

Omeka: An Introduction

Alexandra Bolintineanu

Learning Goals

By the end of this tutorial, participants will:

1. Understand the building blocks of Omeka as a content management system and data curation platform
2. Know how to navigate Omeka sites (private and public views)
3. Understand the basics of Dublin Core metadata schema
4. Be able to add items (individually), enable plugins, create collections, and build exhibits
5. Be able to manipulate the appearance of Omeka sites
6. Be able to create custom pages in Omeka

Omeka

- Omeka = “Wordpress for museums”:
 - Allows users to build digital archives of books, images, recordings, performances, and many other kinds of items
 - Free
 - Open-source
 - Wide community uptake



Items & Collections

Users can curate collections of digital items



Images



Audio



Videos



Performances

ābċcēdċ

→ abecedaria

Noun, f.; 1x m. or n.

Att. sp.: F: abecede.

M. or N.: abecedes.

3 occ. (mainly in ByrM)

a. an ABC, the ... se abecedes
'in alphabet

Lesson Plans

Metadata

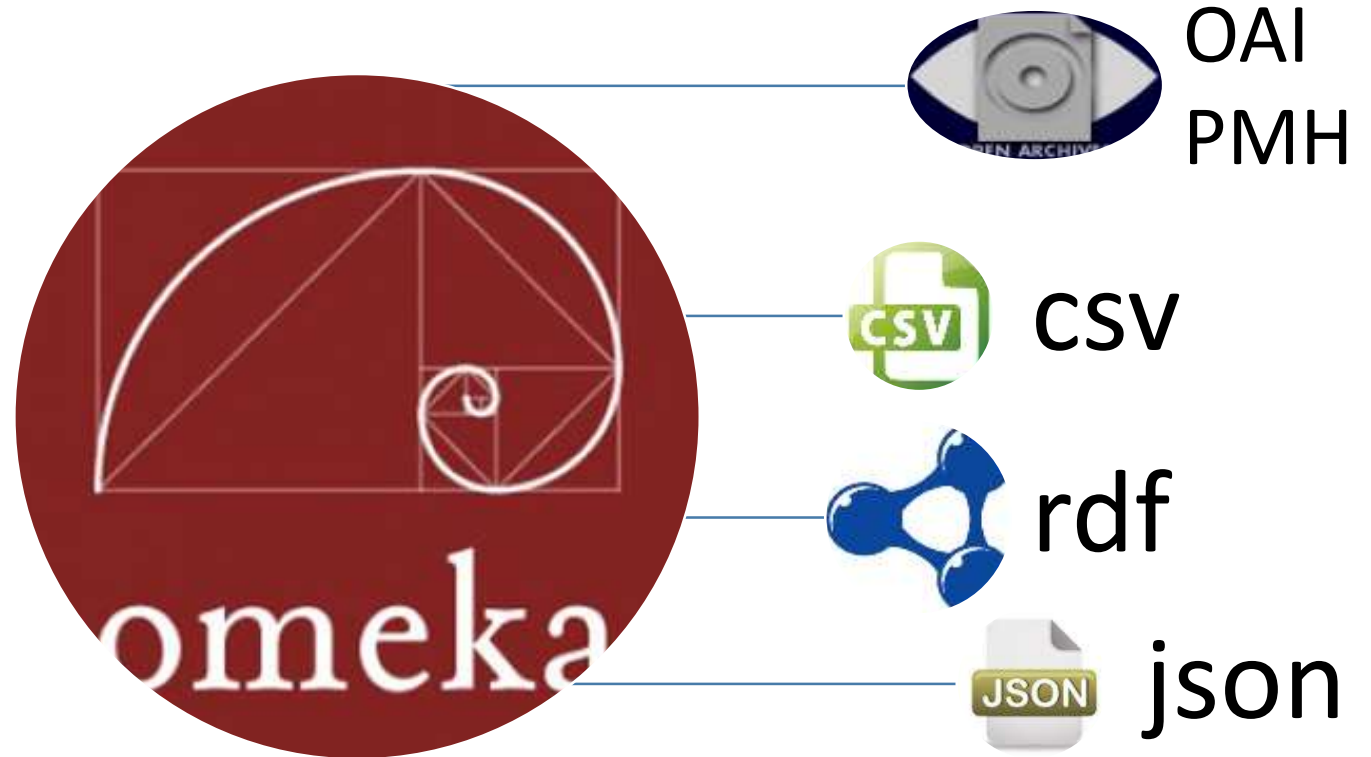
- Users can create rigorous metadata (Dublin Core standard) for each item
- Discoverability & interoperability with aggregators and library catalogues

Dublin Core

Title	Exchequer, Crown vs William Henslowe and Jacob Meade: John Baxter deposes concerning the construction of the Hope
Description	<p>EMLoT Event 282</p> <p>John Baxter's deposition in a 1620 lawsuit provides information concerning progress on the construction of the new Hope theatre in 1613. The foundation of the building had at first encroached on the Bishop of Winchester's property. Having been informed that this would 'breed discord thereafter,' Edward Alleyn approached Philip Henslowe and advised him to change the layout of the playhouse so that it fell entirely within the King's lands.</p>
Date	9/19/1620-10/10/1620
Rights	Copyright Sally-Beth MacLean
Date Created	Summer 1613
Is Referenced By	283, 825
Spatial Coverage	Bear Garden, Hope


Preservation

- Via API, can programmatically import/export collection in a variety of standard formats (csv, rdf, json)
- Via OAI-PMH, can expose metadata for harvesting



Storytelling

- Through its Exhibit plugin, Omeka lets users tell stories with their collections.
- Users can arrange items from their collections into multimedia essays, using the “Lego bricks” of the archive to tell stories and make arguments.



MARTHA DANDRIDGE CUSTIS WASHINGTON was born into a world of elite social custom and privilege in the 1730s. Little did she know that she would marry twice, give birth to four children – losing two of them to illness in childhood – and bear witness to the Revolution and the creation of a new nation. This site will allow you to explore the contours of Martha Washington's life while also providing you with a window on women's lives during the 18th century, including women's access to property and education, their role in the Revolution, their thoughts on the promises of rights called for in the founding documents, and their everyday experiences of marriage, motherhood, labor, sickness, and death.

