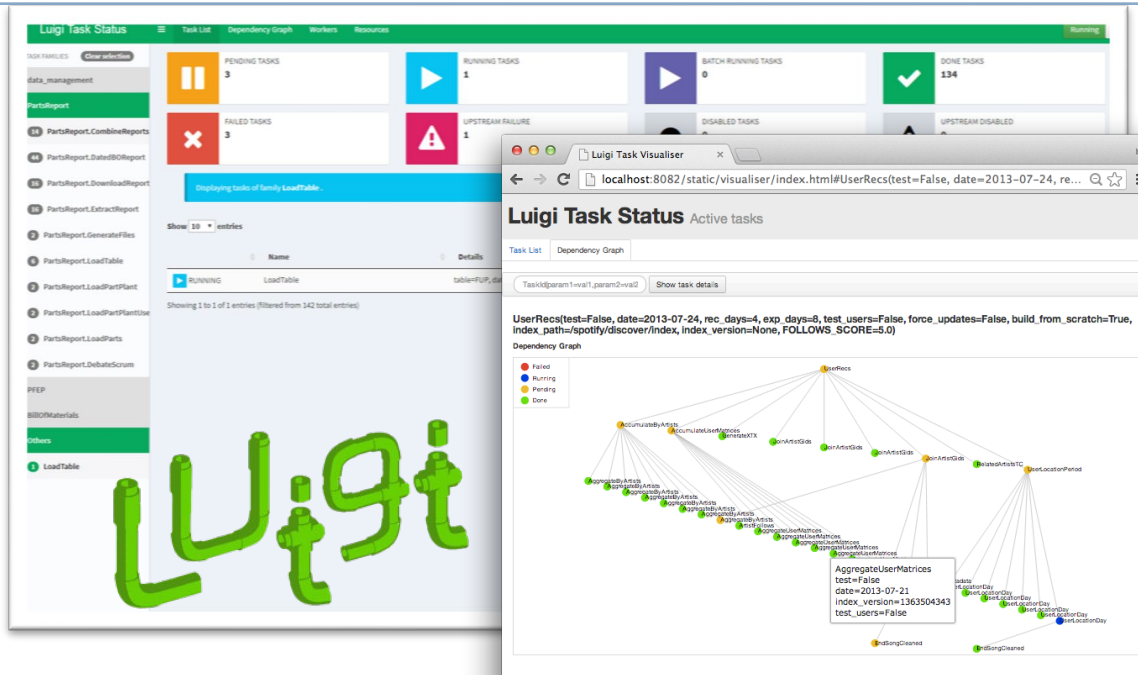


# Workflow in 2019

## What has changed since 2016?

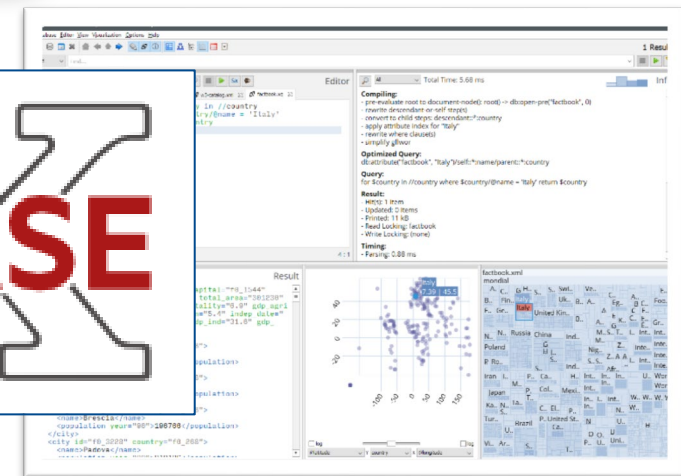
- Analysis step is partly automated now
- Mappings to EDM are “less clever”
  - clever steps are done later in the same way for all data
- Tools we use
  - especially to use of an XML-Database and a pipeline tool
- More modular
- Better performance :-)

