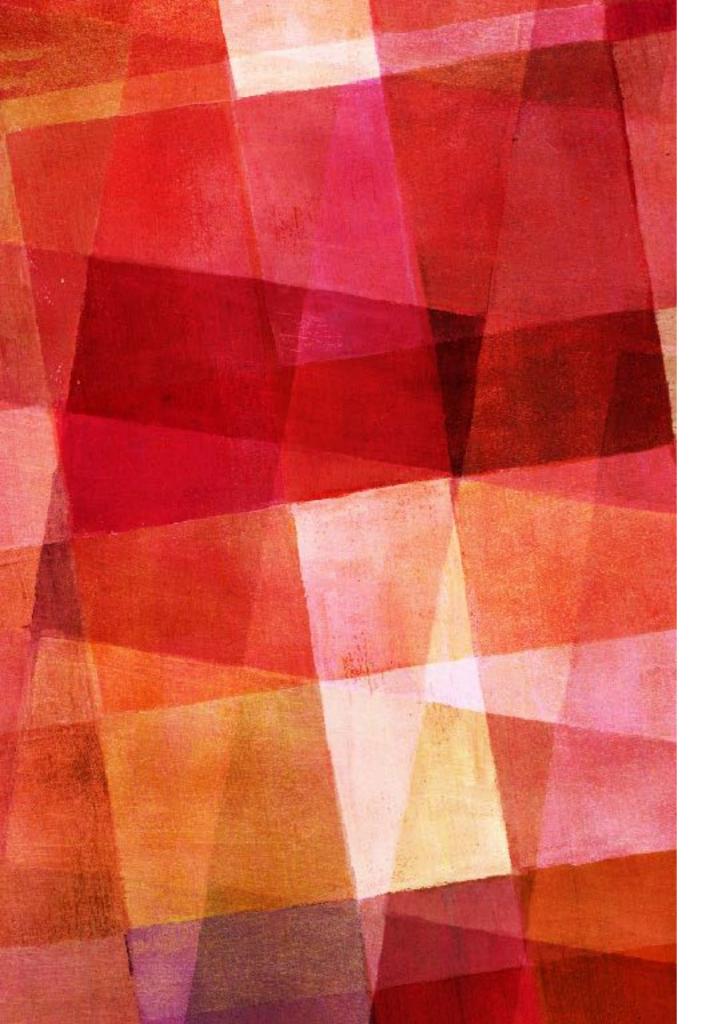
BETTER ENTITIES

Getting more from your Domain Objects

a.k.a how to create Doctrine entities that don't suck!



RE-CAP...

- > Presenter notes are on the slides
- ➤ What is an Entity?
- ➤ Why use entities?
- ➤ What is the role of an Entity?
- ➤ DDD FTW!

```
* @ORM\Entity
class Post
   const NUM_ITEMS = 10;
    * @ORM\Id
    * @ORM\GeneratedValue
    * @ORM\Column(type="integer")
   private $id;
    * @ORM\Column(type="string")
   private $title;
   public function __construct()
       $this->publishedAt = new \DateTime();
       $this->comments = new ArrayCollection();
   public function setTitle($title)
       $this->title = $title;
       return $this;
   public function getSlug()
       return $this->slug;
   public function setSlug($slug)
       $this->slug = $slug;
       return $this;
```

TYPICAL ENTITY

- Protected or private properties
- ➤ Getters and setters
- ➤ Annotations
- Mostly empty constructor
- ➤ Life-cycle methods
- Many Symfony and Doctrine examples

```
namespace AppBundle\Entity;
use Doctrine\ORM\Mapping as ORM;
use Doctrine\Common\Collections\ArrayCollection;
/**
 * @ORM\Entity
class Post
    const NUM_ITEMS = 10;
    /**
    * @ORM\Id
    * @ORM\GeneratedValue
     * @ORM\Column(type="integer")
    private $id;
     * @ORM\Column(type="string")
    private $title;
    /**
     * @ORM\Column(type="string")
    private $slug;
     * @ORM\Column(type="text")
    private $content;
    /**
     * @ORM\Column(type="string")
    private $authorEmail;
    /**
     * @ORM\Column(type="datetime")
    private $publishedAt;
```

PROBLEMS...