The site includes:

- a narrative of Martha Washington's life, with a rich selection of historical materials associated with her story;
- teaching modules for students and teachers focused on 18th century sociability, slavery at Mount Vernon, and the Revolutionary War;
- an archive of historical items, including Martha Washington's correspondence, art work, material culture objects, and other important documents
- a collection of resources including a bibliography of additional secondary sources and related websites.

READ ABOUT MARTHA'S LIFE➤

Examples of Omeka Sites

[Gothic Past](#): Visual Archive of Gothic Architecture and Sculpture in Ireland

Gothic Past uses material from the archival collections of the Irish Art Research Centre at Trinity College Dublin.

Project developed by the History of Art Department and the Library of Trinity College Dublin and the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia.



Gothic Past
VISUAL ARCHIVE OF GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE & SCULPTURE IN IRELAND

[Home](#) [How To](#) [Archive](#) [Collections](#) [Exhibits](#) [Map](#) [Links](#) [About](#) [NEWS](#) [Contact Us](#)

[My Gothic Past Login](#) | [Register](#)

[Advanced Search](#)



Church of St. Lawrence, Rathmore, County Meath - Font

(handwritten on back of image): Rathmore, Co. Meath: Manor church: Stem of font, detail [...more](#)



Visual Archive of **Gothic Architecture** and Sculpture in Ireland

Gothic Past: Visual Archive of Gothic Architecture and Sculpture in Ireland

An exhibit in *Gothic Past*: images of mouldings (individual collection items) are displayed within a narrative (the exhibit).



Gothic Past

VISUAL ARCHIVE OF GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE & SCULPTURE IN IRELAND

Home How To Archive Collections **Exhibits** Map Links About NEWS Contact Us

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[Advanced Search](#)

The Late Gothic Mouldings of County Clare

An Introduction to Clare Mouldings

Some County Clare Mouldings

Some County Clare Mouldings



Ennis Franciscan Friary, tomb niche in the south nave wall. The mouldings and overall design of this niche suggest architectural connections with other sites in Clare, along with sites in Limerick, Kerry and Galway.



The jamb, arch and hood moulding of the Ennis transept piscina. The double hollow chamfers of the hood are directly related to those of the same feature in the same location at Quin.

The jamb, arch and hood moulding of the Quin transept piscina. The moulding of the hollow chamfers and quadrants is more regular here at Quin compared with the Ennis example.



Europeana Art Nouveau Exhibition, Europeana

URL:
<http://exhibitions.europeana.eu/exhibits/show/art-nouveau-en>

Plugins: Exhibit Builder, Simple Pages



The screenshot shows the Europeana Art Nouveau exhibition page. At the top left is the Europeana Exhibitions logo, which consists of a stylized 'e' with a magnifying glass icon. To its right is the text 'europeana exhibitions'. Below the logo is the breadcrumb 'Exhibitions > Art Nouveau'. In the top right corner, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. The main title 'Art Nouveau' is displayed in a large, white, serif font. Below the title is a paragraph of text: 'For a brief and brilliant period at the end of the 19th century – starting around 1890, and tailing off before World War One – Art Nouveau dominated the cultural scene. Everything from domestic furnishings and decorative art to architecture and advertising was characterised by its curvilinear elegance and organic forms inspired by nature. Even today, more than a century after the emergence of Art Nouveau, artists and designers continue to be inspired by the floral elements, natural features and colours of this enduring style.' Below the text is a button labeled 'Start Exhibition' with a right-pointing arrow. On the right side of the page, there is a large, circular image of a woman's face surrounded by flowers, rendered in a warm, golden-brown color palette. An information icon (a lowercase 'i' in a circle) is located in the top right corner of the image.

Europeana Art Nouveau Exhibition, Europeana

URL:
[http://exhibitions.europeana.eu/
exhibits/show/art-nouveau-en](http://exhibitions.europeana.eu/exhibits/show/art-nouveau-en)

