Unify your local music library

[***WORKSHOP***] *Introducing MusicBrainz, Picard, and ultimate music categorization*

Justin W. Flory (licensed under CC-BY-SA 4.0)

Twitter: @jflory7
Blog: blog.justinwflory.com

MusicBrainz: Wat?

- Open source music metadata encyclopedia (est. 2000)
  - Creative Commons
- Store, categorize, sort (all languages and scripts)

- Used by…
  - **Developers**: Build cool music apps!
  - **Commercial users**: Update local music databases with live updates from MusicBrainz (Spotify, Amazon, Google, Last.fm, etc.)
  - **Users (that's us!)**: Tagging your own music

Metadata matters

Visibility

Find your music!

Record keeping

Write music history!

Research

Discover music science!

Is MusicBrainz really that big?

Let's look at some numbers...

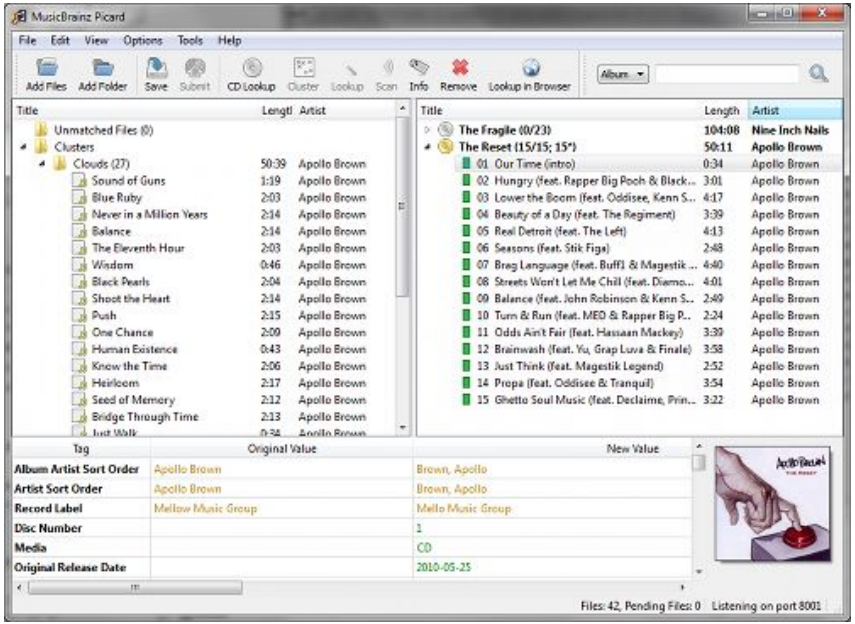
- **Artists**: 1,189,376
- **Releases**: 1,769,002
- **Recordings**: 17,152,131
- **Artist locations**:
  - **Countries**: 259
  - **Cities**: 74,087
  - **Islands**: 96
- **Editor accounts**: 1,781,906 registered (1,329 active last week)

But what about my audio dramas?

Yes, you can have your audio dramas, all 257 of them.

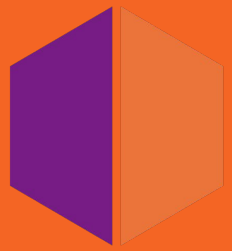
Introducing...

Picard



- Tool to sort, scan, and correct metadata for you
  - References MusicBrainz database
- Puts the right metadata in the right place
  - Album name, artist name, album artwork, release year...
  - Helpful for music tracking services (e.g. Last.fm / Libre.fm)
  - Helpful for cloud music players (upload and forget)
- Available for Windows, macOS, Linux

Installing and using



Picard

Available for… almost everything

picard.musicbrainz.org

- **Windows / macOS**: Installers available
- **Linux**:
  - *Ubuntu*:

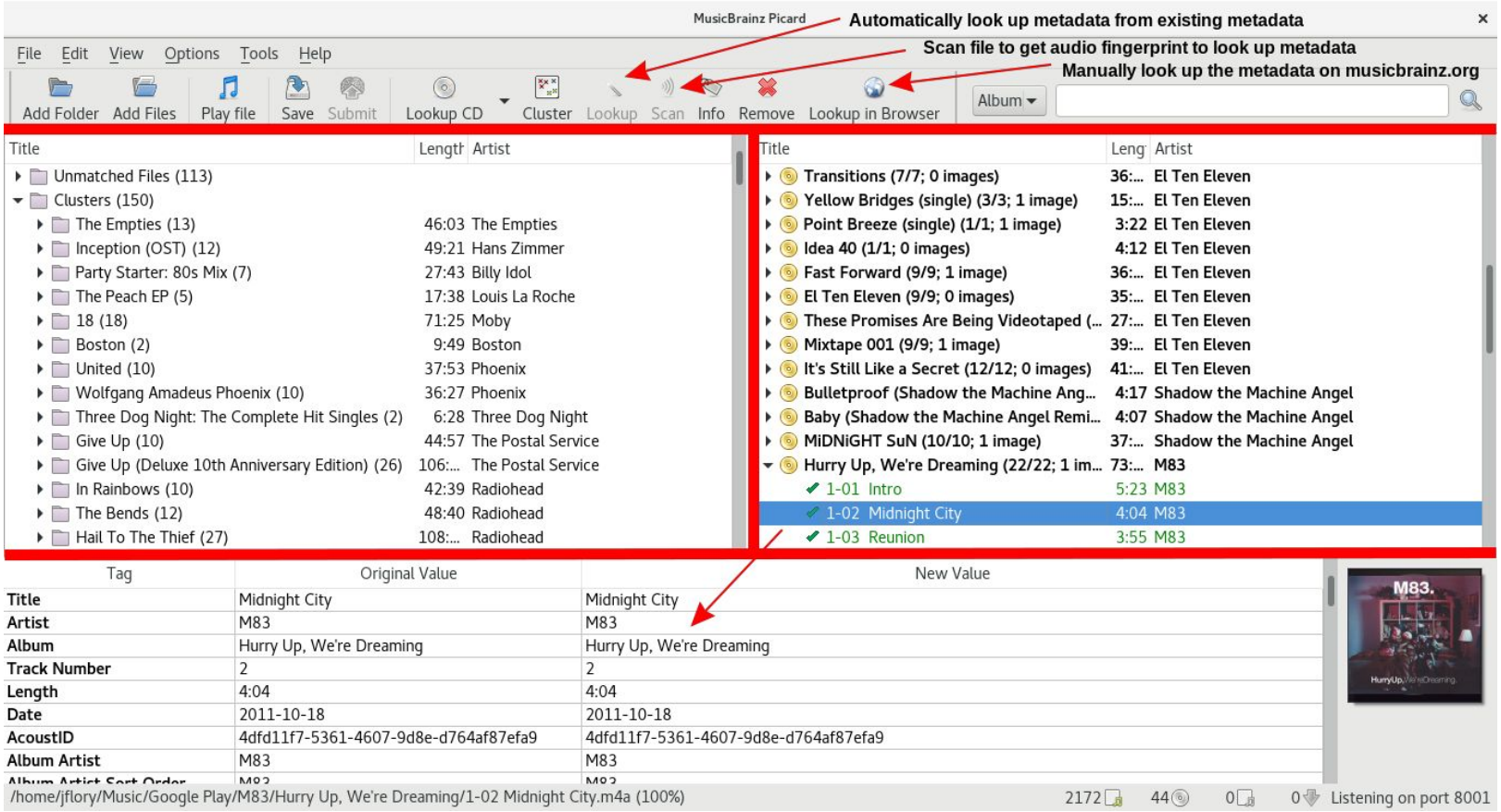
```
sudo add-apt-repository ppa:musicbrainz-developers/stable
sudo apt-get update
```

  - *Fedora*:

```
sudo dnf install picard chromaprint-tools
```

Why do I need `chromaprint-tools`?

