

Envisioning a simple Information Hub Searching Scenario

A hypothetical musicology student is interested in Detroit's role in the development of contemporary music. From his workstation or from a workstation in the library of his institution, he opens up the Information Hub searching interface. He keys in a search using the keyword "Motown." He receives a large and rich search result, which is initially presented by type of hit as indicated below:

1. 75 books
2. 155 journal citations
3. 35 primary resource hits
4. 3 oral history database hits
5. 2 film clips from a Detroit Music film archive
6. 255 hits from various image databases
7. 56 scores
8. 114 music recordings

These materials would be drawn from various Information Hub databases and resources. At this point the searcher can choose to refine his search or to open each set of hits - perhaps clicking on a plus or minus sign following the item citation. For example, to view the books that have been retrieved, he would click on the plus sign and all 75 citations would appear in a list, complete with indication of the institution holding them and call numbers. Our student could then click a check box by each citation he wished to retain out for future reference, download or printout.

Ideally, in the case of secondary resource materials represented only by citations, he could also request the items he is interested via a pull-down box on a tool-bar at the top of the searching interface screen, specifying his desired pick-up point. Certain categories of citations might also be represented by full text as well as the cataloging metadata. For instance, of the 35 primary resource hits, some of the books, or the 155 journal citations, some might be linked to full text documents, or multi-media materials included in the archival collections (e.g., film clips, taped interviews, photographs, etc.). The presence of full-text/digital images/multi-media would be indicated following the citation for each item. The hits from the film clip databases, image databases, scores and music recordings would all be linked to digital versions of the originals which the student can view, and in some cases, download for future use. Restrictions on the use of materials represented by the citations would be clearly indicated in the citation and if the searcher's authorization was not sufficient to access any digital information object; the reason for the denial of access would be clearly presented. Holding institution would also be indicated in the original brief citation.

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