



# PUBLIC DOMAIN PROJECT

A community driven project to  
preserve historical records



# Public Domain Project

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Server Administrator  
Technical Support

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# Goals of the Public Domain Project

In our opinion it is necessary to:

Collect

Protect

and enable access to

cultural heritage.

**It belongs to all of us!**

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# Intended audience

- Music listeners
- Musicians searching free samples
- Artists looking for royalty free Music
- Collectors
- Music historians
- Archives

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# Free music for any use!

Use the music archive your way:

- Streaming
- Sampling
- Remixing
- Background music
- ...

**Nobody to ask, just use it!**

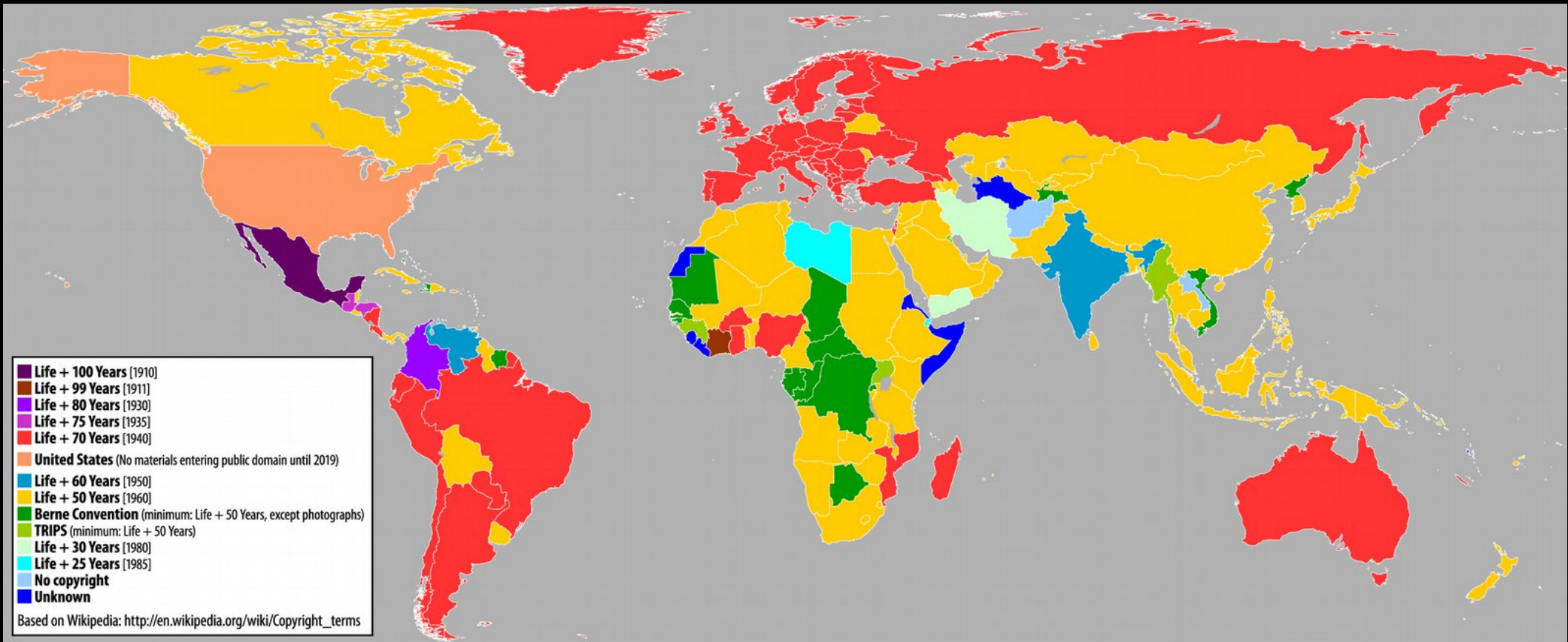
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# Legally, what does free mean?

