SIB
Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics

Research Infrastructures are reshaping Humanities storytelling

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Research infrastructures are the necessary and unperfect witnesses that keep the Humanities storytelling anchoraged in the physical and real world.
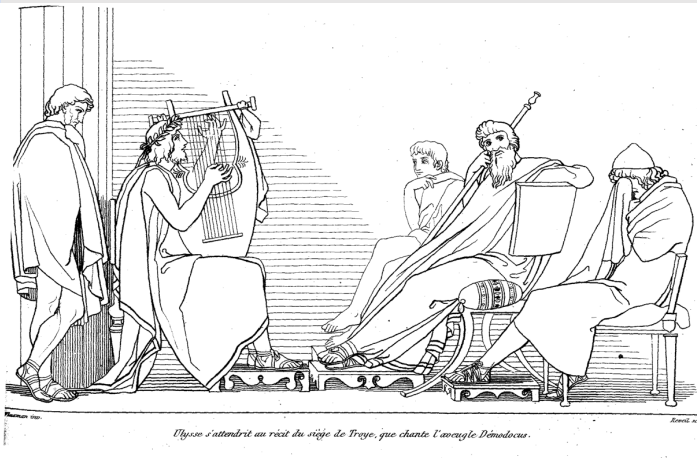
According to Hannah Arendt (1958), this Homer's scene is the first face-to-face meeting between history and poetics : Ulysses, the witness, cries by listening the blind bard Demodocos narrating his own deeds during the war of Troy (*Odysseus* 8.487-491).

Illustation of Odyssey (1810); author: John Flaxman, Public Domain (US), https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:OdysseyDemodokos.png

But Ulysses stops Demodocos' storytelling as a "too perfect" song, *liên kata kosmon* (Hartog, 2003). Research infrastructures (RIs) are anonymous Ulysses standing up and claiming attention, efforts and sweat, whereas scholars would like to just sing a brilliant storytelling.

1) RIs are open-ended and efficient storytellers

VREs are producing Humanities stories often before the proper scholarly narration, whereas in printed books, authors can and have to choose the starting point, the conclusion, and the intermediate steps .

See Beth Strackpole, "The next chapter in analytics: data storyteller", *MIT Management Sloan School*, 20.05.2020

2) RIs are Open Science storytellers – Example
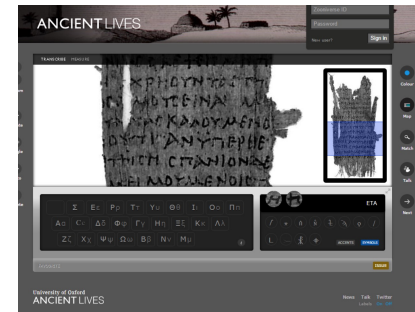
Crowdsourcing the Oxyrhynchus

Papyri – Ancient Lives Project

University of Oxford (UK)

EUROPEAN OPEN SCIENCE CLOUD

3) RIs can reshape Humanities scholarship in storytelling communities. Example: DARIAH VCCs and working groups.

E-Infrastructure VCC 1

Research and Education Liaison VCC 2

Scholarly Content Management VCC 3

Advocacy, Impact and Outreach VCC 4

D4COLLECT — Combining Language Learning with Crowdsourcing Techniques (D4COLLECT)

ELDAH — Ethics and Legality in the Digital Arts and Humanities (ELDAH)

UDigiSH — Digital Practices for the Study of Urban Heritage (UDigiSH)

BIBLIO DATA WORKING GROUP — Bibliographical Data (BiblioData)

THEATRALIA working group

Research Data Management Working Group

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