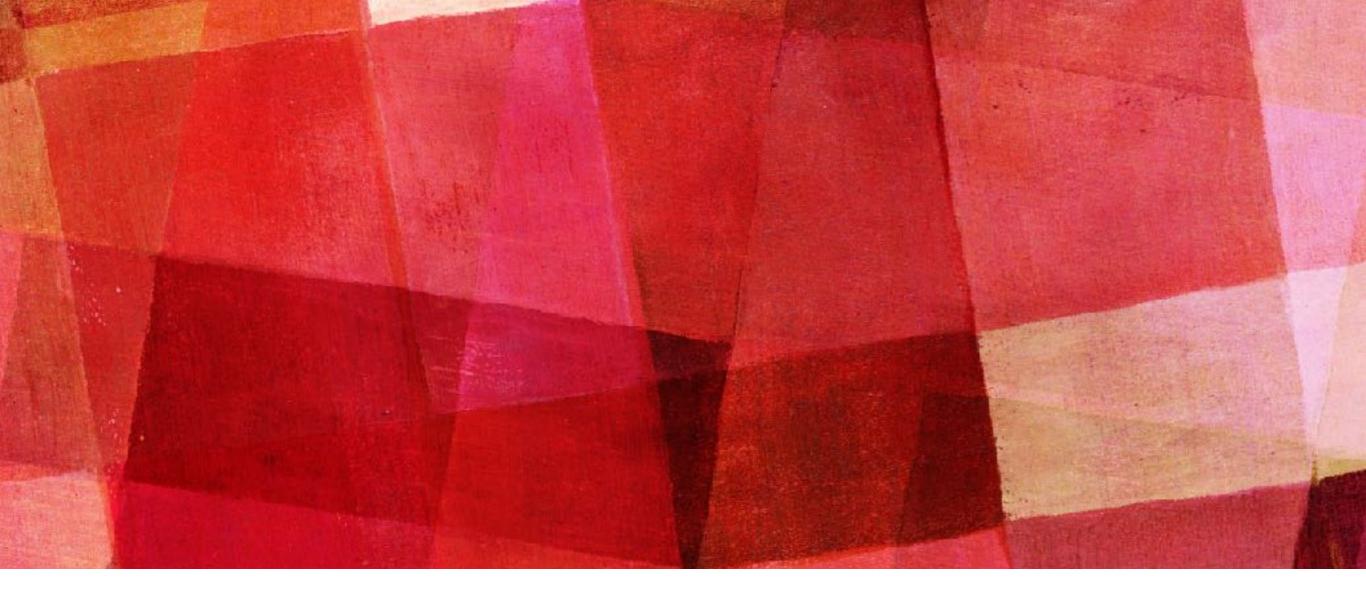
- Purpose
- ➤ Validity
- ➤ Mutability
- ➤ Annotations
- ➤ Persistence knowledge
- ➤ We can do better!





TYPICAL AR MODEL

- ➤ No clear API
- ➤ Lots of "magic"
- Object reflects CURRENT table design
- ➤ Attributes can be overloaded
- ➤ Difficult to use Domain language
- ➤ Difficult to ensure state



LETS MAKE IT BETTER!

And make a bunch of contentious statements...

```
class Post
    const NUM_ITEMS = 10;
    /**
     * @var int
    private $id;
    /**
     * @var string
    private $title;
    /**
     * @var string
    private $slug;
     * @var string
    private $content;
    /**
     * @var string
    private $authorEmail;
     * @var DateTime
    private $createdAt;
    /**
     * @var DateTime
    private $publishedAt;
     * @var ArrayCollection|Comment[]
    private $comments;
```

ANNOTATIONS

- ➤ Bad:
 - ➤ Annotations are not code!
 - ➤ Tightly couple framework
 - ➤ Decreases readability
 - ➤ Another config language to learn
- ➤ Instead:
 - ➤ Use config files
 - > Free annotations
 - ➤ Easier to convey domain

```
class Post
    const NUM_ITEMS = 10;
    /**
     * @var int
    private $id;
    /**
     * @var string
    private $title;
    /**
     * @var string
    private $slug;
    /**
     * @var string
    private $content;
    /**
    * @var string
    private $authorEmail;
     * @var DateTime
    private $createdAt;
    /**
     * @var DateTime
    private $publishedAt;
     * @var ArrayCollection|Comment[]
    private $comments;
```

