Interoperability in digital libraries: examples at BnF and Biblissima

Emmanuelle Bermès
Deputy Director for services and networks at National Library of France (BnF)

Matthieu Bonicel
Innovation advisor at National Library of France (BnF)
Coordinator of the Biblissima Observatory

15 August 2016
A traveller’s guide to medieval and renaissance cultural written heritage

Arriving in Biblissima
Biblissima is an online observatory which provides materials to study the history of the transmission of texts and knowledge, and the preservation of texts and knowledge in libraries.

Getting started
A preliminary challenge
Regions at a glance

Name: Library of Libraries

Aim: to provide a unique access to founding texts, manuscripts, printed books, the texts contained therein, and other resources from:

- 3 major digital libraries
- Over 50 databases and libraries
- TEI editions and tools for researchers.

Fundamental input of libraries

A twofold continent?
Over 50 databases and catalogues

3 major digital libraries

TEI editions and tools for researchers

RDF

SharedCanvas

IIIF syntax

biblissima

patrimoine écrit du Moyen Âge et de la Renaissance
Sleeping and eating

9 founding partners

Libraries, Research laboratories, Universities
The guide’s authors

From the *Bibliotheca bibliothecarum manuscriptorum nova* to an online library of libraries for the 21st century

An accord was signed in dec. 2013 to form the **Bibliissima Consortium**:

- Under the supervision of 2 Ministries
- Coordinated by Campus Condorcet
- International scientific advisory board
- 6-people technology/metadata team
- 100 researchers and engineers
- Total budget: 7.1 M€
- 7-year programme (2012-2019)
In most respects, manuscripts are outstanding material:

- Lots of (very) poor catalogue records, most of them from retrospective conversions
- Cataloguing capacity is less than digitisation capacity
- Lots of additional data, in and off library, difficult to track
- Good news: authority files become crucial for medieval material
- Bad news: authority files for medieval period are very poor and records have very few links
SharedCanvas
Tours and itineraries: classic routes

Florus library
Innovating tools increase search options:
Unseen countries now within reach!

Tours and itineraries: road less travelled
More than a traveller’s guide: a workspace

Open data: please, help yourself

Appropriation and reuse
  - Edition/transcription
  - Additional description
  - Annotation
  - Manipulation
  - Reference / linking

Biblissima toolkit, Summer courses, Training

Ongoing developments
Thank you for your attention

emmanuelle.bermes@bnf.fr / matthieu.bonicel@bnf.fr

www.bnf.fr

www.biblissima-condorcet.fr