# Workflow in 2019



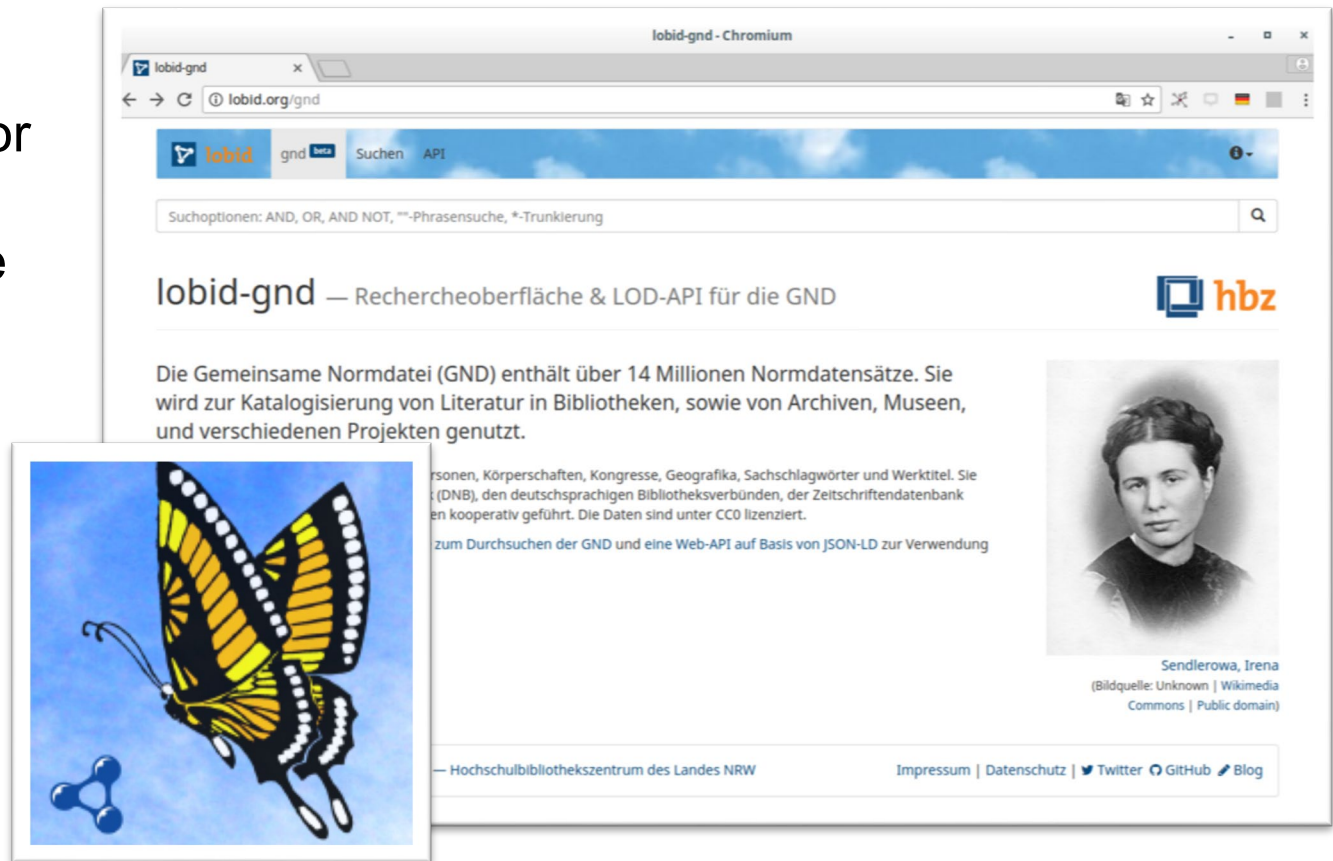
- currently ~200 tasks
- documents the workflow
- more modularity
- new providers are easily added
- easier to proceed from where it failed

- XML-Database
- fast manipulations on each record
- great for analysis and visualization of huge collections
- supports JSON and CSV as well