SETTERS

- ➤ Remove ALL the setters
 - ➤ Need to control state*
 - ➤ No arbitrary changes
 - ➤ No partial changes
 - ➤ Cleaner interface

class Post

```
private function __construct($title, $slug, $content)
    $this->title
                   = $title;
    $this->slug
                   = $slug;
    $this->content = $content;
public static function create($title, $slug, $content)
    $entity = new static($title, $slug, $content);
    return $entity;
public static function createAndPublish($title, $slug, $content)
    $entity = static::create($title, $slug, $content);
    $entity->publish();
    return $entity;
```



INSTANTIATION

- ➤ Define required properties
- ➤ Enforce factory methods
- Name methods after domain terms
- ➤ Decide on identity scheme
 - ➤ Do you need identity now?



```
Post
public function publish(DateTime $publishedAt = null)
   $this->publishedAt = ($publishedAt ?: new DateTime());
public function removeFromPublication()
   $this->publishedAt = null;
public function changeTitleAndSlug(string $title, string $slug)
    $this->title = $title;
    $this->slug = $slug;
public function replaceContentWith(string $content)
    $this->content = $content;
```



ENFORCE STATE CHANGES

- ➤ Define explicit methods
- ➤ Require ALL arguments
 - Enforce types
- ➤ Make methods statements
 - ➤ no return value
 - ➤ use the domain language



```
protected $type;

public function __construct(Address $address, AddressType $type)
{
    $this->address = $address;
    $this->type = $type;
}
}

/**

* Class AddressType

*

* @method static AddressType HOME_ADDRESS()

* @method static AddressType WORK_ADDRESS()

*/

final class AddressType extends AbstractEnumeration
{
    const HOME_ADDRESS = 'home';
    const WORK_ADDRESS = 'work';
}
```



STRING CONSTANTS

- ➤ Use Enumerations
- ➤ Type hint class type
- ➤ Enumeration is already valid
- ➤ Works with refactoring tools
- ➤ Use domain language

class Post private function __construct(string \$title, string \$slug, string \$content) Assert::lazy()->tryAll() ->that(\$title, 'title')->notEmpty()->maxLength(100) ->that(\$slug, 'slug')->notEmpty()->maxLength(64) ->that(\$content, 'content') ->notEmpty()->minLength(100)->maxLength(65000) ->verifyNow() \$this->title = \$title; \$this->slug = \$sluq; \$this->content = \$content; public function publish(DateTime \$publishedAt = null) \$this->publishedAt = (\$publishedAt ?: new DateTime()); public function removeFromPublication() \$this->publishedAt = null; public function changeTitleAndSlug(string \$title, string \$slug) Assert::lazy()->tryAll() ->that(\$title, 'title')->notEmpty()->maxLength(100) ->that(\$slug, 'slug')->notEmpty()->maxLength(64) ->verifyNow() \$this->title = \$title; \$this->slug = \$slug;

