Curatorial Crossover: Building Library, Archives, and Museum Collections

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Abstract

I tend to associate the word “crossover” with popular music. I think of crossovers as being those artists whose music has successfully crossed over from a smaller market to a bigger one, like Mexican musicians making it big in the United States, or black musicians making it big with white audiences. And I frankly love the idea that I, as a librarian, might be able to make a curatorial crossover into a bigger market, much as Ricky Martin or Otis Redding made a musical crossover.

Of course, I would have to address the two most common criticisms that are made . . .
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March: 11
April: 9
May: 6
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November: 3
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2018
January: 2
February: 21
March: 15
April: 4
May: 2
June: 6
July: 6
August: 4
September: 4
October: 6
November: 5
December: 3

2017
April: 1
May: 32
June: 13
July: 4
August: 7
September: 8
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Archives, libraries, and museums have a varied history. Yet they have parallel roles as the guardians and organizers of our cultural heritage and public history. This paper examines the increasing importance of their collaboration, and the role of the United States federal government in fostering cooperation between them and other agencies in their communities. A museum is a collection of objects, exhibits and artifacts that have been selected and organized for education, research and/or recreation. Usually, but not always, these objects are unique items. They are taking on a curatorial role. Similarly, museums, for the sake of their digital exhibitions, are discovering the need to create metadata, organize and catalog. The Museum's Library and Archives has been developing its collection of literature, artwork and information resources since 1854. The collection has developed closely with the Museum's scientific and cultural collections, and reflects curatorial interests across the organisation's history. Collection strengths include natural history in the fields of zoology, geology and palaeontology, scientific expedition reports, society and institutional journal titles, Indigenous cultures of Australia and the Pacific, Australian history, technology, colonial and other exhibition catalogues, museum studies, and Museums Victoria publications. The combined collections of the Library and Archives represent a globally significant and specialised research resource in the field of architecture. Founded in 1862, the Library houses almost 46,000 volumes, including rare and early texts, periodicals and journals, as well as access to online indexes and digital resources. The Archives