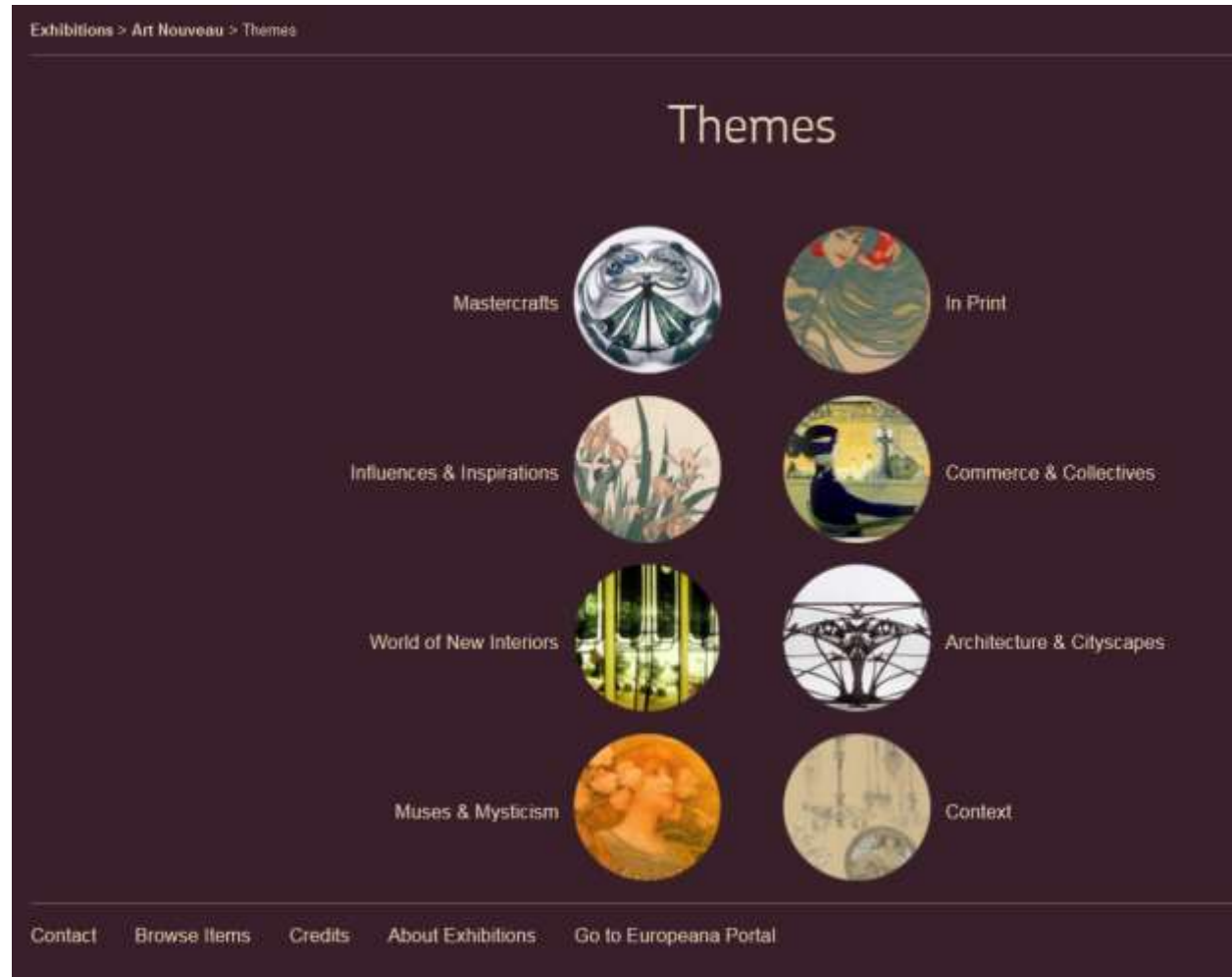
Plugins: Exhibit Builder, Simple
Pages



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Europeana Art Nouveau Exhibition, Europeana

The “Themes” are Omeka exhibits: narrative pathways through the items in the digital collection.



Europeana Art Nouveau Exhibition, Europeana

This is a snippet from an exhibit narrative. Each exhibit is made up of items (right), whose image appears in the exhibit, and whose metadata and detailed information can be accessed via the exhibit.



The screenshot shows a dark-themed digital exhibit interface. At the top left is the Europeana logo, a stylized 'G' with a lowercase 'e' inside, followed by the text 'europeana exhibitions'. Below the logo is a breadcrumb trail: 'Exhibitions > Art Nouveau > Themes > Influences & Inspirations'. To the right of the breadcrumb are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube. The main title of the slide is 'Influences & Inspirations - Introduction'. Below the title is a paragraph of text: 'As the new style of Art Nouveau emerged, the movement became known by different names across Europe: Art Nouveau or Jugendstil, Modernista, Secession, Glasgow Style, stile Liberty, Stijlisme, and style Flamand. There was some common ground within the different national interpretations. The spirit of the Arts & Crafts movement, as well its designs, moved around Europe. Nature was a universal inspiration in Art Nouveau and treated in complex ways. Insects, crustaceans, reptiles, fish, butterflies, dragonflies, insects, orchids, irises, water lilies, poppies, tulips and many other exotic flora and fauna appeared on glassware, ceramics, interiors and in books and illustrations. The passion for all things Japanese was a trend of the era.' To the right of the text is a photograph of a painting of irises, with a small circular icon in the top right corner of the image. Below the image is the caption 'Iris at saukireho'. At the bottom of the slide is a navigation bar with a left arrow, a highlighted square, and a right arrow.

europeana
exhibitions

Exhibitions > Art Nouveau > Themes > Influences & Inspirations

Influences & Inspirations - Introduction

As the new style of Art Nouveau emerged, the movement became known by different names across Europe: Art Nouveau or Jugendstil, Modernista, Secession, Glasgow Style, stile Liberty, Stijlisme, and style Flamand. There was some common ground within the different national interpretations. The spirit of the Arts & Crafts movement, as well its designs, moved around Europe. Nature was a universal inspiration in Art Nouveau and treated in complex ways. Insects, crustaceans, reptiles, fish, butterflies, dragonflies, insects, orchids, irises, water lilies, poppies, tulips and many other exotic flora and fauna appeared on glassware, ceramics, interiors and in books and illustrations. The passion for all things Japanese was a trend of the era.

Iris at saukireho

[Europeana](#) [Art](#) [Nouveau](#) [Exhibition,](#) [Europeana](#)

Individual item:
Hokusai, *Iris et sauterelle*.

Individual item
metadata includes title,
creator, description,
source, rights, etc: the
elements of the Dublin
Core metadata schema.

Exhibitions > Art Nouveau > Themes > Influences & Inspirations

[f](#) [t](#) [g+](#) [+](#)

[<](#) Return to exhibition



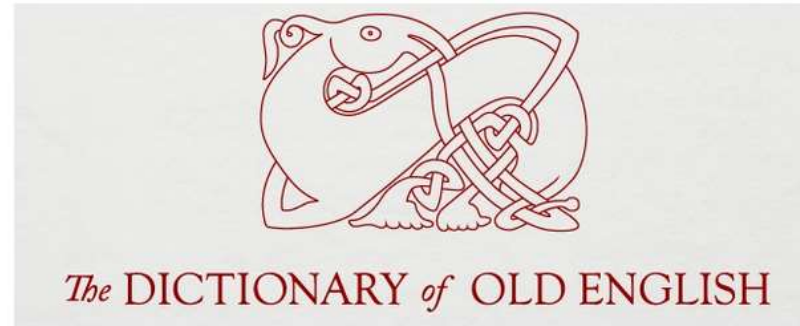
Title: Iris et sauterelle
Creator: Katsushika Hokusai
Description: estampe nishike-e, estampe (technique),
Série des "Grandes fleurs" 1833-1834
Source: [Europeana](#)
Paris, musée Guimet - musée national des Arts asiatiques
Rights: (C) RMN -
Thierry Ollivier
Provider: Culture.fr/collections ; France
License: Creative
Commons License

Cite on Wikipedia

```
{{cite web |url=http://exhibitions.europeana.eu/items/show/33 |title=Iris et sauterelle |author=Katsushika Hokusai |accessdate=13 March 2015 |publisher=Europeana}}
```


A Word Is Born: The Life and Work of the Dictionary of Old English

A Word Is Born showcases
the life and work of the
Dictionary of Old English,
University of Toronto.



