

# FROM DIGITAL TO DATA & BEYOND: THE FUTURE OF DIGITAL HISTORIOGRAPHY & PERFORMANCE

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## FROM DIGITAL TO DATA

- ▶ Part I: Digital History as Continuous Present
- ▶ Part II: From Digital to Data in the Performing Arts
- ▶ Part III: AI: Archival Intelligence

## “WE CAME. A HISTORY” (1930)

casation of having=In every way established a=Precedent history must=Be all there is of importance=In their way successively=History must be an open=Reason for needing them=There which it is as they=Are perfectly without a=Doubt that it is interested.=History cannot be an accident.=They make history they=Are in the place of it.=II=History leaves no place=For which they ask will =They be made more of=In case of the disaster=Which has not overtaken=Any one. Historically there=Is no disaster because=Those who make history=Cannot be overtaken=As they will make =History which they do=Because it is necessary=That every one will=Begin to know that=They must know that=History is what it is=Which it is as they do=Know that history is not=Just what every one=Does who comes and=Prefers days to more=Than ever which they have=History must again be=Caught and taught and =Not be that it is tiring=To play with balls.=It is not tiring to go on=And make the needle=Which goes in and out=Be careful not at all=History is made by a very=Few who are important=And history is what that=One says. History is=This it is the necklace=Which makes pansies=Be made well of stones=Which they are likely=To be. This is not=History history is made=By them they make history.=III=One who was remarkable=Addressed them as follows.=Come when you like and=Leave when you like =And send what you like=And play what you like=But and in this there=Can be no mistake=Do not care more for=Nasturtiums than for=Tube roses. It was a=Moment the moment=When there was certainty=That it was that and by=Itself they were told=That it was not different.=There are three things=That are historical.=Tube roses heliotrope and lavender.=There may be fragrant lilies=And other delights but=History is made and=Preserved by heliotrope=Lavender and tube-roses.=History is made and remains=A delight by reason=Of certainty and certainty=Depends upon a result=Achieved directly by a=Surprise not a surprise =In fact nor in thought=Nor in result but a=Surprise in the delight=And the delight is not=A surprise the surprise=Is in confirmation and so=It is undoubtedly real=That history is made=By accomplishment=And accomplishment is=A surprise which it is=So that there is not=A possibility of coming=And going historically.=This will be understood=Readily not by them.=Nor by me for them=Nor is it without doubt=That they are as for them =In elegance. In order=Not to end and finish=They will say it has=Not happened but it has.=With them in time.=The time for tasting is=Also as you may say=They have forgotten that=It is