- Free as in freedom
- A work (Image, Score, Record etc.) is free when it is in the ***Public Domain***
  - Legally the term *public domain* is the opposite of *copyright protected*
  - Copyright protection is time limited everywhere
- In German the legal term is ***gemeinfrei***



# International Copyright Law



Source: Balfour Smith (Center for the Study of the Public Domain)

# How we handle it

When it is out of copyright protection in Switzerland, we share it:

- 70 years after the author has died

and

50 years after publication

- Creative Commons „by“ or „CC0“ license



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# Example: Happy Birthday to You

## Copyright

- **Writer:** Patty Hill, died May 25, 1946 (aged 78)  
Mildred J. Hill, died June 5, 1916 (aged 56)

→ **Copyright will expire in the EU on the 1. January 2017**

## Neighboring rights

- **Published:** Melody: 1893 (Same as *Good Morning to All*)  
Lyrics: Unsure, before 1911
- Expired in EU (50 Years after first publication)  
Expired in USA. Complicated story :-)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Happy\\_Birthday\\_to\\_You](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Happy_Birthday_to_You)

# Facts

50 000 physical records in our collection

48 000 unique visits per month

40 000 downloads per month on  
Wikimedia Commons

900 digitized audio records

60 m<sup>2</sup> archive space

8 active people

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# Parts of the project

## PUBLIC DOMAIN

### English

*The free online music database*

### Deutsch

*Die freie Musik Datenbank*

### Français

*La base de données musique libre*

### Italiano

*La banca dati musica libera*



### Public Domain Radio

*Online Radio Channels*

### Public Domain Downloads

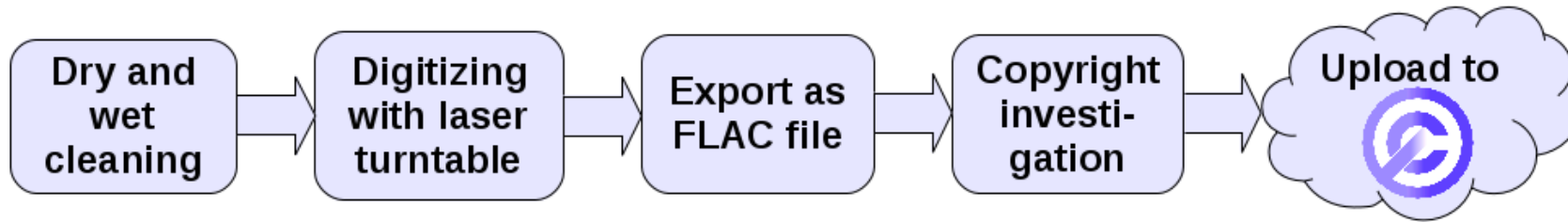
*Free Music and video material*

Deutsch • English • Français • Italiano



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# Digitizing process



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# Cleaning

- Very important step
  - Improves recording, reduces clicks





# Laser turntable

- Financed by Wikimedia (DE):



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# Digitizing

- Recording in 24 bit/192 kHz
- Loss-less, license and patent free file format:
  - FLAC



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# Investigation of copyright status

- Most time consuming task of all:
  - A lot of information is missing on the records and on the Internet
  - Also there is seldom a release date!
  - You have to get information about:
    - Author(s)/Composer(s)
    - Lyricist(s)
    - Music arranger(s), Conductor(s) and Performer(s)