- [Browse Items](#)
- [Browse Exhibits](#)
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Welcome to A Word Is Born, a digital project about the Dictionary of Old English.

FEATURED ITEM

Research Collection

The DOE's research collection includes a reference library of dictionaries; at least one copy of each known Old English text; semantic and...



RECENTLY ADDED ITEMS

Help Manual

A help manual for the Dictionary of Old English and the Dictionary of Old English Corpus (July 2014).

Dictionary of Old English & Dictionary of Old English Corpus for Historians

How to use the DOE and the Corpus to mine primary texts and research history, law, medicine—even without a background in Old English

Dictionary of Old English Corpus: Searching for Phrases and Word Combinations

How to search the DOE Corpus for multiple words: phrases, word combinations, expressions. Includes regular expression and proximity searches.

A Word Is Born: The Life and Work of the Dictionary of Old English

Part of an exhibit in A Word Is Born: An interview with the Dictionary's Drafting Editors, David and Ian McDougall, illustrated by photographs from the Dictionary's archives.

Browse Items **Browse Exhibits** About Contact Us Help

A Word Is Born: A Digital Exhibit for The Dictionary of Old English Project

"This Was Forgotten Space" **"A Construction Site Full of Hazards"** DOE Project Foundations Workflow Sustainability Teaching

Teaching Ideas

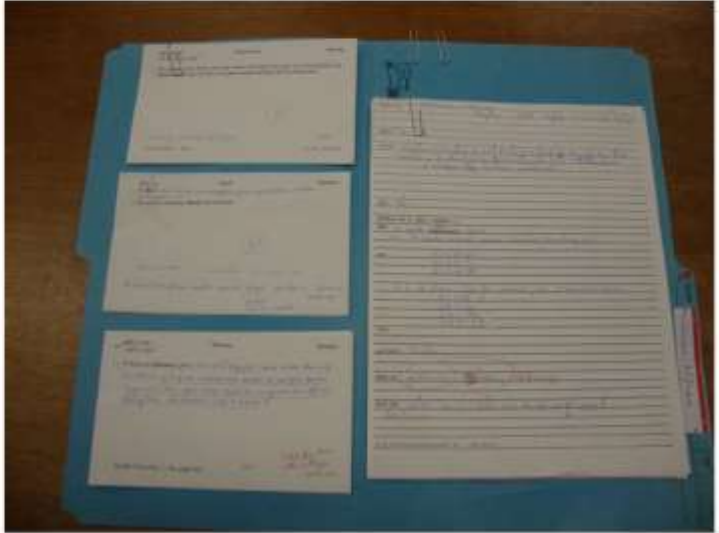
"A CONSTRUCTION SITE FULL OF HAZARDS"

David and Ian McDougall have worked as drafting editors at the Dictionary of Old English since 1985. In this interview with Alexandra Bolintineanu, they talk about life at the dictionary, its beginnings, methodology, and challenges.

How would you describe the DOE's lexicographical method? In other words, how do you define Old English words?

"The DOE's lexicographical method is more or less like this: We work on a construction site full of hazards, trying to build a large structure. Entries are part of the structure and have to bear the weight of all entries built on top of them. But entries are also tools: you are making a tool that everyone else will have to use to make their own entries. So you draft an entry, and later another editor who has to refer to it may discover that it's not as useful as it might have been. There are always mistakes; error management is part of the job.

"We start with the evidence of the DOE corpus. Based on this evidence, we produce slips with citations that illustrate the different contextual senses of a word. Take the word "have," for instance: there is a distinction between "I have a knife in my hand" and "I have a knife in my back"—a distinction very obvious to the one with the knife in his back. But the





<https://silveragecomics.omeka.net/>

Heroes and Villains: Silver Age Comics


Advanced Search

Heroes and Villains is a digital archive of Silver Age superhero comic books from J. Murrey Atkins Library Special Collections. Credits: Marc Bess, [J. Murrey Atkins Library Digital Scholarship Lab](#), UNC Charlotte.

About the Exhibit	Comics Timeline	Browse Exhibits	Browse Collections	Browse Items	Resources
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ABOUT THE EXHIBIT

Heroes and Villains - Silver Age Comics

Heroes and Villains: Silver Age Comics at Atkins Library is an exhibit of Silver Age superhero comic books from J. Murrey Atkins Library Special Collections. The exhibit particularly highlights comics of the era published by industry leaders DC Comics and Marvel Comics.

Omeka's Building Blocks

- Items (= content of Omeka)
- Metadata (= information about information – Dublin Core metadata schema)
- Collections (= a group of items; an item can be in only one collection at a time)
- Exhibits (= a narrative woven around some items; an item can be in as many exhibits as desired)

Items

- Items are the building blocks of Omeka collections. They have metadata (Title, Description, Source, Date, etc.) and may have digital files attached.

BROWSE ITEMS (78 TOTAL)

[Browse All](#) [Browse by Tag](#) [Search Items](#)

of 8 [Next Page](#)

Sort by: [Title](#) [Creator](#) [Date Added](#) ▾

The Incredible Hulk #103 [Cover]

This is the cover of The Incredible Hulk issue #103 with a publication date of May 1968. The cover depicts the Hulk in battle against the Space Parasite. The two characters are fighting in an arena as a spaceship hovering above them casts beams of...

Tags: [comic book covers](#), [Frank Giacoia](#), [Marie Severin](#), [Marvel Comics Group](#), [The Hulk](#), [The Incredible Hulk](#)



Metadata

- Metadata is structured data about data.
- For example, think about your library's online catalogue: it contains the records of books, about which it tracks items of information such as Author, Title, Publisher, Editor, Date.
- The metadata schema that underlies Omeka is Dublin Core, a basic yet internationally accepted metadata schema.

THE INCREDIBLE HULK #103 [COVER]

Title

The Incredible Hulk #103 [Cover]

Subject

The Incredible Hulk
The Hulk
Marvel Comics Group
Comic book covers

Description

This is the cover of The Incredible Hulk issue #103 with a publication date of May 1968. The cover depicts the Hulk in fighting in an arena as a spaceship hovering above them casts beams of yellow light. The Hulk has one hand grasped being lifted off the ground. The Space Parasite has a glowing sword in his other hand and is preparing to strike The Hulk at the bottom of the cover.