VALIDATION

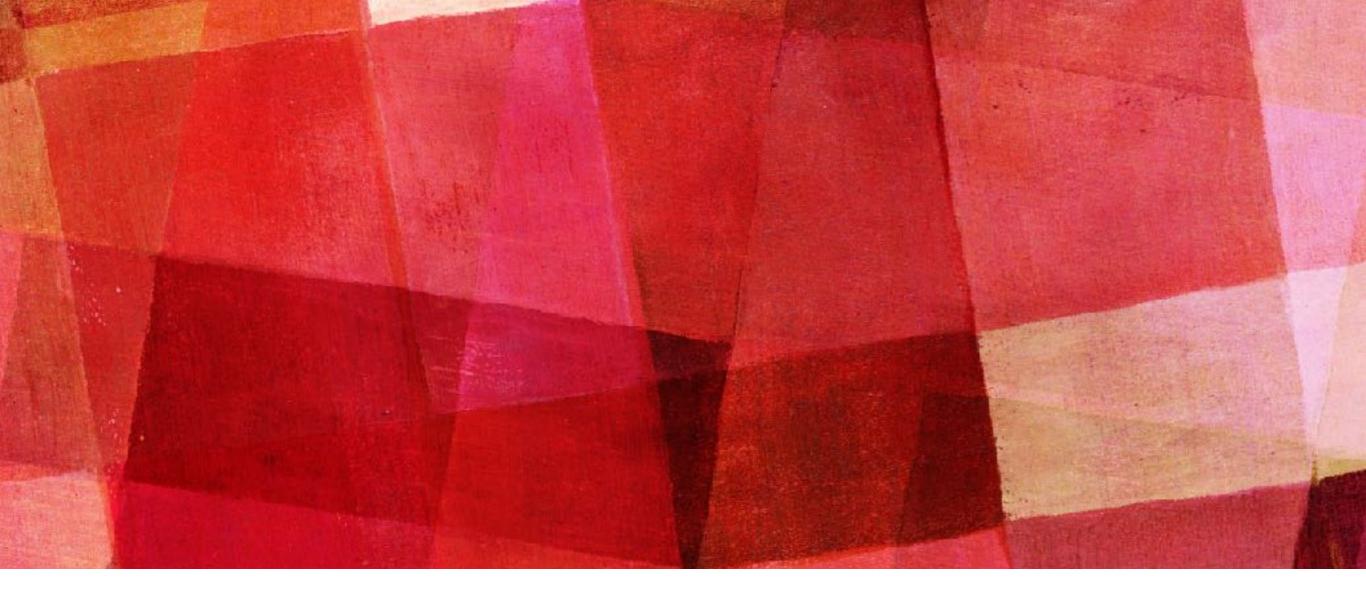
- Core concept of the entity
- ➤ Always check data
- ➤ Use type hints
- ➤ Use scalar type hints
- ➤ Use Exceptions
- Change assertions when needed
- Avoid framework dependencies
- ➤ Entity validity !==
 Application validity



```
class EnquiryFormRequest extends AppRequest
     * @return bool
    public function authorize()
       return true;
      @return array
    public function rules()
      return
        'email' => 'email|max:255|required_without_all:phone_number',
        'phone number' => 'numeric|required_without_all:email',
                      => 'nullable|max:255',
                       => 'nullable|max:10000',
        'notes'
     * @return array
    public function messages()
       'email.required_without_all' => 'Required if no phone',
       'phone number required without all' => 'Required if no email'
```

APPLICATION VALIDATION

- ➤ Use framework validators
- ➤ Validate to application specs
- ➤ Enforce access checks
- ➤ Enforce uniqueness
- Enforce complex rules
- > Transform data for the domain



VALUE OBJECTS

Better separation of responsibilities

```
class EmailAddress
   private $value;
   public function __construct($value)
       Assert::that($value, null, 'email')
           ->email()->notEmpty()->maxLength(100);
       $this->value = $value;
   public function __set($name, $value)
       // don't allow setting anything
   public function __toString()
       return $this->toString();
   public function toString()
       return (string)$this->value;
   public function equals($test)
       if ( CLASS === get class($test)) {
           return ((string)$test === (string)$this);
       return false;
```

VALUE OBJECTS (VO)

- Object has identity through its properties
- Compare based on properties
- ➤ Immutable
- ➤ Move validation to VO
- ➤ Add domain logic to VO
- ➤ Group related properties

class EmailAddress

```
private $value;
public function __construct($value)
    Assert::that($value, null, 'email')
        ->email()->notEmpty()->maxLength(100);
    $this->value = $value;
public function __set($name, $value)
    // don't allow setting anything
public function __toString()
    return $this->toString();
public function toString()
    return (string)$this->value;
public function equals($test)
    if ( CLASS === get class($test)) {
        return ((string)$test === (string)$this);
    return false;
```

VO DANGERS!