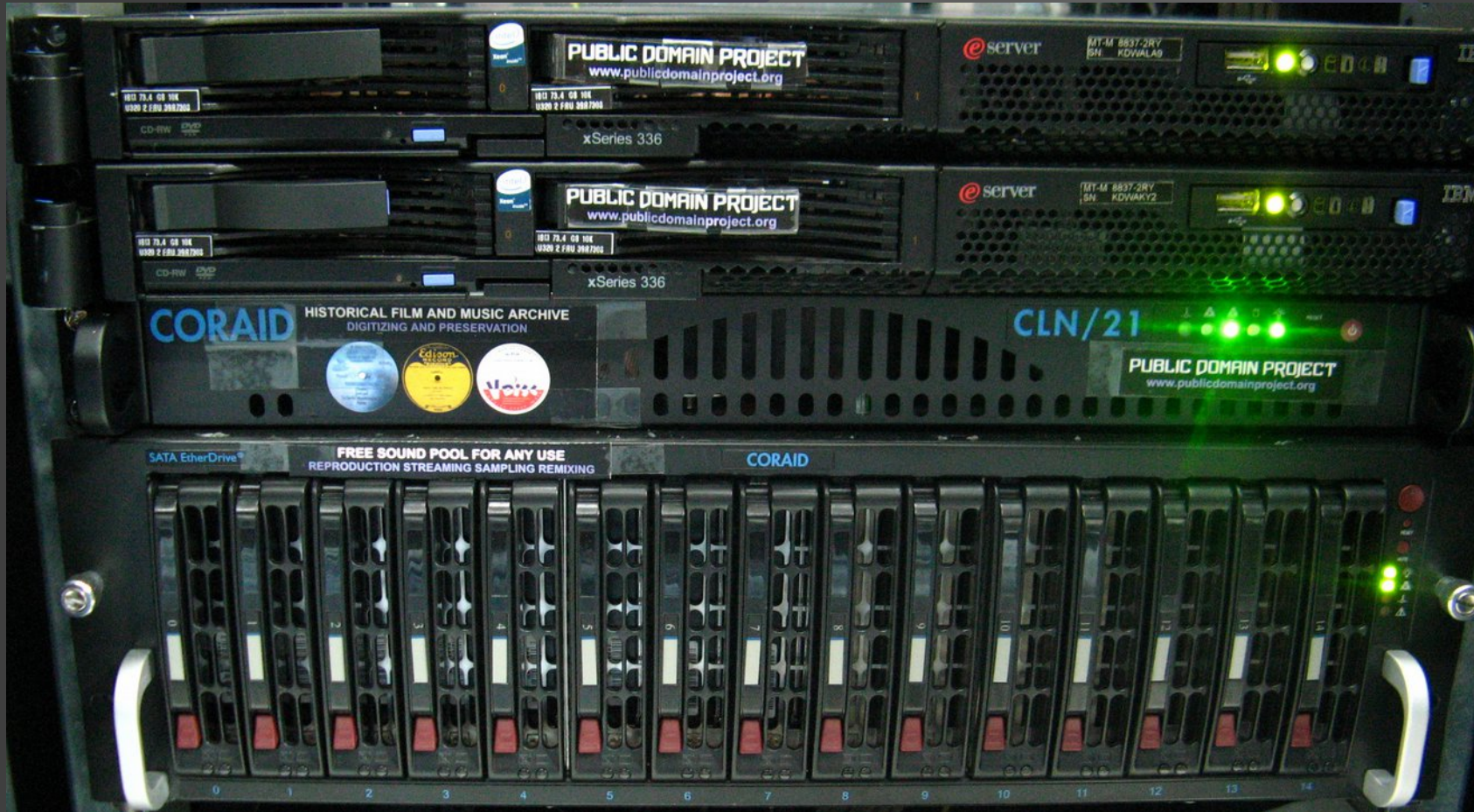
# Investigation of copyright status

<b>Image</b>	
<b>Label</b>	Vocalion Records
<b>Cat. no.</b>	B 14287
<b>Matrix</b>	8401
<b>Additional info</b>	B14287
<b>1st release date</b>	1922
<b>1st recording date</b>	15 December 1921
<b>Coupling date</b>	1921 (printed on record)
<b>Cutout date</b>	unknown
<b>Place of recording</b>	New York City, New York (United States)
<b>Description</b>	Vocalion A/B 14287, Carl Flisch collection, Musiktitledb.de <a href="#">↗</a>
<b>Author(s)/Composer(s)</b>	Julián Robledo (1887-1940)

<b>Lyricist(s)</b>	none
<b>Music arranger(s)</b>	none
<b>Conductor(s)</b>	none
<b>Performer(s)</b>	Bar Harbor Society Orchestra
<b>Vocal range</b>	Instrumental
<b>Title/Work</b>	<a href="#">Three O'Clock in the Morning</a>
<b>Content</b>	Waltz
<b>Genre(s)</b>	Pop music 1920s
<b>FLAC</b>	<a href="#">FLAC</a> <a href="#">↗</a>
<b>Ogg (Vorbis/Theora)</b>	<a href="#">Ogg</a> <a href="#">↗</a> · <a href="#">Ogg (Commons)</a>
<b>PD CH</b>	1 January 2011
<b>PD EU</b>	1 January 2011
<b>PD USA</b>	1 January 1998
<b>PD INT</b>	1 January 2041