DIGITAL HISTORY AS CONTINUOUS PRESENT

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Ballet Mécanique, 1924

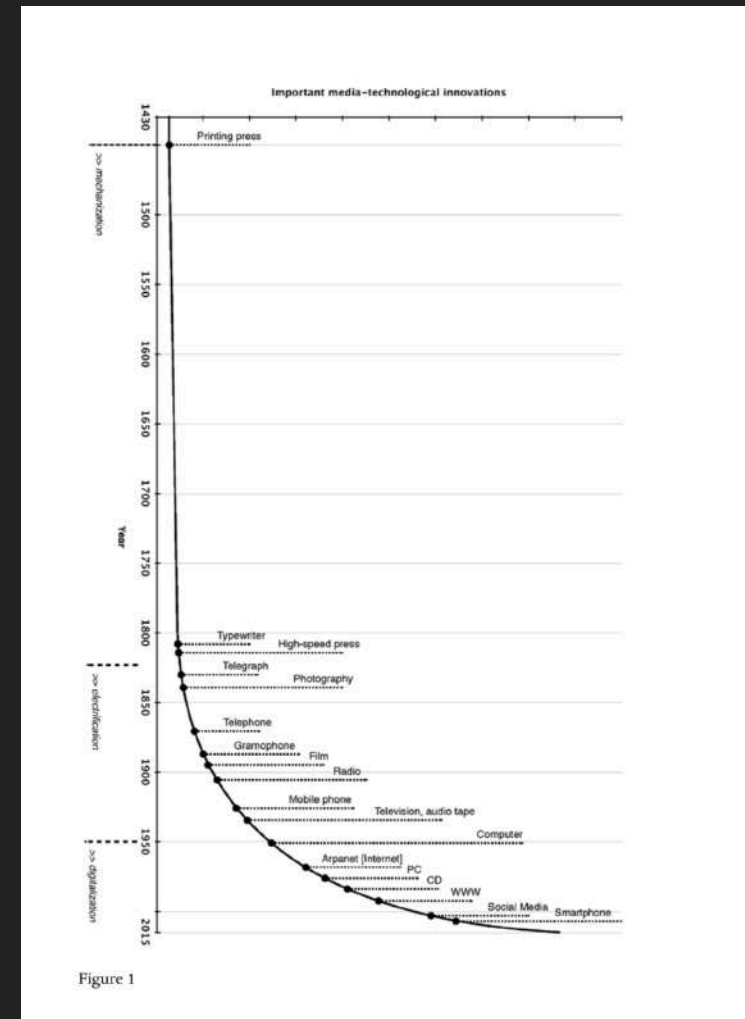


L'Étoile de Mer, 1928

## THE MEDIATED CONSTRUCTION OF REALITY (2017)

"[T]he history of mediatization over the past five to six centuries can be understood in terms of three successive and overlapping waves in which modes of communications have developed and their interrelations have become significantly more complex: the wave of *mechanization*, the wave of *electrification* and the wave of *digitalization*. Arguably, we are now living at the start of a fourth wave, the wave of *datafication*."

(34)



# FROM DIGITAL TO DATA



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## Theatre on Film and Tape Archive

The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts



The New York Public Library  
for the Performing Arts  
40 Lincoln Center Plaza  
(entrance at 111 Amsterdam  
between 64th and 65th)  
Third Floor  
New York, NY 10023  
212-870-1642  
[toft@nypl.org](mailto:toft@nypl.org)

### About the Division



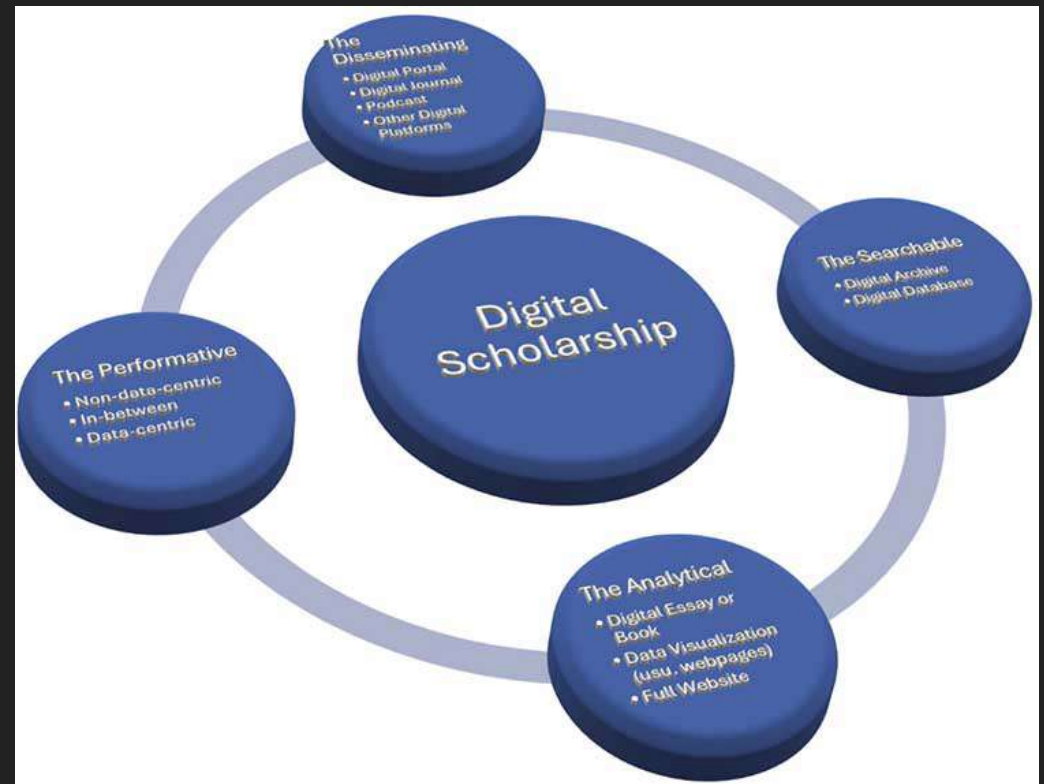
Since 1970, the Theatre on Film and Tape Archive (TOFT) has preserved live theatrical productions and documented the creative contributions of distinguished artists and legendary figures of the theatre. With the consent and cooperation of the theatrical unions and each production's artistic collaborators, TOFT produces video recordings of Broadway, Off-Broadway, and regional theatre productions, as well as dialogues between notable theatre personalities.