  - *Arch Linux*, *Debian*, *Gentoo*, *OpenSUSE*, *and others* (see the docs)



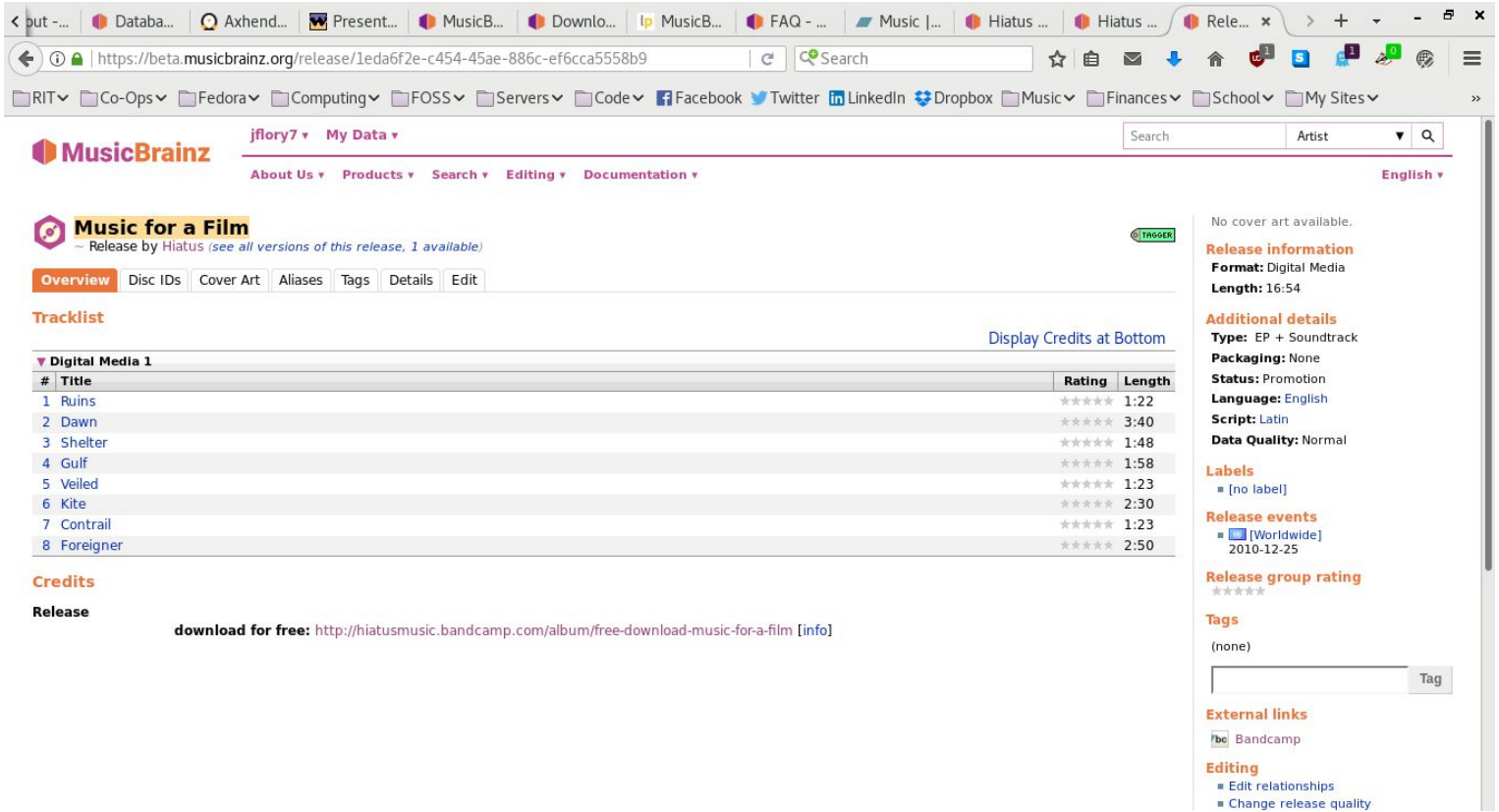
Exploring the MusicBrainz Picard interface

