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Digital
Humanities Lab
Denmark

Royal
Danish
Library



Access granted

From analogue archive to research accessible digital collection

Three major topics

The Royal Danish Library holds large analogue and digital collections of cultural heritage material that are useful for research and sought by researchers. As part of DIGHUMLAB The Royal Danish Library has been working to make these collections even more accessible for digital research.

Three topics have been central in making this possible:

1. Collecting, digitizing and preserving collections
2. Building technical infrastructure
3. Legal work concerning copyright and research

Digital collections

The Royal Danish Library has been collecting cultural heritage material in more than 300 years. Today we acquire some material digitally and at the same time digitize large tracts of analogue material. The collections below have been an integral part of DIGHUMLAB.

Radio/TV Collection

The radio and TV collection includes Danish radio and television recorded digitally from 2006 onwards. Older recordings are digitized manually on demand.

Literary Texts for Research

Archive for Danish Literature has been republished, including search and retrieval APIs. Brevbasen is a new research infrastructure for published letters of all kinds. Works on publication of scholarly editions using Text Encoding Initiative.

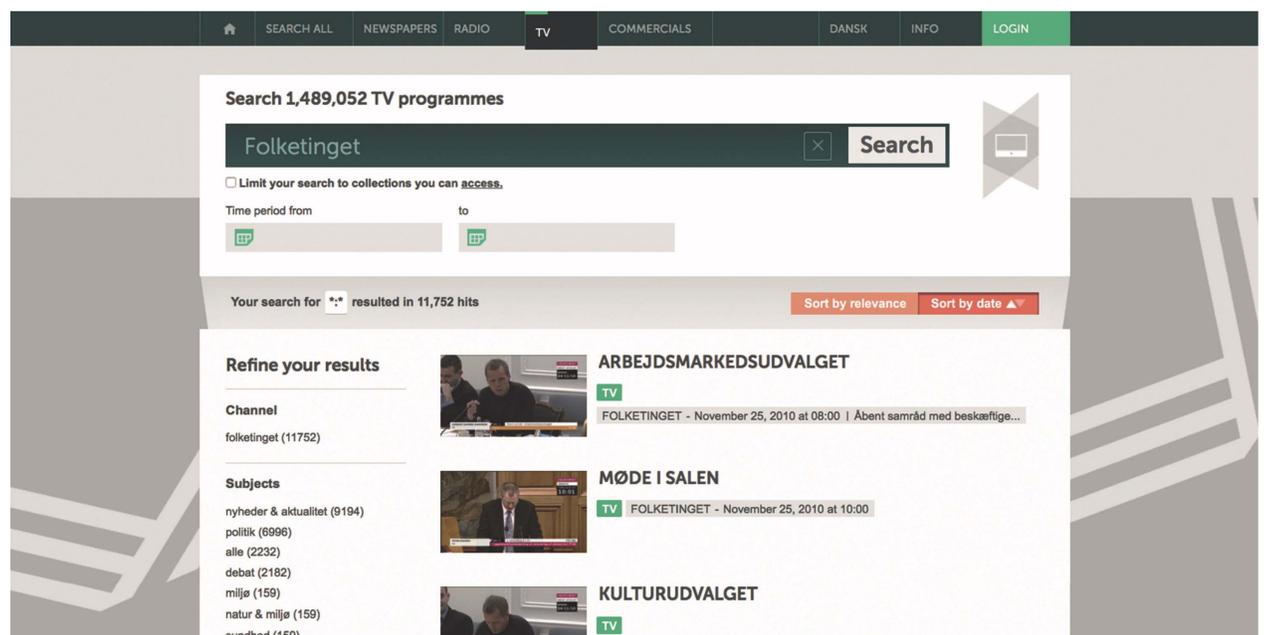
Images

Cultural heritage materials presented as images, comprising e.g. manuscripts, photos, texts, and ephemera. New and modernized user interface and search engine. All images published using IIIF protocol.



The Danish Web Archive

Netarkivet.dk is the Danish web archive. It contains the Danish part of the internet from July 2005 onwards. Special search functions have been developed for the Danish web archive offering free text search or search by URL.



A search at Mediestream.dk for online TV programmes broadcast from the Danish Parliament

Technical infrastructure

Stream TV and radio

With the development of the online platform Mediestream.dk researchers can stream more than 2 million Danish radio and TV programmes instantly.



Offline access

In 2015 we added the possibility to download high definition versions of TV and radio programmes from Mediestream.dk. This gives researchers access to offline close readings of the material.



Linked workflow

Like Mediestream.dk the online platform Larm.fm gives researchers access to The Royal Danish Library's collections of digital radio and television. By adding a link from all programmes in Mediestream to Larm.fm, we have worked to establish a linked workflow between the two platforms.

Services and API's

We have developed services and API's that give access to approx. 2 million digitized units, including documentation and search interface.

Legal analysis and dissemination

Rights clearing

Some of the collections held by The Royal Danish Library are still copyrighted. Adding to this, new digital research often raises questions about what is and is not legal regarding the use of the cultural heritage material. A lot of hours of legal work have been put in the DIGHUMLAB project to make sure all research is done within the law.

License agreements

The Royal Danish Library has established ongoing negotiations with rights holders regarding license agreements making the digital collections more accessible for researchers.

Statistics

In order to enter into deals with the copyright holders, it has been shown crucial to deliver statistics about the specific use of the collections. The Royal Danish Library has developed tools that make this possible.

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