Creator

Severin, Marie
Giacola, Frank

Source

Collections

- Collections are logical groupings or “folders” of Items. An item can be in only one Collection at a time.
- Click on “Browse Collections”

BROWSE COLLECTIONS (21 TOTAL)

1 of 3 Next Page

Sort by: [Title](#) [Date Added](#) ▲

Iron Man and Sub-Mariner

Covers, pages, and panels from Iron and Sub-Mariner, a one-shot comic book published by Marvel Comics Group.

[View the items in Iron Man and Sub-Mariner](#)



Tales to Astonish

Covers, pages, and panels from Tales to Astonish, a comic book series published by Marvel Comics Group.

[View the items in Tales to Astonish](#)



The Invincible Iron Man


Covers, pages, and panels from The Invincible Iron Man, a comic book series published by Marvel Comics Group.

[View the items in The Invincible Iron Man](#)



Exhibits

- Exhibits are narratives woven around some items, telling their story and explaining their significance. An item can be in as many exhibits as you, the curator, desires.



Browse Exhibits

BROWSE EXHIBITS (6 TOTAL)

[Browse All](#) [Browse by Tag](#)

DC Women of the Silver Age


During the Silver Age, DC Comics published multiple ongoing series featuring female characters. Among the publisher's most popular characters were Supergirl, Wonder Woman, Catwoman, and Lois Lane.

Like many popular works of this era, the depiction of female characters in these comics was often dismissive, sexist, and sometimes downright offensive. Indeed, the depiction of female characters in mainstream comic books remains controversial. These works reflect a time where women had fewer choices and were often expected to fit into circumscribed roles in society.

This exhibit highlights covers, pages, and panels from DC Comics comic books featuring female

Heroes and Villains: Silver Age Comics

Exhibit: [DC Women of the Silver Age](#). The exhibit is an Omeka Exhibit, a digital narrative showcasing a selection of Items from the collection. Note the exhibit's structure on the left.



[Browse Items](#) [Browse Collections](#) [About the Exhibit](#) [Comics Code Authority](#) [Comics Timeline](#) [Full Collection List](#) [Resources](#)


[Browse Exhibits](#)

WONDER WOMAN

Created in the early 1940's by psychologist William Moulton Marston, Wonder Woman is arguably the most iconic female character to emerge from mainstream American comic books in the 20th century. A rarity among female characters, Wonder Woman became popular without any connection to an existing male character. Published throughout the 1940's and 50's, even when superhero comics were at their lowest point, Wonder Woman is routinely cited as one of DC Comics' "big three" characters along with Batman and Superman.

An Amazon princess who leaves her homeland to fight the forces of evil, Wonder Woman became a feminist symbol in a time where strong female characters were almost non-existent in pop culture.

The cover of Wonder Woman #172 is typical of the title's covers of this time period, depicting the character more than holding her own in hand to hand combat.



DC WOMEN OF THE SILVER AGE

Covers, Pages, and Panels

- Wonder Woman
- Lois Lane
- Batgirl
- Supergirl

Heroes and Villains: Silver Age Comics

The exhibit is a narrative about the historical evolution of Wonder Woman. Embedded in the narrative (left) are items from the digital collection (right).

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The cover of Wonder Woman #172 is typical of the title's covers of this time period, depicting the character more than holding her own in hand to hand combat.

This is also notable as one of the last Silver Age issues where Wonder Woman wears anything resembling her classic debut costume. The character's wardrobe was significantly retooled in issue #178 to create a more "mod" look.

Supergirl joined forces with Wonder Woman for issue #177 as the two superheroines find themselves kidnapped and forced to fight "for the honor of marrying Klamos," a villainous despot intent on finding the perfect mate. The heroes eventually work together to defeat the villain.

The cover is interesting in that it's not immediately clear from expressions and posture whether the characters are fighting over a male character or their own free will.



Cover of Wonder Woman #172, penciled by Irv Novick



Comic covers are individual items chosen by the exhibit's creator. Clicking on a cover reveals each item's metadata.

Create Omeka Site

Go to omeka.net. Click on Sign Up. Choose the Basic plan (free option at the very bottom) and fill in your information. You'll need to provide an email address for the link to activate your account.

Once you've signed up, check your email for the link to activate your account.

Your activation link will take you to the Dashboard of your Omeka account. Click on Add a Site. Give it your last name (for example, my site would be called bolintineanu.omeka.net).

Congratulations! You now have an empty Omeka site.



The screenshot shows the Omeka.net website homepage. At the top, there is a dark green header with the Omeka logo (a white square containing a golden spiral) and the text "omeka.net". To the right of the logo are links for "Plans", "Showcase", "Help", "News", and "About". Below the header is a light yellow banner with the text "Welcome, bolintineanu! | [My Dashboard](#) | [My Account](#) | [Logout](#)". The main content area features the headline "Your online exhibit is one click away" in a large, elegant serif font. Below this, there is a section titled "What is Omeka.net?" with a sub-header "from Omeka". The text reads: "Let Omeka.net host your collections, research, exhibits, and digital projects." and includes a prominent orange "Sign Up!" button. To the right of the "Sign Up!" button are three circular icons: a heart, a clock, and a paper plane. Below the "Sign Up!" button is a video player with a play button, a progress bar showing "02:20", and the Vimeo logo. To the right of the video player is a "Latest News" section with the headline "Collaborate in class with Omeka". The text below the headline reads: "Have you thought about using Omeka.net with your students this fall? With one-click options to install plugins, sites are quick to set-up and easy to manage. Your students can sign up for their own Omeka.net accounts and build their own sites as well as collaborate on sites which you own. Small groups can work together [...] [Read more.](#)"