- ➤ VOs are part of your domain
 - ➤ Use domain language
- ➤ VOs should be immutable
 - ➤ Don't pass in entities
 - ➤ Don't change state
- ➤ Don't share between domains
- Don't share between projects
 - ➤ Username is not always the same thing
 - ➤ Validations can change

```
class PostAuthor
   private $name;
   private $email;
   public function construct(string $name, EmailAddress $email)
       Assert::that($name, null, 'name')
           ->notEmpty()->maxLength(100);
       $this->name = $name;
       $this->email = $email;
   public function __toString()
       return $this->toString();
   public function toString()
       return (string)$this->name;
   public function name()
       return $this->name;
   public function email()
       return $this->email;
   public function equals($test)
       if (__CLASS__ === get_class($test)) {
               $this->name === $test->name() &&
               $this->email->equals($test->email())
       return false;
```

POST AUTHOR

- Replace AuthorEmail with VO
- ➤ VO reflects domain language
- ➤ VO can limit data access
- ➤ Enforce validity
 - ➤ Consistent validation
 - ➤ Simplifies entity

class Post private function construct(PostAuthor \$author, string \$title, string \$slug, string \$content) Assert::lazy()->tryAll() ->that(\$title, 'title')->notEmpty()->maxLength(100) ->that(\$slug, 'slug')->notEmpty()->maxLength(64) ->that(\$content, 'content') ->notEmpty()->minLength(100)->maxLength(65000) ->verifyNow() \$this->title = \$title; \$this->slug = \$slug; \$this->content = \$content; public static function create(PostAuthor \$author, string \$title, string \$slug, string \$content) \$entity = new static(\$author, \$title, \$slug, \$content); return \$entity; public static function createAndPublish(PostAuthor \$author, string \$title, string \$slug, string \$content) \$entity = new static(\$author, \$title, \$slug, \$content); \$entity->publish(); return \$entity; public function author() return \$this->author;

