MuseumFinland
- Finnish Museums on the Semantic Web

http://museosuo.mcs.helsinki.fi

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What is MuseumFinland?
– The vision: Museums on the Semantic Web
  – Visitor’s perspective
  – Museum’s perspective
– The system: Demonstration

The Vision of MuseumFinland
1. Global View to Distributed Collections
   • One seamless national collection (virtually)
   • “Museums in Finland” -> “Museum of Finland”
2. Intelligent Services to End-Users
   • Search: Concept-Based Information Retrieval
   • Browsing: Semantically Linked Contents
3. Easy Content Publication for Museums

Creating a national platform and a process for the museums to publish their content together on the Semantic Web

Research Consortium

Co-operation with:

Finnish National Gallery
A Paradigmatic Example: Australian Museums Online

Search Result

Problems

• How to find the right keywords?
• Likely results: no-hits or 1000 hits
• Too many irrelevant hits (low precision)
• Too few relevant hits (low recall)
• How to get overviews of the contents?
• How to find related objects?
• Is this entertaining?

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MuseumFinland Approach

Live Demonstration
http://museosuomi.cs.helsinki.fi

1. Multi-facet search
   • Based on ontologies
2. Keyword search
   • Based on concepts
3. Semantic browsing
   • Based on logic
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   - Creating a national platform and a process for the museums to publish their content together on the Semantic Web

Summary: Why MuseumFinland?

- Museum Visitor’s viewpoint
  - Seamless view to heterogeneous collections
  - Intelligent Services
  - Based on views and ontologies
- Museum’s viewpoint
  - Publication channel for the Semantic Web
  - Only content needs to be created
- Will be enhanced with new ontologies and materials

Ontologies: The Basis of MuseumFinland

7 ontologies, 10,000 interlinked concepts, 4500 collection artifacts & archeological sites

Papers on MuseumFinland (2004)