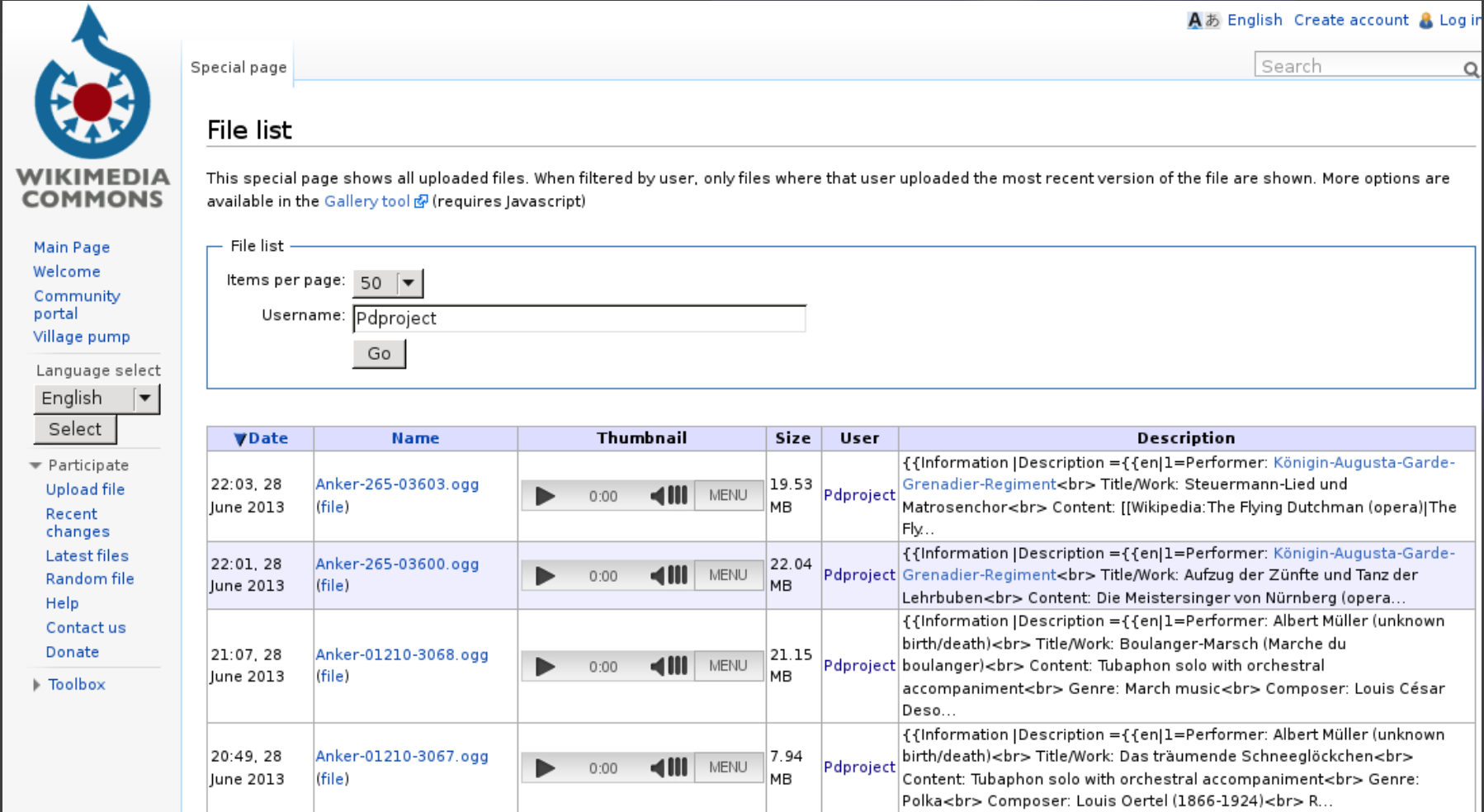
# Server and Storage



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# Upload to Commons



Special page  English Create account Log in

**File list**

This special page shows all uploaded files. When filtered by user, only files where that user uploaded the most recent version of the file are shown. More options are available in the [Gallery tool](#) (requires Javascript)

File list

Items per page:

Username:

Date	Name	Thumbnail	Size	User	Description
22:03, 28 June 2013	<a href="#">Anker-265-03603.ogg (file)</a>		19.53 MB	<a href="#">Pdproject</a>	{{Information Description ={{en 1=Performer: <a href="#">Königin-Augusta-Garde-Grenadier-Regiment</a>   Title/Work: <a href="#">Steuermann-Lied und Matrosenchor</a>   Content: [[Wikipedia:The Flying Dutchman (opera) The Fly..
22:01, 28 June 2013	<a href="#">Anker-265-03600.ogg (file)</a>		22.04 MB	<a href="#">Pdproject</a>	{{Information Description ={{en 1=Performer: <a href="#">Königin-Augusta-Garde-Grenadier-Regiment</a>   Title/Work: <a href="#">Aufzug der Zünfte und Tanz der Lehrbuben</a>   Content: <a href="#">Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg</a> (opera...
21:07, 28 June 2013	<a href="#">Anker-01210-3068.ogg (file)</a>		21.15 MB	<a href="#">Pdproject</a>	{{Information Description ={{en 1=Performer: <a href="#">Albert Müller (unknown birth/death)</a>   Title/Work: <a href="#">Boulangier-Marsch</a> (Marche du boulangier)  Content: <a href="#">Tubaphon solo with orchestral accompaniment</a>   Genre: <a href="#">March music</a>   Composer: <a href="#">Louis César Deso...</a>
20:49, 28 June 2013	<a href="#">Anker-01210-3067.ogg (file)</a>		7.94 MB	<a href="#">Pdproject</a>	{{Information Description ={{en 1=Performer: <a href="#">Albert Müller (unknown birth/death)</a>   Title/Work: <a href="#">Das träumende Schneeglöckchen</a>   Content: <a href="#">Tubaphon solo with orchestral accompaniment</a>   Genre: <a href="#">Polka</a>   Composer: <a href="#">Louis Oertel (1866-1924)</a>   R...

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# Thanks to FOSS

*If I have seen further, it  
is by standing on the  
shoulders of giants.*

Isaac Newton, 1676



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# MediaWiki based



**PUBLIC DOMAIN**

navigation

- Main page
- Community portal
- Current events
- Recent changes
- Random page
- FAQ

music

- Radio

encyclopedia

- English
- Deutsch
- Francais
- Italiano

support us

- We are looking for aide!
- Help
- Help us with a donation

[page](#) [discussion](#) [view source](#) [history](#)

## Main Page

**Public Domain Project**

[Donate](#) · [Facebook](#) · [Fanshop](#) · [Public Domain Radio Channels](#) · [Official website](#) · [Worldwide copyright terms](#)

Our cultural heritage belongs to all of us, that's why we must preserve it

**Public Domain Pool: Featured recordings**



Available soon: our collection of phonograph cylinders: **celluloid-** and **wax cylinders**



Famous arias sung by **Enrico Caruso** (O merveille!) (Faust) and Ja, seit frühster Kindheit Tagen (Martha)



Explore our media archives of **record label images: 78 rpm-, Edison-, Pathé- or vinyl**



**Public domain** grammophone records digitized with the **ELP laser turntable**. Help us with a **donation!**  
**Requirements:** 500 Euro containers, 50'000 record sleeves, Keith Monks records cleaning machine, **Rek-O-Kut** turntable to digitize vertical-cut records and transcription discs.



The **Public Domain Project** grows. Additional 35,000 records were donated by **Martin Osterwalder**. The first available work is **Edvard Grieg's incidental music Peer Gynt, Part 1** (listen) and Part 2 (listen)

