Linked Open Discography: A Graph of the Batiste Family and their Recordings

This project applies semantic web technologies to the analysis of the Batiste family of jazz musicians, which has influenced the musical culture of New Orleans for many generations. By scraping discography data from various collections – including Tulane University’s Hogan Jazz Archives – we generate a linked data graph that represents: (1) all musicians in the Batiste family for whom at least one recording is available; (2) their familial relationships; (3) their published musical works. In utilizing scraped metadata from catalogs of sound recordings, this project demonstrates the value of open access information for musicological researchers and envisions a method for assembling disparate sources of information on obscure communities of artists.

In addition, the project would provide an opportunity to explore light weight reasoning leveraging genealogical relationship.

From a technical perspective, *Runs in the Family* provides an opportunity to explore two new modes of entity-relationship reasoning particular to genealogical research. First, entity-relationship derivation, which combines two first-degree relationship into an indirect, second-degree relationship (e.g. brother of mother is uncle). Second, entity-relationship inversion, which defines the relationship of subject to object and object to subject differently with a single predicate (e.g. subject is son of and object is mother of).