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EuropeanaLocal Newsletter

Welcome to the EuropeanaLocal Newsletter!

We're pleased to welcome you to our new format newsletter which we will issue every few months to keep you up-to-date with developments with the project and with Europeana, Europe's digital culture portal.

In this issue, we are very proud to announce that the first content from EuropeanaLocal partners is now live in the Europeana service and that EuropeanaLocal was the project that took Europeana's catalogue over 5 million items. Read more about it below

About EuropeanaLocal - Making local and regional content available through Europeana

EuropeanaLocal aims to make digital content from regional and local museums, libraries, archives and audio-visual institutions interoperable and accessible through Europeana and other service providers.

EuropeanaLocal will ensure that the approaches, standards and tools developed by Europeana are adopted widely across the cultural heritage sector, thereby supporting the interoperability of content within Europeana beyond that which is held by purely national level institutions

Read more about EuropeanaLocal

Europeana Tops 5 million Items

Europeana's collection of online European heritage passed the 5 million mark in early December, taking the multilingual digital library, museum and archive over halfway to its target of 10 million searchable items in 2010.

Portraits of notable Polish figures, including astronomer Copernicus and composer Frederic Chopin are among the newest additions to Europeana – part of some 257,000 images, texts, videos and sounds that were submitted by regional groups across Poland. The influx takes the proportion of Polish items on Europeana from 0.4 percent of the total to 5.5 percent.

"Connection with Europeana is a crucial milestone for the long process of the development of the Polish digital libraries infrastructure," says Marcin Werla, Digital Libraries Team Leader at the Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Center, which has been leading the Polish project to feed digitized items into Europeana.

"As the first country from the EuropeanaLocal project, we were able to connect several hundreds of cultural and scientific institutions from the entire country."

The achievement is a milestone not just for Europeana but also for EuropeanaLocal

Content will keep flowing from EuropeanaLocal. Hundreds of thousands of new items from the UK and Norway have already been processed and are live in the service. EuropeanaLocal aims to add some 3 million items to the Europeana database by mid-2010, making it one of the biggest contributing projects.

First EuropeanaLocal National meetings take place

The first of 27 planned national meetings took place recently in Sweden and Belgium. The meetings are intended to encourage and promote the Europeana service, the contribution of more local and regional content for Europeana and sensible and sustainable levels of aggregation; and also to discuss and provide feedback to Europeana on issues such as governance, licences and other contractual issues which need to be addressed as Europeana develops.

The programme and presentations are available from the EuropeanaLocal website as follows:

- The programme (in Swedish) and presentations from the Swedish National meeting
- The presentations and texts from the Belgian National Meeting. The texts are in Dutch, but the

PowerPoint Slides are all in English.

Reports from each of the National Meetings will be produced as they happen and will also be available from the website.

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EuropeanaLocal's mid-term meeting and training workshop, 3 and 4 December 2009, Poznan, Poland

The mid-term meeting for all partners and a training workshop took place just before Christmas at the offices of our Polish partner, the Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Centre. All partners were represented and enjoyed lively discussions, a varied programme of presentations and, of course, Polish hospitality.

You can see the programme and presentations for both the mid-term meeting and the training workshop on our website.

EuropeanaLocal's Greek partner, Veria Central Public Library, recorded some podcasts at the meeting. You can access them from the link 'Veria in Poznan' at http://www.libver.gr/en/

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