Conceptual demo

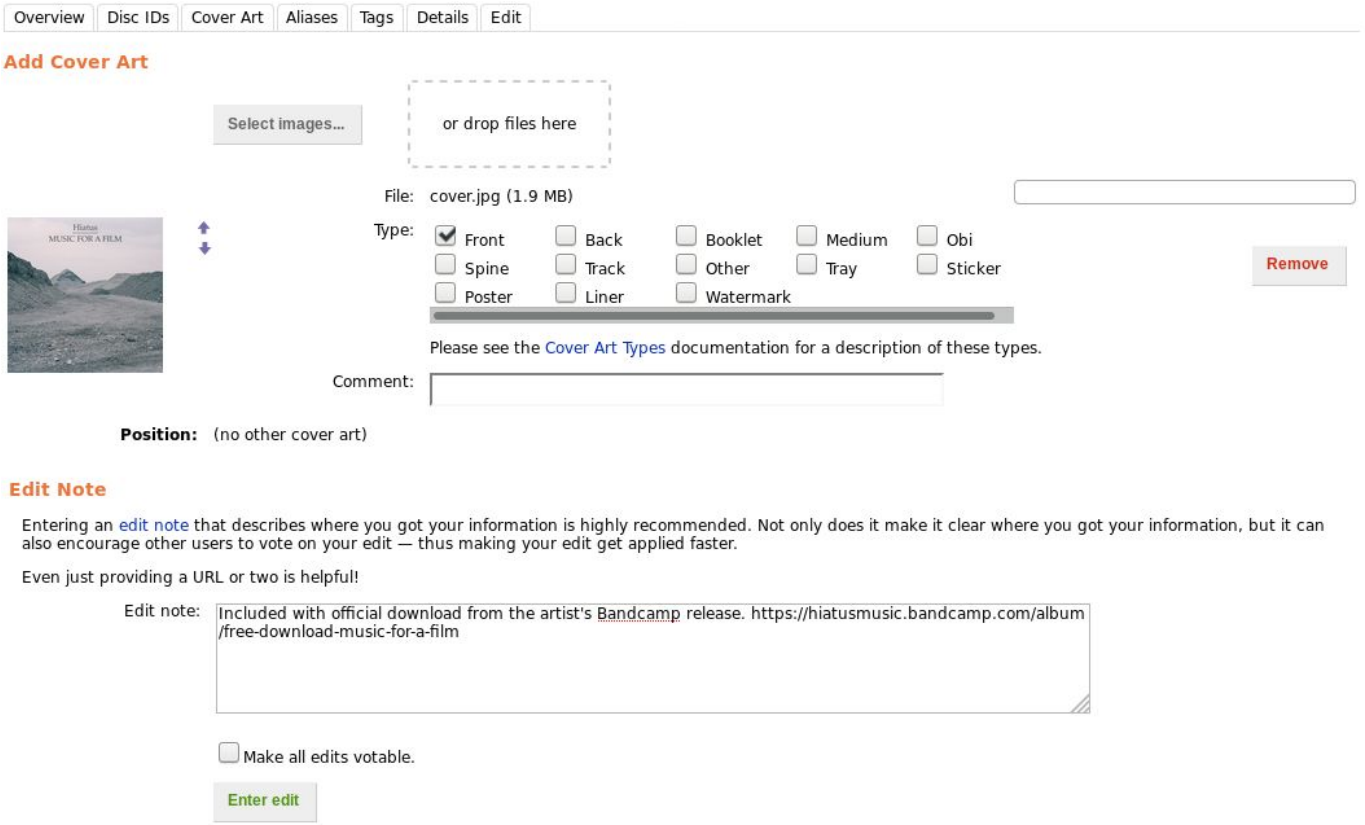
—

Tag	Original Value	New Value
Title	*(different across 8 items)*	*(different across 8 items)*
Artist	Hiatus	Hiatus
Album	Music for a Film	Music for a Film
Track Number	*(different across 8 items)*	*(different across 8 items)*
Length	*(different across 8 items)*	*(different across 8 items)*
Date	2010-12-25	2010-12-25
AcoustID	*(different across 8 items)*	*(different across 8 items)*
Album Artist	Hiatus	Hiatus
Album Artist Sort Order	Hiatus	Hiatus

