I’ll show you mine,
if you show me yours:
A vision for the future of film archive search

Stephen McConnachie
Head of Data, Collections & Information, BFI
FIAF Congress
14th April 2015, Sydney
Some warnings about this presentation...

- This is a vision, not the vision
- Archives may prefer to not expose their collections
Some warnings about this presentation...

Personal

• This is a vision, not the vision
• Archives may prefer to not expose their collections

Speculative

• This is not an explicit BFI ambition
• This is not a project plan
Some warnings about this presentation...

**Personal**
- This is *a* vision, not *the* vision
- Archives may prefer to *not* expose their collections

**Speculative**
- This is *not* an explicit BFI ambition
- This is *not* a project plan

**Theoretical**
- This posits an ideal future, without reference to *budgets* or *politics*
Some warnings about this presentation...

- This is a vision, not the vision
- Archives may prefer to not expose their collections

- This is not an explicit BFI ambition
- This is not a project plan

- This posits an ideal future, without reference to budgets or politics

- This is not the vision of a Curator
Some warnings about this presentation...

- **Personal**
  - This is a vision, not the vision
  - Archives may prefer to not expose their collections

- **Speculative**
  - This is not an explicit BFI ambition
  - This is not a project plan

- **Theoretical**
  - This posits an ideal future, without reference to budgets or politics

- **Biased**
  - This is not the vision of a Curator, *Conservationist*
Some warnings about this presentation...

- **Personal**
  - This is a vision, not the vision
  - Archives may prefer to not expose their collections

- **Speculative**
  - This is not an explicit BFI ambition
  - This is not a project plan

- **Theoretical**
  - This posits an ideal future, without reference to budgets or politics

- **Biased**
  - This is not the vision of a Curator, Conservationist, Collections Manager
Some warnings about this presentation...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• This is a vision, not the vision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Archives may prefer to not expose their collections</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speculative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• This is not an explicit BFI ambition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• This is not a project plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theoretical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• This posits an ideal future, without reference to budgets or politics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biased</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• This is not the vision of a Curator, Conservationist, Collections Manager or Lawyer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some warnings about this presentation...

- This is a vision, not the vision
- Archives may prefer to not expose their collections

Personal

- This is not an explicit BFI ambition
- This is not a project plan

Speculative

- This posits an ideal future, without reference to budgets or politics

Theoretical

- This is the vision of a Head of Data
A vision for the future of film archive search

How is this different from EFG?

• EFG offers a centralised portal, with collection owners adding records to the central store: this is a model for aggregating in a decentralised form, local systems joining up, not local systems joining to centralised store

• EFG offers a selection of digital collections: this is all collections, not a selection. As a result it is a warts-and-all, no human intervention model...
A vision for the future of film archive search

The building blocks

1. Shared data model: EN 15907

- Work
- Manifestation
- Item

- Comparing like with like

- Frames of reference
A vision for the future of film archive search
The building blocks

1. Shared data model: EN 15907
   - Work
   - Manifestation
   - Item
   - Comparing like with like
   - Shared vocabularies
A vision for the future of film archive search
The building blocks
A vision for the future of film archive search

The building blocks

1. Shared data model: EN 15907
   - Work Manifestation Item
   - Comparing like with like
   - Shared vocabularies

2. Systems with open APIs
   - Machines speaking to machines
   - No human labour: low-cost
   - Scaleable: servers and bandwidth
A vision for the future of film archive search
The building blocks
A vision for the future of film archive search
The building blocks

1. Shared data model: EN 15907
   - Work
   - Manifestation
   - Item
   - Comparing like with like
   - Shared vocabularies

2. Systems with open APIs
   - Machines speaking to machines
   - No human labour: low-cost
   - Scaleable: servers and bandwidth

3. Unique IDs: EIDR / ISAN
A vision for the future of film archive search
The building blocks
I’ll show you mine, if you show me yours:
A vision for the future of film archive search

Stephen McConnachie,
Head of Data
Collections & Information, BFI

stephen.mcconnachie@bfi.org.uk
@mcnatch