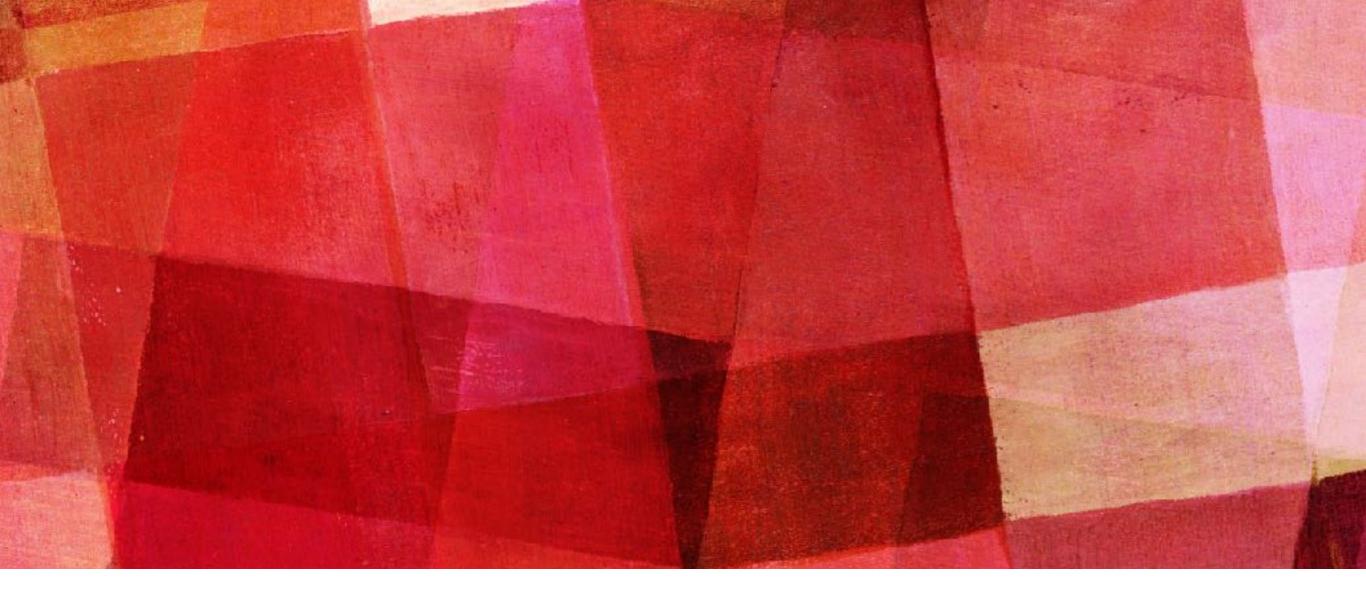
USING POST AUTHOR

- ➤ Author now required
 - ➤ Enforce in methods
- Conveys domain language
- ➤ Change accessor name
 - ➤ post->author->name
 - ➤ post->author->email

```
class PostContent
   private $content;
   public function __construct($content)
       Assert::that($content, null, 'content')
            ->notEmpty()->minLength(100)->maxLength(65000)
       $this->content = $content;
   public function __toString()
       return $this->toString();
   public function toString()
       return (string)$this->content;
   public function html()
       return $this->content;
   public function text()
       return strip tags($this->html());
   public function summary($length = 40)
       return implode(' ', array_slice(explode(' ', $this->text()),
0, $length)) . '...';
   public function equals($test)
       if (__CLASS__ === get_class($test)) {
            return ((string)$test === (string)$this);
       return false;
```

MORE VALUE OBJECTS

- What about other properties?
- ➤ Title
 - Group title and slug
 - ➤ Protect slug from user
- Content
 - ➤ Encapsulate the body
 - ➤ Add transforms e.g.:
 - summary
 - text (plain text)



TOWARDS A CLEAN API

Steps to make our Entity even better

class Post public function author(): PostAuthor return \$this->author; public function title(): PostTitle return \$this->title; public function content(): PostContent return \$this->content; public function createdAt(): DateTimeImmutable return \$this->createdAt; public function publishedAt(): ?DateTimeImmutable return \$this->publishedAt; public function isPublished(): bool return \$this->publishedAt instanceof DateTimeImmutable; public function isRecentlyPublished(): bool return \$this->isPublished() && \$this->publishedAt->diff(new DateTimeImmutable())->days < 10;</pre>

BETTER DATA METHODS

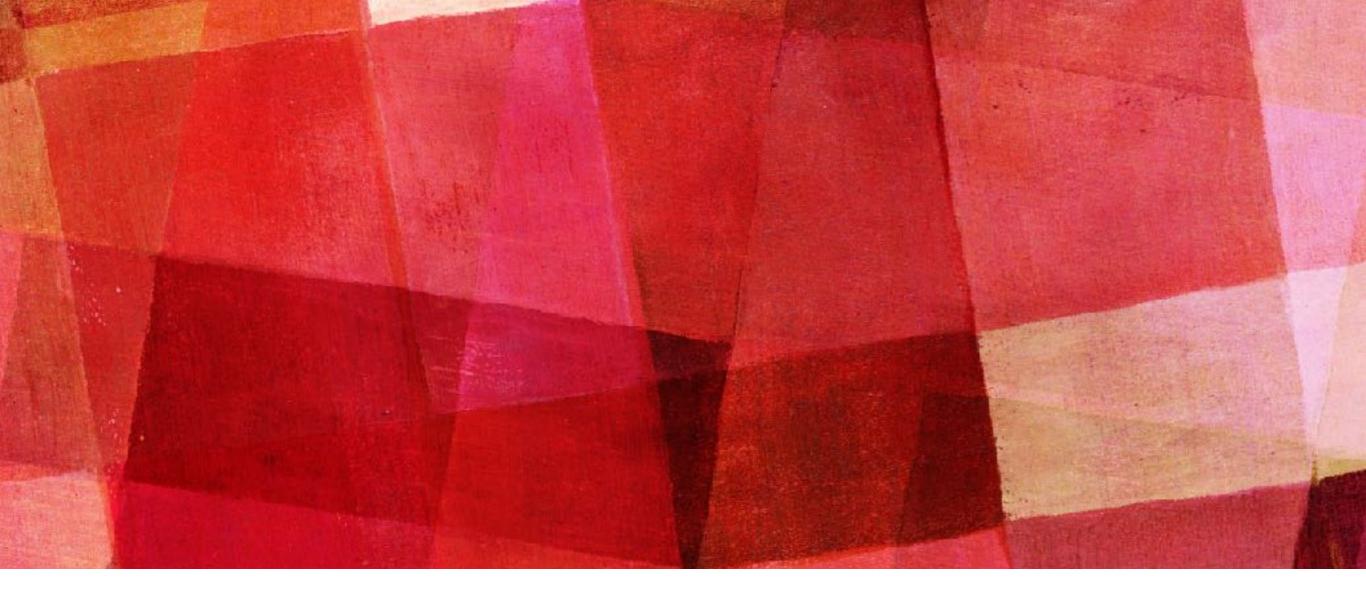
- ➤ Drop "get" prefixes
- Use domain language
- ➤ Return useful data
- ➤ Add state methods
 - ➤ isPublished
 - ➤ isRecentlyPublished
 - ➤ hasComments
 - ➤ leaveComment