Add an item



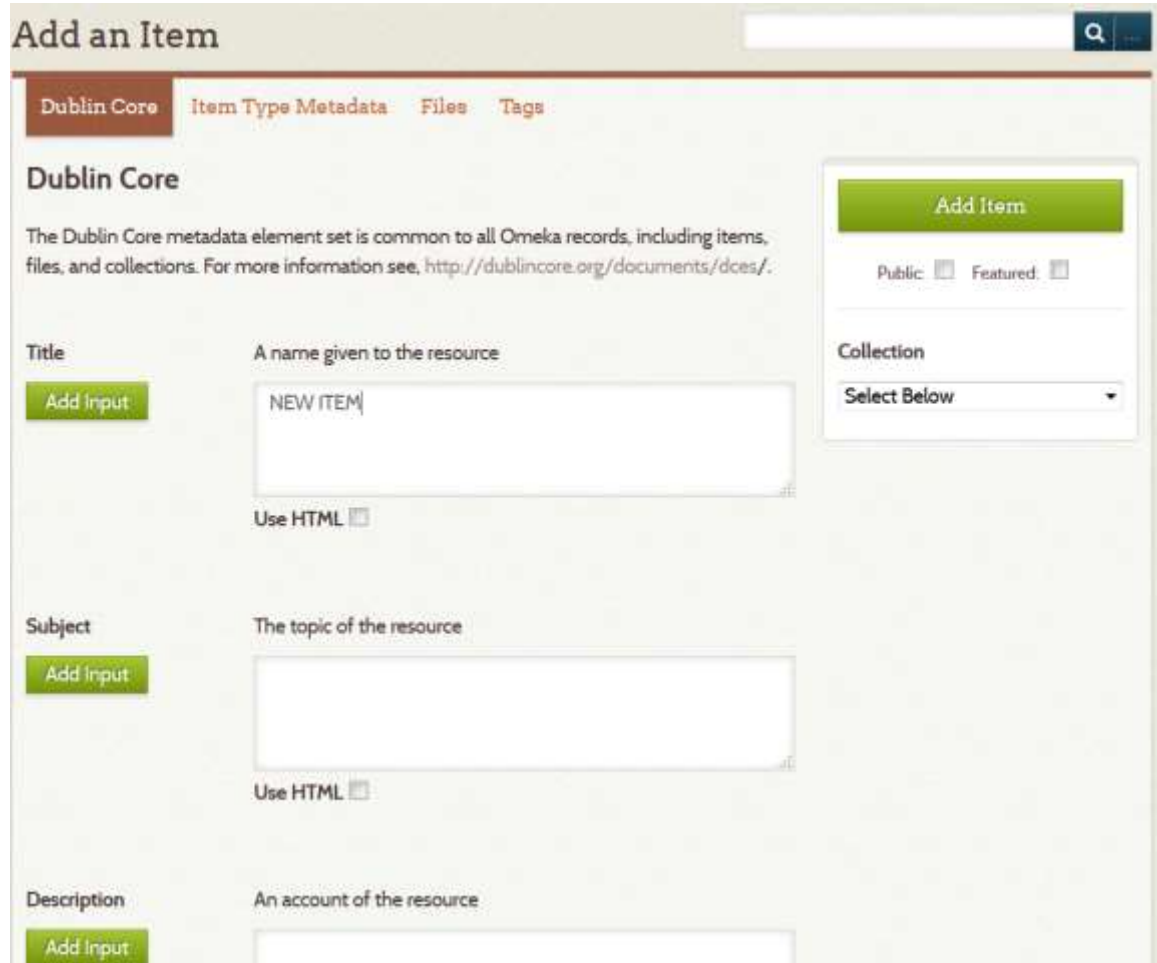
The screenshot shows a web interface for managing items. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with options: Dashboard, Items, Collections, Item Types, Tags, Exhibits, Simple Pages, and CSV Import. A red arrow points to the 'Items' option. The main content area is titled 'Browse Items (168 total)' and features a search bar. Below the title is a row of action buttons: 'Add an Item' (highlighted in green), 'Show Details', 'Search Items', 'Edit', 'Delete', and 'Quick Filter'. A pagination control shows '1 of 4' items. Below the buttons is a table with columns: Title, Creator, Type, and Date Added. The table contains two rows of item data.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Title	Creator	Type	Date Added
<input type="checkbox"/>	William Shakespeare, 'The Merry Wives of Windsor,' Comedies, Histories & Tragedies (London, 1623), sig D3 Details · Edit · Delete		Text	Mar 10, 2015
<input type="checkbox"/>	Thomas Dekker, <i>Work for Armourers</i> (London, 1609), Bv-B2 Details · Edit · Delete		Text	Mar 10, 2015

- Go to Dashboard and select “Items”
- Select “Add an Item”

Add an item: Dublin Core Metadata

- In the Item's fields, enter the metadata: Title, Subject, Description, etc. Before you add items to your collection, you will have figured out how the Dublin Core metadata schema applies to your particular data: consistency across your collection is key.
- For example, for medieval manuscripts, you can list authors of the texts under Author: but what of known scribes, who may have also intervened in the text? Are they Authors or Publishers or Contributors? Pick what makes sense and apply it consistently.
- For details on Dublin Core : <http://dublincore.org/documents/dces/>
- If you wish the Item to be visible on the public view of the site, check "Public" (under "Add Item").
- Click "Add Item" (green, right).



The screenshot shows the 'Add an Item' interface in Omeka. At the top, there are tabs for 'Dublin Core', 'Item Type Metadata', 'Files', and 'Tags'. The 'Dublin Core' tab is selected. Below the tabs, there is a green 'Add Item' button. To the right of the button are checkboxes for 'Public' and 'Featured'. Below these is a 'Collection' dropdown menu with 'Select Below' as the current selection. The main form area contains three input fields: 'Title' (with a description 'A name given to the resource' and a value of 'NEW ITEM'), 'Subject' (with a description 'The topic of the resource'), and 'Description' (with a description 'An account of the resource'). Each field has a green 'Add Input' button to its left and a 'Use HTML' checkbox below it.

Add CRRS item + image – live demo

Add an Item: Success

Browse Items (168 total)

The item "NEW ITEM" was successfully added!

[Add an Item](#) [Show Details](#) [Search Items](#) [Edit](#) [Delete](#) [Quick Filter](#)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Title ↕	Creator ↕	Type	Date Added
<input type="checkbox"/>	NEW ITEM (Private) Details · Edit · Delete			Mar 20, 20

Success: our trial item ("New Item") was created and added to the digital collection!