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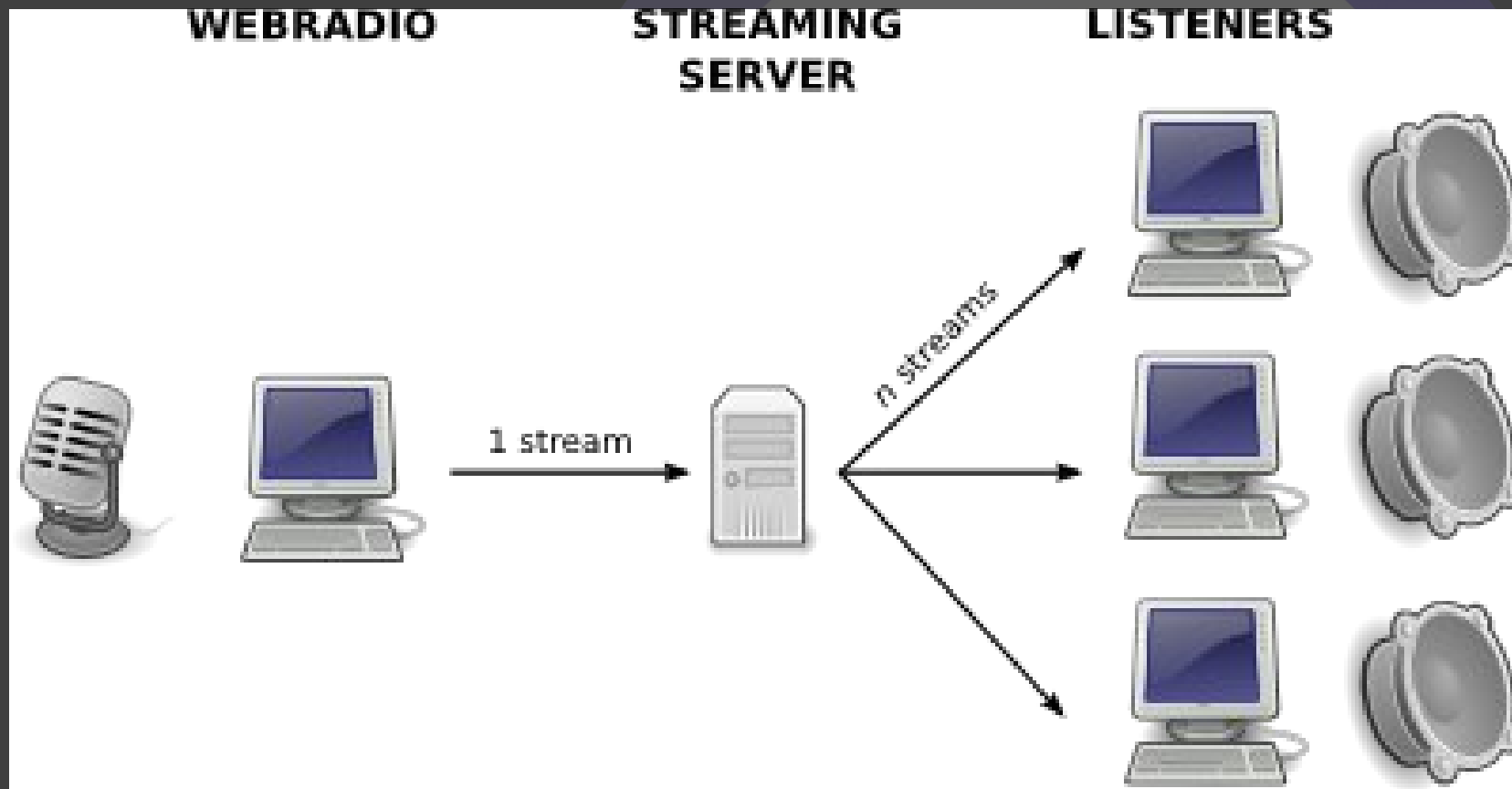
publicdomainproject.org

# Server side FOSS

- VM Host:
  - Debian GNU/Linux, KVM/Qemu, Proxmox (VM Management)
- Web system:
  - Apache2, PHP, MediaWiki, Piwix (Statistics)
- Storage:
  - FLAC, ATA over Ethernet (AoE), LVM2, XFS, NFS
- Other
  - Twoftp (FTP Server), OpenVPN, FreeBSD, Mailman, Python, GCC, tons of libraries