SPECIAL CASE

- ➤ Internal collections
- ➤ Mutable
- ➤ Don't expose mutability
- ➤ Wrap collections
 - Very important with Doctrine
 - Don't allow changes outside of the entity



BROADCASTING CHANGES

De-coupling processing

c**lass** Post private \$events = []; public static function create(PostAuthor \$author, PostTitle \$title, PostContent \$content) \$entity = new static(\$author, \$title, \$content); \$entity->raise(new PostCreated(['author' => \$author, 'title' => \$title, 'summary' => \$content->summary(), 'created at' => \$entity->createdAt(),])); return \$entity; protected function raise(Event \$event) \$this->events[] = \$event; public function releaseEvents() \$events = \$this->events; \$this->events = []; return \$events;

DOMAIN EVENTS

- ➤ Reflect important changes
- Propagate those changes
- Separate responsibilities
- Cross process data sharing
 - update search indexes
 - send messages
 - ➤ more domain changes
- ➤ First step to Event Sourcing

```
class DomainEventPublisher implements EventSubscriber
   private $entities;
   // abbreviated code...
   public function __construct()
       $this->entities = new Collection();
   public function getSubscribedEvents()
       return [
           Events::prePersist, Events::preFlush, Events::postFlush
   public function prePersist(LifecycleEventArgs $event)
       $entity = $event->getEntity();
       if ($entity instanceof RaisesDomainEvents) {
           $this->entities->add($entity);
   public function preFlush(PreFlushEventArgs $event)
       $uow = $event->getEntityManager()->getUnitOfWork();
       foreach ($uow->getIdentityMap() as $class => $entities) {
           foreach ($entities as $entity) {
                $this->entities->add($entity);
   public function postFlush(PostFlushEventArgs $event)
      // dispatch events, add other channels here
      $events->call(function ($event) use ($em, $evm) {
           $evm->dispatchEvent('on' . $event->name(), $event);
       });
       $this->entities->reset();
```

