Multilingual-Multimedia Access to Cultural Heritage

http://www.multimatch.org

MultiMatch Goals

Expected Results

- Identify relevant material via in-depth crawling of selected CH institutions
- Crawl the Internet to identify websites with CH information
- Automatically classify the results on the basis of occurrence of CH concepts
- Automatically extract relevant information which will then be used to create cross-links between related material
- Organise and further analyse the material crawled to serve focused queries generated from the users
- Interact with the user to obtain a more specific definition of initial information requirements
- Search results will be organized and integrated allowing the users to access information regardless of language and media barriers

Research Areas Involved

Understanding User Requirements

- CH Professionals do use the Internet as part of their daily work routine but they currently depend largely on generic search engines.
- They want to query using natural language and familiar Boolean operators.
- They would like full capabilities for multimedia retrieval (i.e. Images and video as well as text) but, in most cases, are only accustomed to executing text searches.
- Their main focus appears to be on works of art and their creators, with all associated information, such as critical reviews, information on related events, etc.
- They would find information filtering, clustering and aggregation functionalities very useful.
- They demand high precision of results and need to know the source and level of authority.
- They need to be able to save both queries and results for future processing and reuse.
- They tend to restrict their searches to their own language plus English, thus missing information only available in other languages.
- If multilingual search was available, they would like to have the results associated with descriptive snippets in their own language or English at least.

System Retrieval Functionality

Default Search

Generic query. The system retrieves all the related resources available on MultiMatch

Specialised Search example

Queries related with a creator. The system retrieves all the resources related with the creator and classifies them