Omeka's Building Blocks: Collections



Browse Collections (2 total)

[Add a Collection](#)

Title	Contributors	Date Added	Total Number of Items
Events (Private) Edit	No contributors	Feb 20, 2015	58
Transcription Records (Private) Edit	No contributors	Feb 20, 2015	107

[Add a Collection](#)

Powered by Omeka | [Documentation](#) | [Support Forums](#) Version 2.2.2 | [System Information](#)

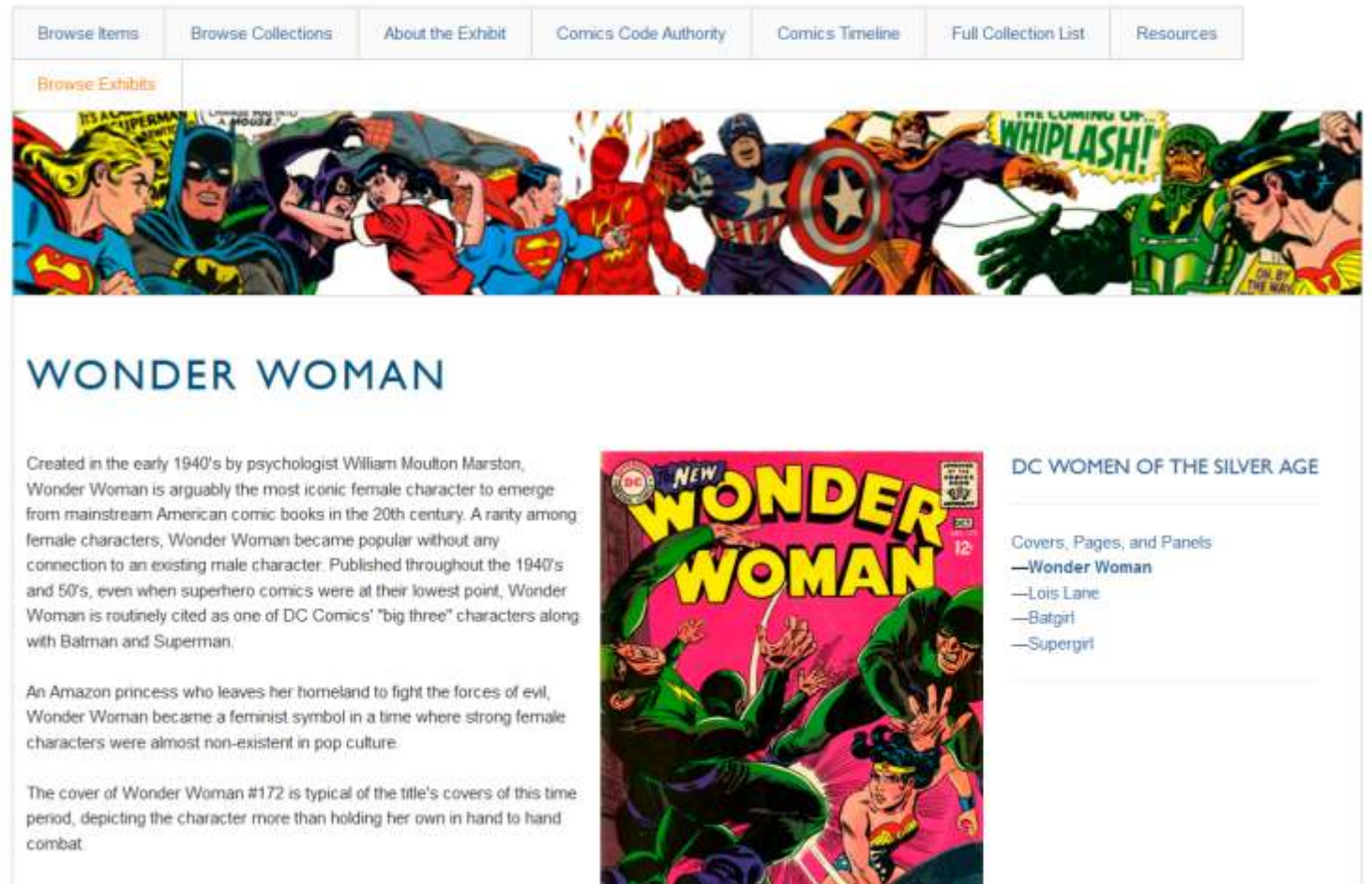
- Collections are logical groupings or “folders” of Items. An item can be in only one Collection at a time.
- Go to Dashboard and select “Collections”
- Select “Add a Collection”
- Fill in the metadata elements as desired, as for Item. (Everything in Omeka has metadata: it is turtles all the way down.)

Add an Exhibit: Plan

- The Exhibit is a narrative pathway through the collection; or, if you will, a digital essay based on the items in your collection.
- First write the prose for your exhibit and decide what items need to appear in it.
- To look pretty in the Exhibit, the items need to have picture or video files attached.
- Save your prose in a plain text file. Put your immortal prose somewhere safe. **Omeka Exhibits cannot be exported automatically: and if you ever delete yours in error, there is no getting it back.**
- Look at other Omeka sites and do a paper mock-up or a Pinterest board to work out how you want your Exhibit to look.

Add an Exhibit: Structure

- An Omeka Exhibit has:
 - An overview page
 - Content pages
 - The overview page displays an abstract (summary) of your exhibit
 - The content pages display text as well as items (remember, to look pretty, the items need to have files attached)
- You get to decide the content and layout of your pages



The screenshot shows a web interface for an exhibit. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: "Browse Items", "Browse Collections", "About the Exhibit", "Comics Code Authority", "Comics Timeline", "Full Collection List", and "Resources". Below this is a "Browse Exhibits" section with a large, colorful banner image featuring various DC superheroes in action. The main content area is titled "WONDER WOMAN" in large blue letters. Below the title is a paragraph of text: "Created in the early 1940's by psychologist William Moulton Marston, Wonder Woman is arguably the most iconic female character to emerge from mainstream American comic books in the 20th century. A rarity among female characters, Wonder Woman became popular without any connection to an existing male character. Published throughout the 1940's and 50's, even when superhero comics were at their lowest point, Wonder Woman is routinely cited as one of DC Comics' 'big three' characters along with Batman and Superman." To the right of this text is a thumbnail image of a "NEW WONDER WOMAN" comic book cover. Below the text is another paragraph: "An Amazon princess who leaves her homeland to fight the forces of evil, Wonder Woman became a feminist symbol in a time where strong female characters were almost non-existent in pop culture." At the bottom left, there is a caption: "The cover of Wonder Woman #172 is typical of the title's covers of this time period, depicting the character more than holding her own in hand to hand combat." On the right side of the page, there is a section titled "DC WOMEN OF THE SILVER AGE" with a sub-section "Covers, Pages, and Panels" containing a list: "—Wonder Woman", "—Lois Lane", "—Batgirl", and "—Supergirl".