DISPATCHING EVENTS

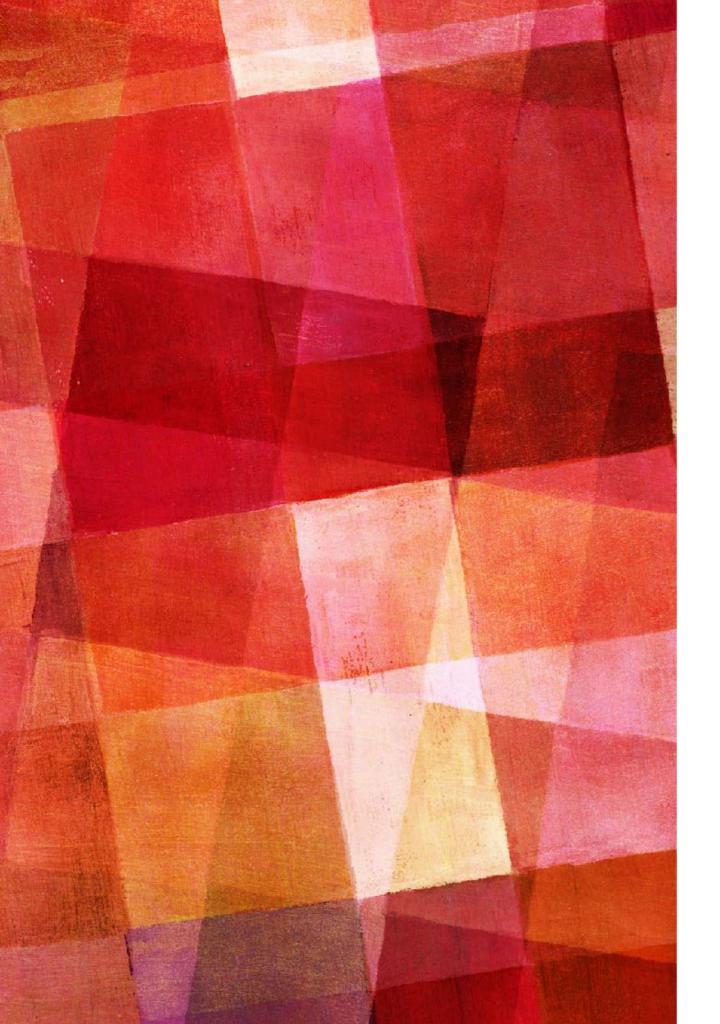
- Use framework dispatcher
- ➤ Can use Doctrine
 - ➤ Listen for:
 - ➤ prePersist
 - > preFlush
 - ➤ postFlush
 - ➤ Publish events post flush
- ➤ Can broadcast via RabbitMQ

```
class Post implements RaisesDomainEventsContract
  use RaisesDomainEvents;
  private $id, $author, $title, $content, $createdAt, $updatedAt, $publishedAt, $comments;
   private function __construct(PostAuthor $author, PostTitle $title, PostContent $content)
       $this->author
                       = $author:
                       = $title:
       $this->content = $content;
       $this->createdAt = new DateTimeImmutable();
       $this->updatedAt = new DateTimeImmutable();
       $this->comments = new ArrayCollection();
   public static function create(PostAuthor $author, PostTitle $title, PostContent $content)
       $entity = new static($author, $title, $content);
       $entity->raise(new Events\PostCreated([
           'author' => $author, 'title' => $title, 'created_at' => $entity->createdAt(),
       return $entity;
   public static function createAndPublish(PostAuthor $author, PostTitle $title, PostContent $content)
       $entity = static::create($author, $title, $content);
       $entity->publish();
       return $entity;
   public function publish(DateTimeImmutable $publishedAt = null)
       $this->publishedAt = ($publishedAt ?: new DateTimeImmutable());
       $this->updatedAt = new DateTimeImmutable();
       $this->raise(new Events\PostPublished([
           'author' => $this->author, 'title' => $this->title, 'published_at' => $this->publishedAt(),
```

```
blic function removeFromPublication()
    $this->publishedAt = null;
    $this->updatedAt = new DateTimeImmutable();
    $this->raise(new Events\PostRemovedFromPublishedList([
        'author' => $this->author, 'title' => $this->title, 'removed_at' => new DateTimeImmutable(),
public function changeTitle(PostTitle $title)
   $this->updatedAt = new DateTimeImmutable();
    $this->raise(new Events\PostTitleChanged([
        'author' => $this->author, 'title' => $this->title, 'updated_at' => new DateTimeImmutable(),
public function replaceContentWith(PostContent $content)
    $this->updatedAt = new DateTimeImmutable();
    $this->raise(new Events\PostContentChanged([
        'author' => $this->author, 'title' => $this->title, 'updated_at' => new DateTimeImmutable(),
public function comments(): Collection
    return new ArrayCollection($this->comments->toArray());
public function leaveComment(Commenter $commenter, string $comment)
    $this->comments->add(new Comment($this, $commenter, $comment));
    $this->updatedAt = new DateTimeImmutable();
    $this->raise(new Events\CommentLeftOnPost([
        'title' => $this->title,
'commenter' => $commenter,
        'comment' => $comment.
        'created_at' => new DateTimeImmutable(),
```

CLEAN, RICH, DOMAIN OBJECTS

(https://github.com/dave-redfern/better-entities/) The End Result



MORE...

- ➤ Domain Driven Design
 - ➤ Eric Evans (blue book)
 - Vernon Vaughn (red book)
- ➤ Event Sourcing
 - ➤ Greg Young
- ➤ Doctrine Project
- ➤ Example code available
 - https://github.com/daveredfern/better-entities