



STAGE: From Stage to Data

The Digital Turn of Contemporary Performing Arts Historiography

Presentation

In the field of performing arts historiography, dealing with digital traces presents a challenge. Documenting Europe's post-WWII mise-en-scène and creative processes amid this vast sea of data has proven exceptionally demanding. Funded by the European Research Council, the STAGE project will fuse culture analytics, actor-network theory, data modelling and computer vision to pioneer the nascent field of performing arts analytics. At the crossroads of history, epistemology, and digital humanities, STAGE aims to bridge traditional and data-driven approaches, opening new vistas for historians, art historians, and interdisciplinary research. By shedding light on the hidden intricacies of artistic creation, STAGE seeks to redefine performing arts studies and demonstrate the profound importance of digital traces in preserving and analysing our cultural heritage. STAGE will build from the Avignon festival collection before opening to larger corpora to scale up the results and expand the analysis.

Through the two prisms of influence and collaboration, STAGE will reveal creation contexts and networks, aesthetic influences, and creative process models in an unprecedented way. It will make it possible to test new algorithms for medium-sized corpora; to develop a new approach to studying collaborations over time through digital traces; to demonstrate the potential of a data-driven approach and interdisciplinary research in humanities; to create accessible corpora for future research; to demonstrate the importance of digital traces for cultural heritage and research projects. STAGE is transferable in that it will create widely open science tools, methodologies, and theoretical frameworks. It will be of value to historians and art historians who explore digital traces of the past, promising a potential impact beyond performing arts studies.

Key words : performing arts, digital humanities, culture analytics, mise en scène, influence collaboration, computer vision, creative process

Project Details

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Research center : [APP](#)

Website for the project: <https://stage-to-data.huma-num.fr/>

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