Unify your local music library

[WORKSHOP] Introducing MusicBrainz, Picard, and ultimate music categorization

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MusicBrainz: Wat?

- Open source music metadata encyclopedia (est. 2000)
  - Creative Commons
- Store, categorize, sort (all languages and scripts)

- Used by...
  - Developers: Build cool music apps!
  - Commercial users: Update local music databases with live updates from MusicBrainz (Spotify, Amazon, Google, Last.fm, etc.)
  - Users (that’s us!): Tagging your own music
Metadata matters

Visibility
Find your music!

Record keeping
Write music history!

Research
Discover music science!
Is MusicBrainz really that big?

Let’s look at some numbers...

- **Artists**: 1,189,376
- **Releases**: 1,769,002
- **Recordings**: 17,152,131
- **Artist locations**:
  - **Countries**: 259
  - **Cities**: 74,087
  - **Islands**: 96
- **Editor accounts**: 1,781,906 registered (1,329 active last week)
But what about my audio dramas?

Yes, you can have your audio dramas, all 257 of them.
Introducing...

Picard

● Tool to sort, scan, and correct metadata for you
  ○ References MusicBrainz database

● Puts the right metadata in the right place
  ○ Album name, artist name, album artwork, release year...
  ○ Helpful for music tracking services (e.g. Last.fm / Libre.fm)
  ○ Helpful for cloud music players (upload and forget)

● Available for Windows, macOS, Linux
Installing and using Picard
Available for... almost everything

picard.musicbrainz.org

- Windows / macOS: Installers available
- Linux:
  - Ubuntu:
    sudo add-apt-repository ppa:musicbrainz-developers/stable
    sudo apt-get update
  - Fedora:
    sudo dnf install picard chromaprint-tools
    Why do I need chromaprint-tools?
  - Arch Linux, Debian, Gentoo, OpenSUSE, and others (see the docs)
Exploring the MusicBrainz Picard interface
Conceptual demo
(1) Hey, look, this album doesn’t have album artwork, but I have it on my computer.
(2) Looks like there’s no artwork added to this release... let’s fix that!
(3) Adding the front cover of the album artwork to the album (and cite the source!)
(4) Awesome, we did it! Album artwork is open to review for seven days before approval.
(5) Guess who's *album artwork* is in their music player now?
Hands-on demo!
Two different scenarios…

I know what I downloaded, but the music metadata could be improved or be more accurate. Now what?

I have literally no idea what this MP3 is or where it came from, but it’s catchy and I want to know more about it. Halp?
Open floor!

Comments?
Questions? Ideas?

Find these slides and more at: git.io/vSU2d
By the way...

Looking for a summer internship?

MetaBrainz, the project behind MusicBrainz and plenty of other music-related projects, is participating in Google Summer of Code!

If working on open source music projects over the summer and getting paid sounds interesting, check out their slots!