# How on-line radio works



Source: liquidsoap.fm

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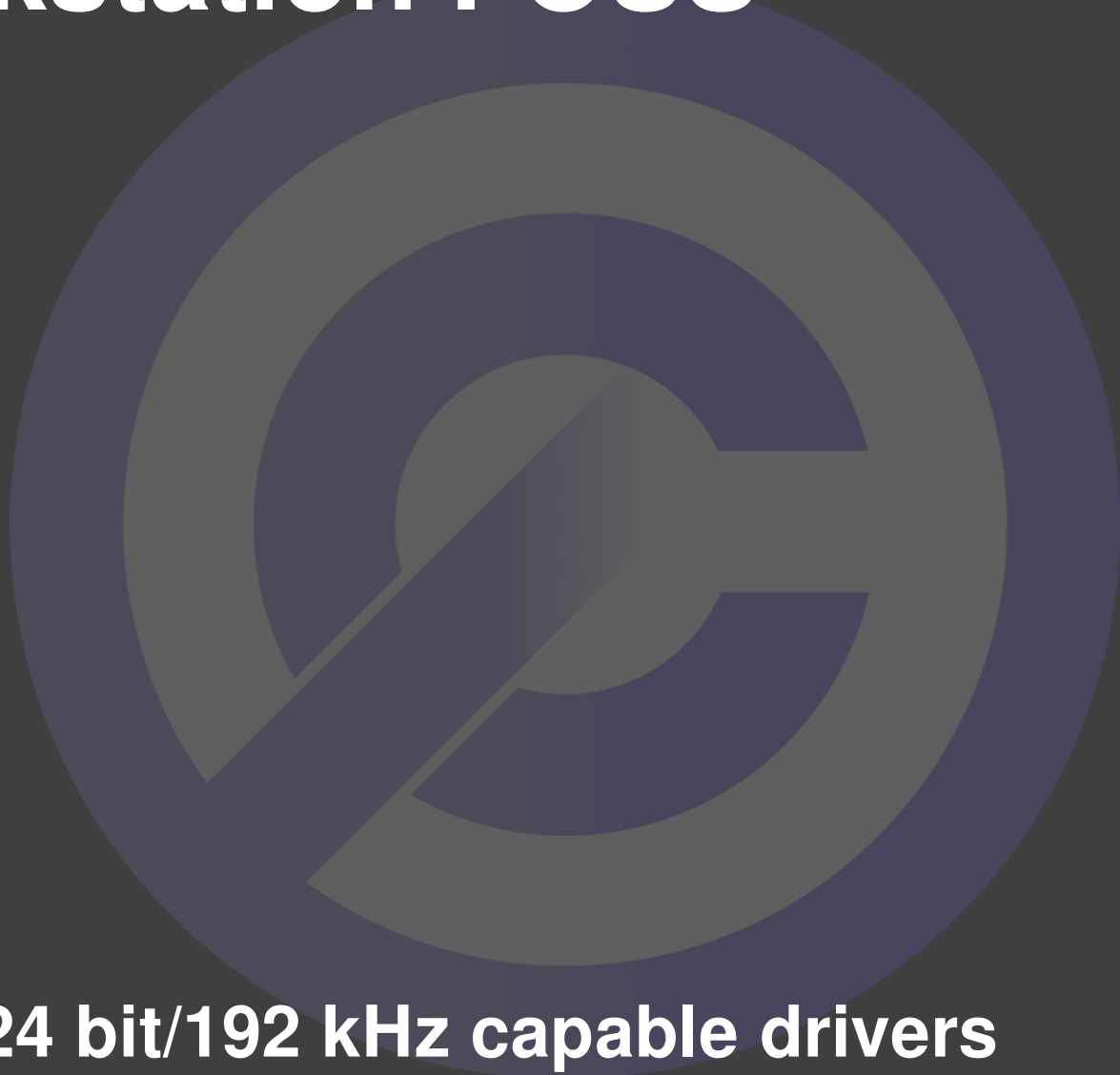
# On-line Radio

- Streams in Ogg/Vorbis, mp3 and aac+
- Providing Shoutcast and Icecast Streams
- Using Icecast2 and Liquidsoap on Linux
- jPlayer to listen to the stream directly in the browser. Uses HTML5 audio or flash plug-in

# Workstation FOSS

- Audacity
- OpenOffice
- Firefox
- FileZilla
- VLC
- SumatraPDF

→ **Missing are 24 bit/192 kHz capable drivers**



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# Outlook

## Mid term

- More languages
- Archive with controlled climate

## Short term

- Get funding
- Synchronization of MediaWiki meta data ↔ archive files, improved workflow
- Fault-tolerant file storage (Bit rot, versioning etc.)

# Share the data

- Automatic integration into Wikipedia
- Integration into the europeana catalog
  - Needs Dublin-Core compliant RDFa semantic data





# We are looking for help!

- Volunteers
  - Authors
  - Linux/MediaWiki Administrators
  - SemanticMediaWiki/Wikidata Enthusiast
  - PHP/Perl/Python Developers
  - Translators (French, Italian, Japanese...)
  - **YOU!**
- Sponsors
  - Funding/Donations
  - Old records (78 Rpm etc.)

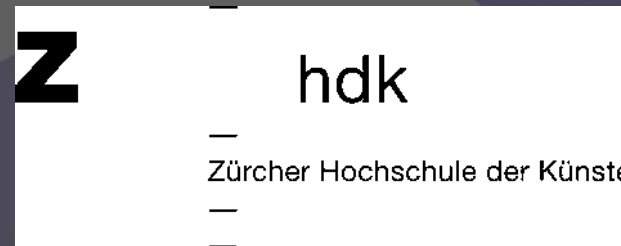
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# Partners



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# Sponsors



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# Contact

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Switzerland

Bank account:

IBAN:  
CH6709000000854983518  
BIC/SWIFT: POFICHBEXXX

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