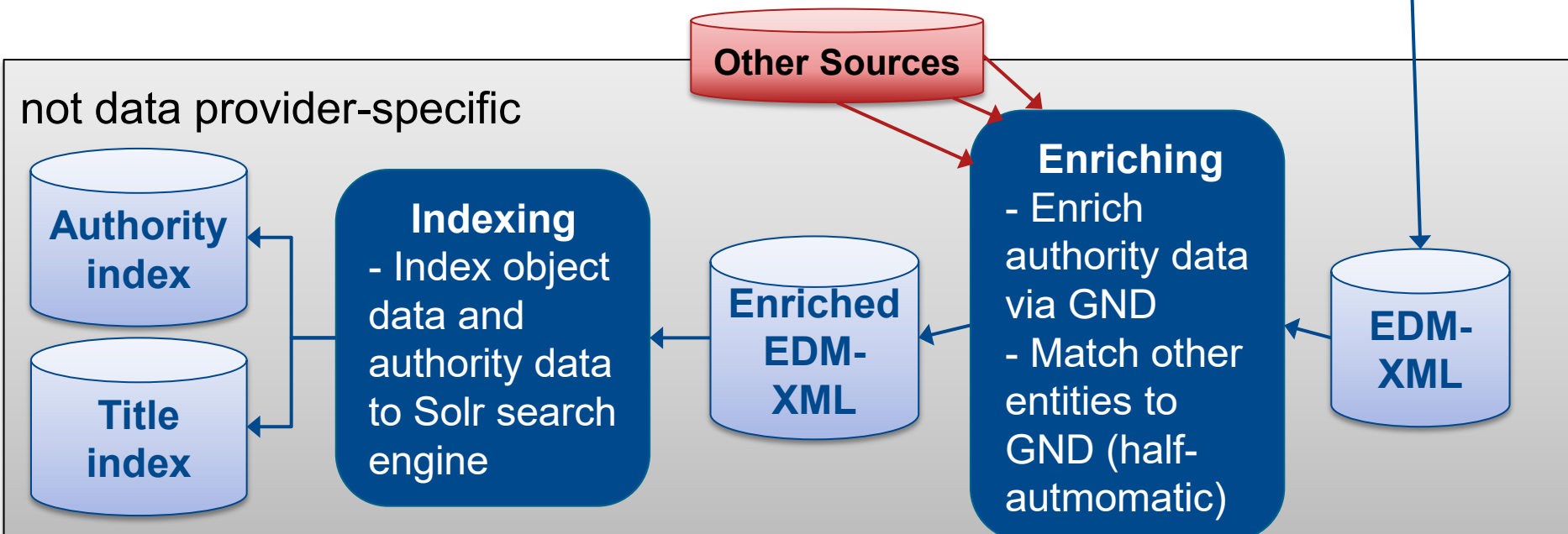
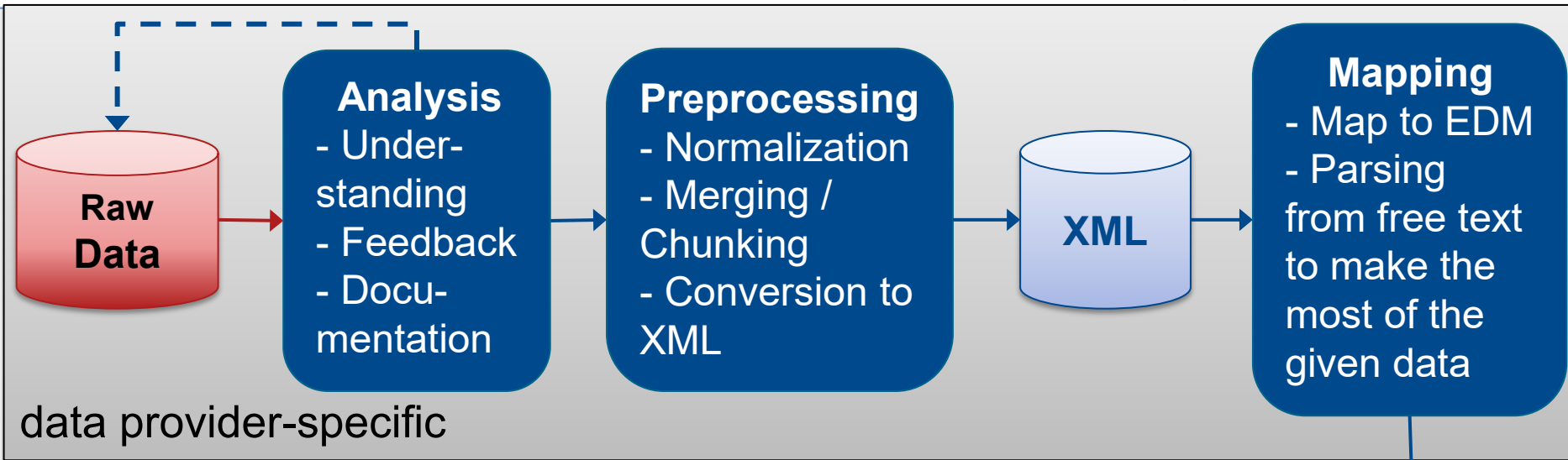
# Workflow in 2019

- favourite API for GND
- it is used in the fact sheets
- great for more complicated queries / facetting



- matching of “other” authority data to GND via Reconciliation in OpenRefine with lobid-gnd
- results currently reviewed

# Workflow

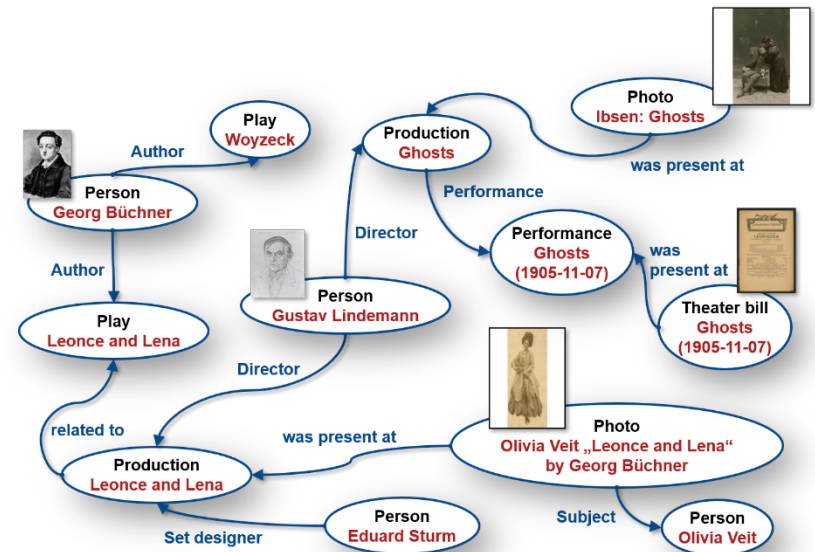


## Still challenging

- There is still no common vocabulary that is used by our data providers but they are working on it with our help
- Uniquely identifying entities from literals automatically is prone to error
- Keeping up with updates and changes of tools, namespaces, ...
- You can not make information magically appear when it is not there...

## What would be nice to have?

- Natural language processing to extract more events and agents from the description fields
- Visualization
- API (a sparql endpoint would be nice)





**Thank you!**  
**Visit [performing-arts.eu](http://performing-arts.eu) and  
give us your feedback!**

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