

Representative Expressions

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Note on RE

- RE is used as an acronym for “representative expression” in these slides
- This has been done in order to optimize slide readability
- This is not done in the IFLA LRM
- This will not be done in RDA
- Similarity to “re,” the ablative singular of the Latin word “res,” is coincidental

What Is and What Is Not

- IFLA LRM does have a work attribute called “representative expression attribute”
- There is no entity in LRM called “representative expression”
- “Representative expression” is not a subclass of the entity Expression
 - Not the same concept as Person entity being a subclass of the entity Agent

Representative Expression Attribute

- IFLA LRM explains as
 - a work attribute that records the value of any expression attribute “considered essential for characterizing the work”
 - “a pragmatic way to ‘park’ information under the work, and in this way avoid the need to record the information in association with any specific expression”
- LRM does not state which attributes should be considered representative expression attributes

What is a Representative Expression?

- IFLA LRM defines a **representative expression attribute** but does not explain what a “representative expression” is
- Based on representative expression attribute discussion, it is reasonable to define representative expression as an expression of a work that is considered to best characterize the creator’s intention or is considered canonical by users

Some Easy Examples

- **Work:** Morrison, Toni. Beloved
 - **RE attribute:** English
 - Value taken from attribute **language of expression**
- **Work:** Ben-Hur (Motion picture : 1959)
 - **RE attribute:** 2.76:1
 - Value taken from attribute **aspect ratio**



Slightly More Complicated Examples

- **Work:** Tolstoy, Leo, graf, 1828–1910. Vořna i mir
 - **RE attribute:** Russian; French
 - Values taken from attribute **language of expression**

- **Work:** McLean, Don, 1945 – . American pie (Song)
 - **RE attribute:** 8 min, 33 sec.
 - Value taken from attribute **duration**

Rather Complicated Examples

- **Work:** Revista de política y derecho ambientales en América Latina y el Caribe
 - Work has 2 language expressions (Spanish and English) manifested separately and simultaneously

- **Work:** Bible. Ruth
 - Agencies like LC-PCC may have picked a version of the Bible as the source for titles of books
 - what happens if **Authorized** is recorded as an RE attribute ?

Attributes Moving in 3R

- The LRM moved some attributes that FRBR and FRAD defined for Work to Expression

- Three important attributes that moved
 - Key
 - Medium of Performance
 - Intended audience
 - also a new attribute for Manifestation and Nomen



Effect on Current Music Cataloging

- Agency decision on what to use for RE attributes
- None unless you want to change!
 - Values for **medium of performance** and **key** can still be recorded as RE attributes of the work
 - Current access points for work using key or medium of performance are still okay
 - Mozart, Wolfgang Amadeus, 1756–1791. Divertimenti, K. 251, D major
- May be good for new agencies adopting RDA that don't use key and medium of performance the same ways that Anglo-American libraries have
- But...

Music Access Point Issues

- If using key and/or medium of performance values for Work as part of access point ...
 - Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770–1827. Bagatelles, piano, op. 126; arranged, **violin, string orchestra**
 - expression arranged for violin and string orchestra
 - or*
 - Beethoven, Ludwig van, 1770–1827. Bagatelles, op. 126; arranged, **violin, string orchestra**
 - Bach, Carl Philipp Emanuel, 1714–1788. Sonatas, violins (2), continuo, H. 579, C minor; arranged, **flute, piano, G minor**
 - expression arranged for flute and piano and in key of G minor

Effect on “General” Cataloging

- The change of **intended audience** from a work to expression attribute can also be negated, if desired
 - Solo, Hope, 1981– . Hope Solo
 - **intended audience:** juvenile
 - Solo, Hope, 1981– . Solo
 - **intended audience:** general
 - Can still be considered different works
- But....

“General” Access Point Issues

- In current cataloging, language is considered an expression attribute:
 - Current: Morrison, Toni. Beloved. Spanish
 - Current: Morrison, Toni. Beloved. English
- In the future, this could be an access point for a work OR expression:
 - Morrison, Toni. Beloved. English
- What does this mean?
 - Morrison, Toni. Beloved. English. Spanish
 - Morrison, Toni. Beloved. English. English. 2012

Using RE in RDA

- RDA will contain a general guidance chapter on representative expression
- A relationship element will be defined
- Specific RE elements will be defined for use
- Implementation is an agency decision
- Expression elements will remain available for use unless affected by another 3R change
 - There may be changes to labels and definitions

RE Relationship: Work to Expression

- [has] representative expression
 - An expression of work that is considered a canonical source of data for identifying a work
 - **Domain:** Work
 - **Range:** Expression
 - **Example:** William Shakespeare's Hamlet *has representative expression* F1
 - The work Hamlet is related to the F1 (First Folio) expression, which enables attribute values for the F1 version to be easily populated as RE attributes for the work

RE Relationship: Expression to Work

- [is] representative expression of
 - A work that uses an expression as a canonical source of data for identifying a work
 - **Domain:** Expression
 - **Range:** Work
 - **Example:** F1 *is representative expression of* William Shakespeare's Hamlet
 - The F1 (First Folio) expression is indicated as “canonical” through this relationship, then specific attributes from it may be used as RE attributes for the work

Distinguishing Entity Elements

Work

- aspect ratio of representative expression
- key of representative expression
- language of representative expression

Expression

- aspect ratio
- key
- language of expression

Examples Refined: Beloved

- **Work:** Morrison, Toni. Beloved
 - **language of representative expression:** English

- **Expression:** Morrison, Toni. Beloved. Spanish
 - **language of expression:** Spanish

- **Expression:** Morrison, Toni. Beloved. 2012
 - **date of expression:** 2012**and maybe**
 - **language of expression:** English

Examples Refined: Sonatas

- **Work:** Bach, Carl Philipp Emanuel, 1714–1788. Sonatas, violins (2), continuo, H. 579, C minor
 - **medium of performance of representative expression:** violins (2), continuo
 - **key of representative expression:** C minor
- **Expression:** Bach, Carl Philipp Emanuel, 1714–1788. Sonatas, violins (2), continuo, H. 579, C minor; arranged
 - **medium of performance:** flute, piano
 - **key:** G minor

Thanks!