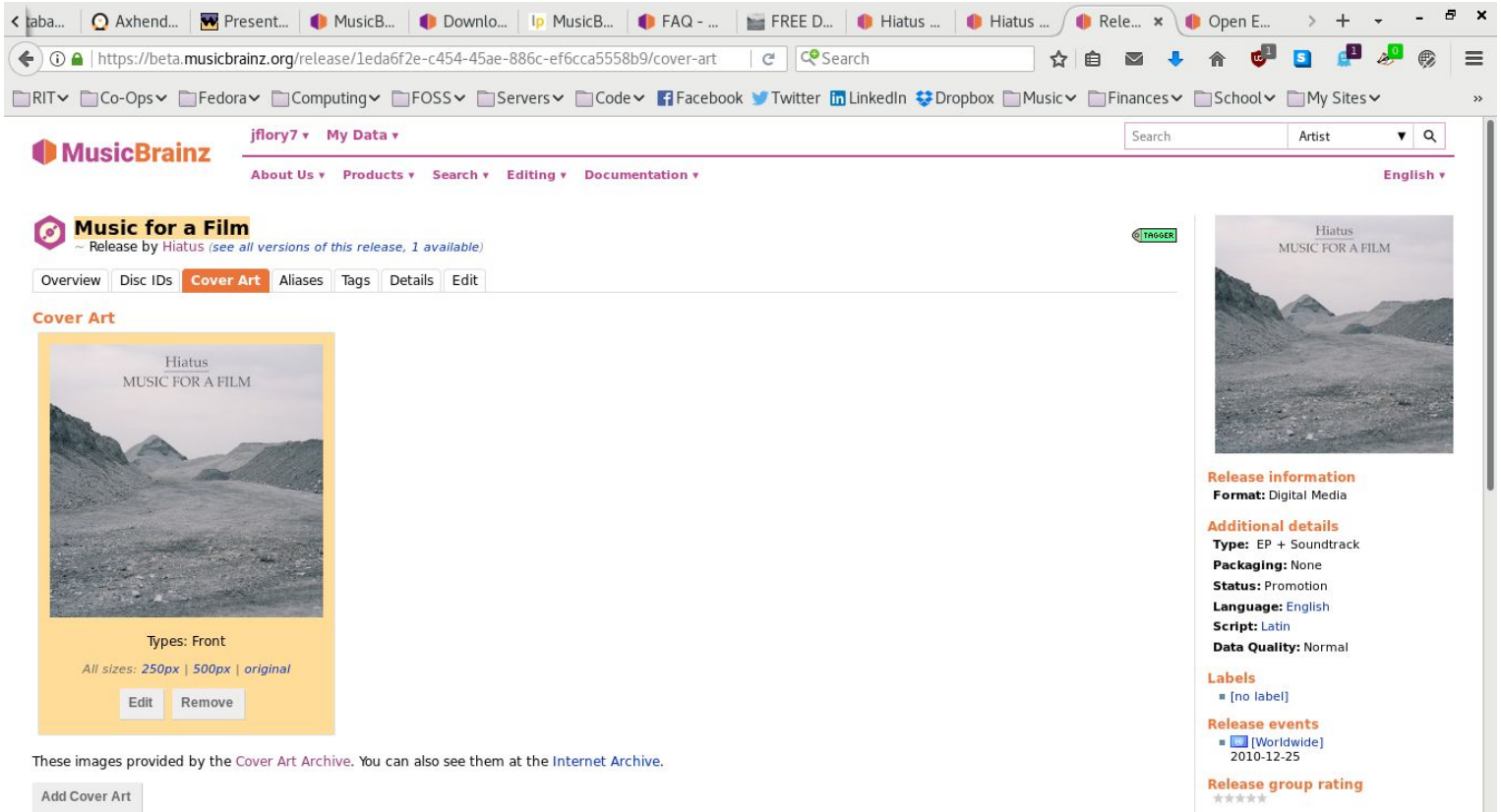
(1) *Hey, look, this album doesn't have album artwork, but I have it on my computer.*



(2) *Looks like there's no artwork added to this release… let's fix that!*



(3) *Adding the front cover of the album artwork to the album (and cite the source!)*



(4) *Awesome, we did it! Album artwork is open to review for seven days before approval.*

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(5) *Guess who's album artwork is in their music player now?*

Hands-on demo!

Two different scenarios...

I know what I downloaded, but the music metadata could be improved or be more accurate. Now what?

I have literally no idea what this MP3 is or where it came from, but it's catchy and I want to know more about it. Halp?

Open floor!

Comments?
Questions? Ideas?

Find these slides and more at:

git.io/vSU2d

By the way...

Looking for a summer internship?

MetaBrainz, the project behind MusicBrainz and plenty of other music-related projects, is participating in Google Summer of Code!

If working on open source music projects over the summer and getting paid sounds interesting, check out their slots!

musicbrainz.org/doc/Development/Summer_of_Code/2017