[Learn how to access the archive.](#)

## A TAXONOMY OF DIGITAL SCHOLARSHIP

Sissi Liu, Digital Scholarship Roundtable: The State of the Field, *Theatre Journal* (June 2024): E-17-30.

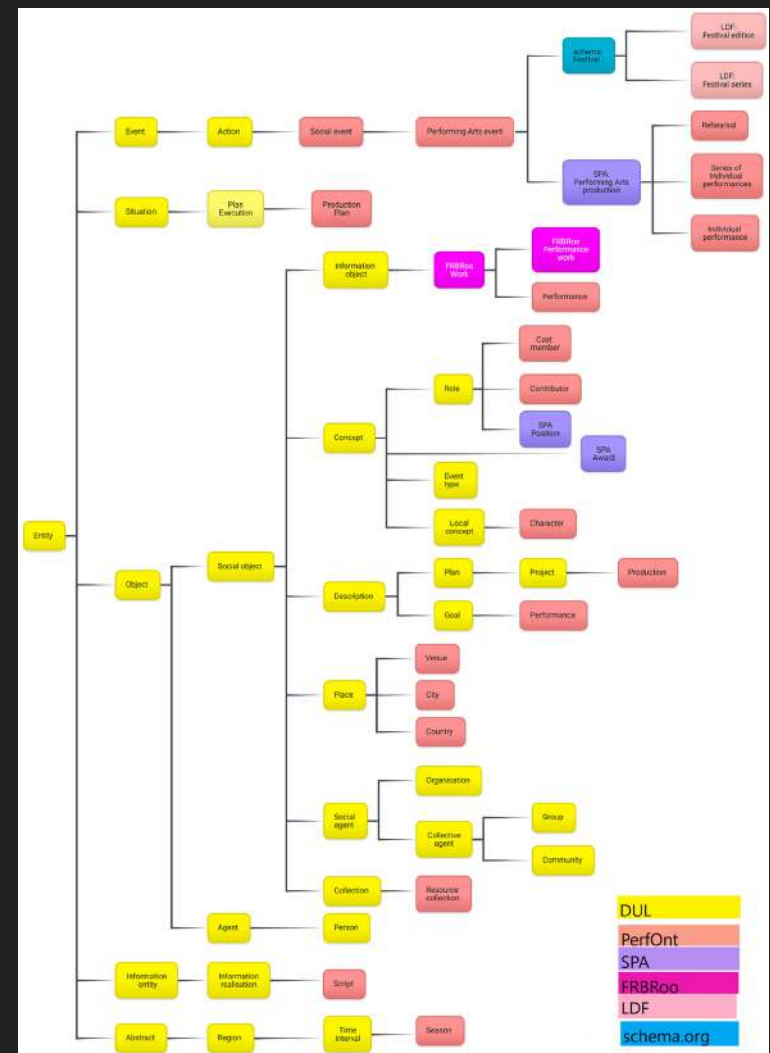
- ▶ The Disseminating
- ▶ The Searchable
- ▶ The Analytical
- ▶ The Performative



Evie Mitsopoulou,  
Konstantinos Kyprianos and  
Pantelis Brattis

“Documenting the ephemeral: An  
ontology for the performing arts”

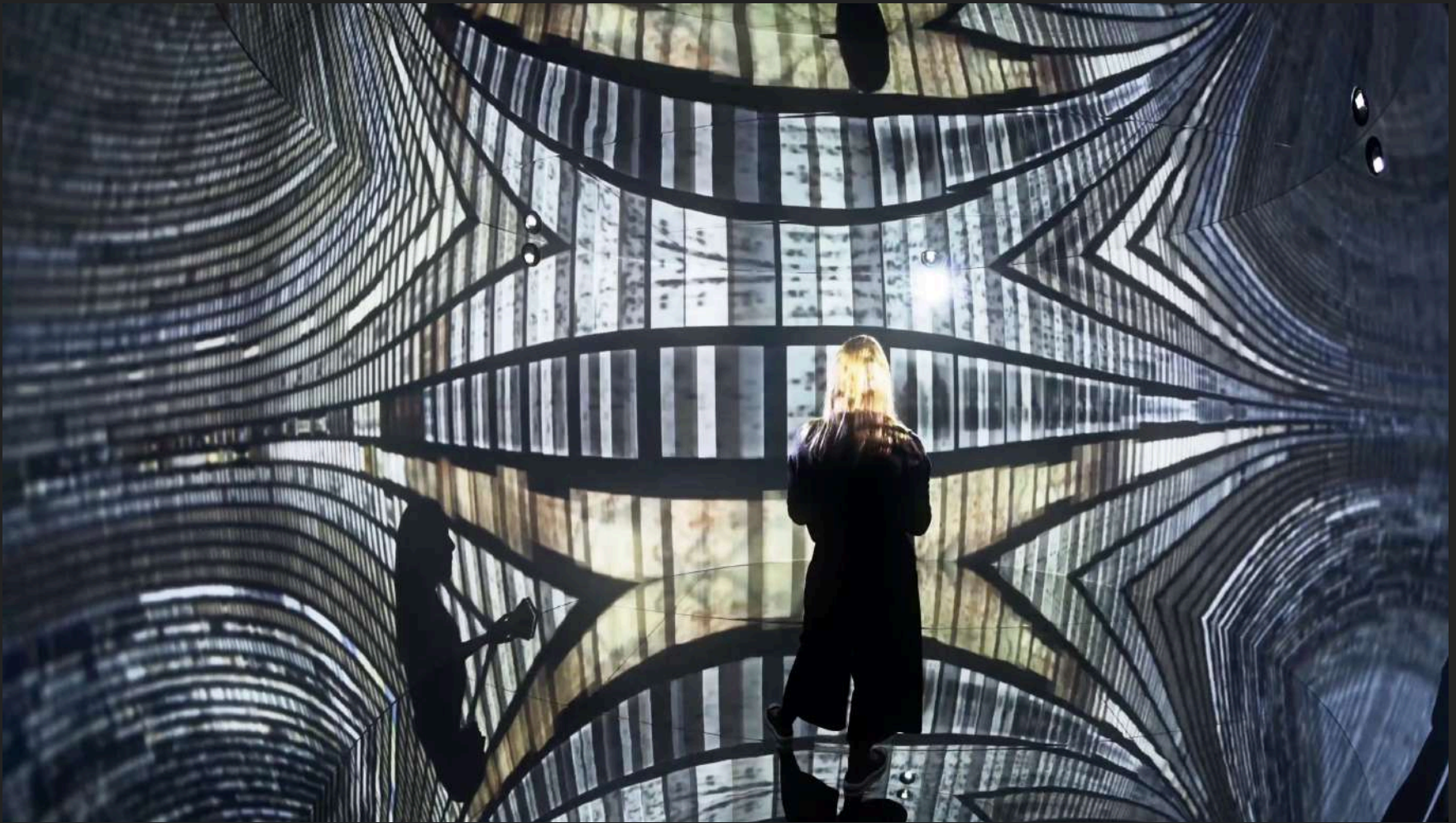
*Journal of Information Science* (Sept  
2024)





## ARCHIVAL INTELLIGENCE

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REFIK ANADOL STUDIO

NEW YORK CITY, NY, 2021

# Unsupervised

Solo Exhibition

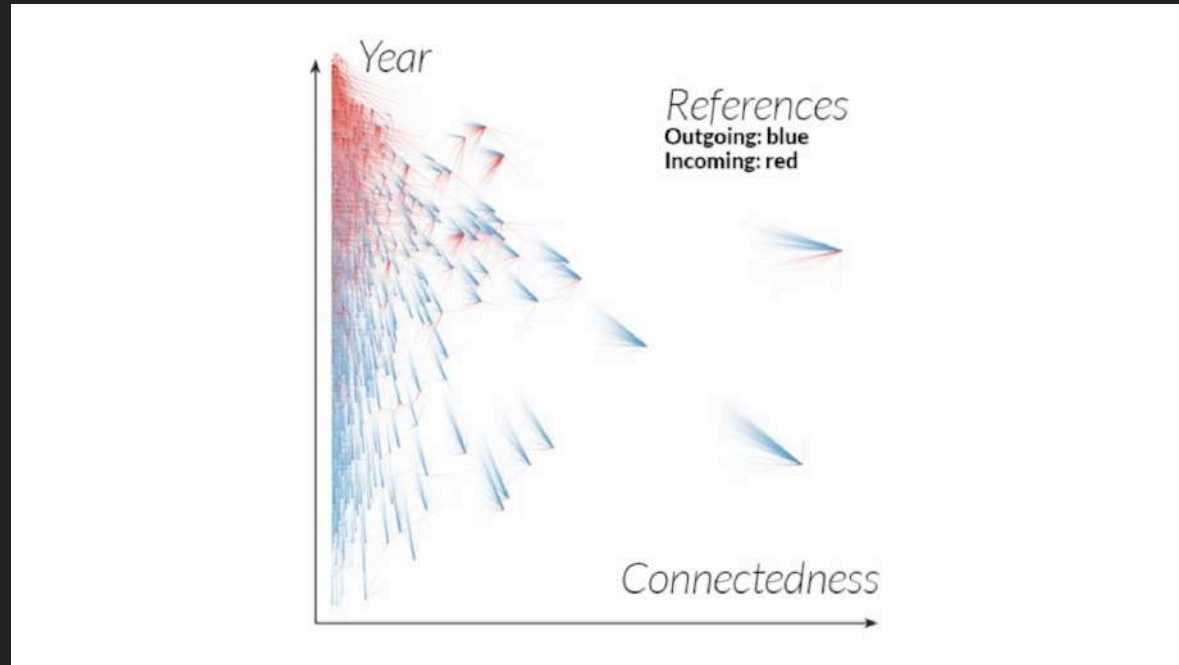
Refik Anadol

MoMA seen through the mind of a machine

PERAL FILE

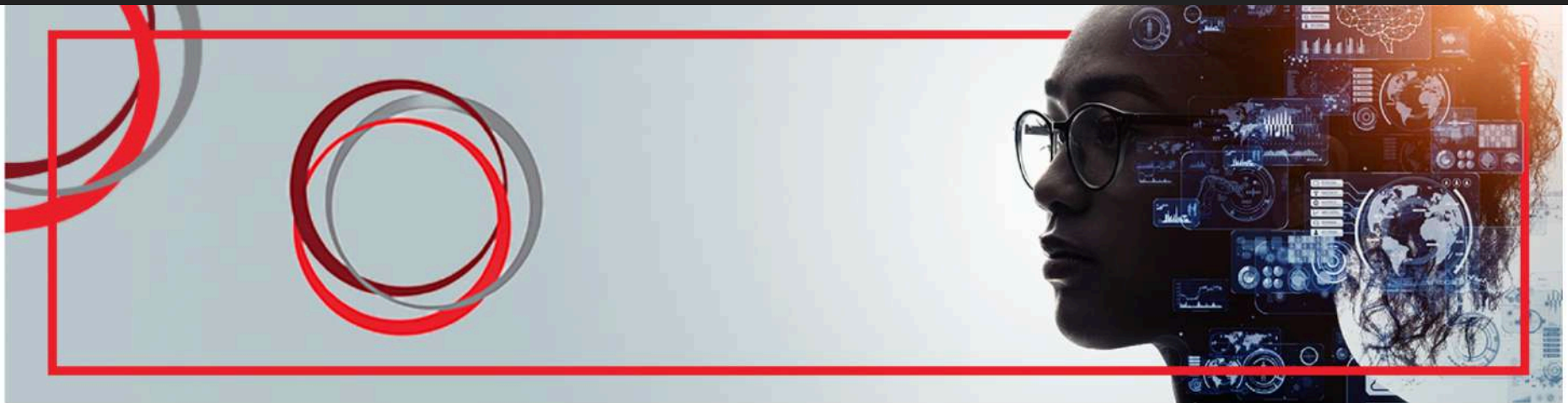


Academy (2006)  
Gone with the Wind (1938)



Culturegraphy (2014)





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Upcoming Events and Deadlines



# THANK YOU

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