Add an Exhibit: Creation



The screenshot shows the Omeka dashboard interface. On the left is a vertical navigation menu with the following items: Dashboard, Items, Collections, Item Types, Tags, Exhibits (highlighted in blue), Simple Pages, and CSV Import. The main content area is titled "Browse Exhibits (1 total)". It features a green "Add an Exhibit" button at the top. Below the button is a table with one exhibit entry. The table has a header row with "Title" and a dropdown arrow. The entry below shows the title "Blood and Spectacle: The Beasts of the Beargarden (Private)" in red text, with "Edit" and "Delete" links in blue text below it. At the bottom of the main content area, there is a footer that reads "Powered by Omeka | Documentation | Support Forums".

- Go to the Dashboard and click on Exhibits.
- Click Add an Exhibit.

Add an Exhibit: Metadata

- Every Exhibit has metadata.
- Title displays as the Exhibits title.
- Slug forms the URL.
- Description is an abstract of the Exhibit that appears on its first page.

Edit Exhibit "Philip Henslowe and Bear..."

Exhibits > Edit Exhibit "Philip Henslowe and Bearbaiting"

Exhibit Metadata

Title

Slug No spaces or special characters allowed

Credits

Description
B I U | Paragraph
This exhibit focuses on [Philip Henslowe](#), a remarkable theatre entrepreneur in early modern London, and traces his management of bearbaiting venues and activities in Southwark.

Tags

Theme

Public: Featured:

Add an Exhibit: Structure

- The Exhibit consists of Pages.
- Each Page is a section of your Exhibit.
- To build your Exhibit, start adding Pages by clicking the Add Page green button.

Exhibit Metadata

Title

Slug
No spaces or special characters allowed

Credits

Description
B I U | | | | | | Heading 1

This abstract (summary) your Exhibit appears on i page.

Tags

Theme

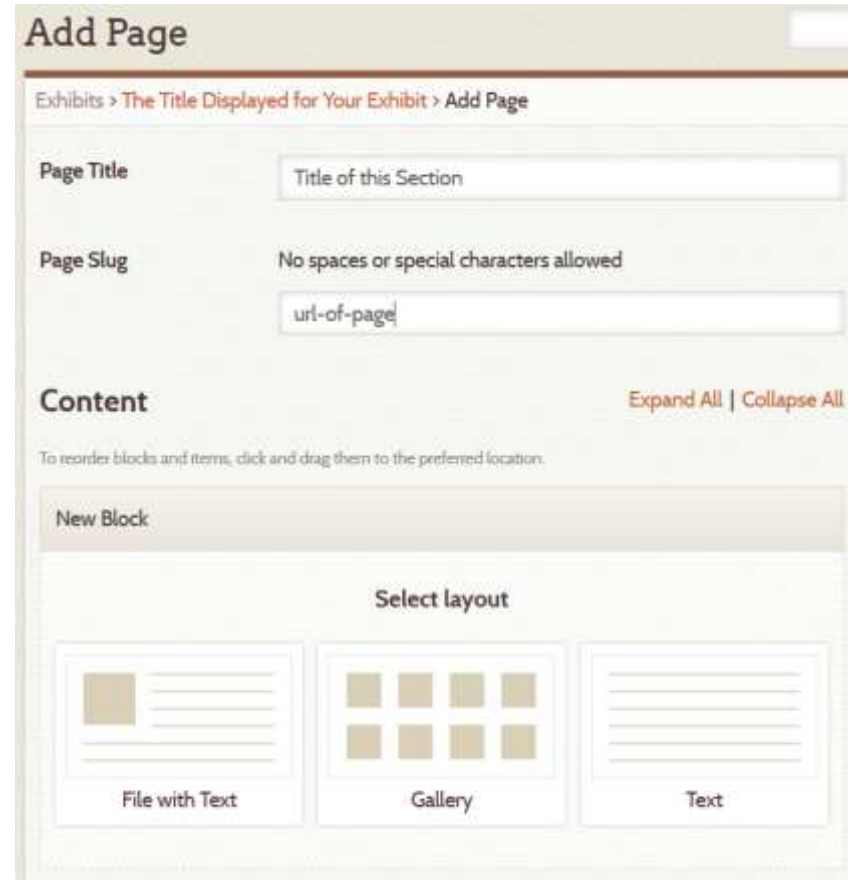
Pages

There are no pages.

[Add Page](#)

Add an Exhibit: Pages

- Each Page may consist of multiple blocks:
 - Text and an item block
 - A gallery of items block
 - Text block
- To create a new Block, click on the desired layout. This block will be added as a section of this page. Your page can contain as many blocks as you like; you can drag them around to rearrange them.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "Add Page". At the top, there is a breadcrumb trail: "Exhibits > The Title Displayed for Your Exhibit > Add Page". The form is divided into several sections:

- Page Title:** A text input field containing "Title of this Section".
- Page Slug:** A text input field containing "url-of-page". Above the field, it says "No spaces or special characters allowed".
- Content:** A section with a "New Block" header and a "Select layout" sub-header. Below this, there are three layout options: "File with Text" (a square icon next to text lines), "Gallery" (a 2x2 grid of squares), and "Text" (text lines). To the right of the "Content" section, there are links for "Expand All" and "Collapse All".

Below the layout options, there is a note: "To reorder blocks and items, click and drag them to the preferred location."

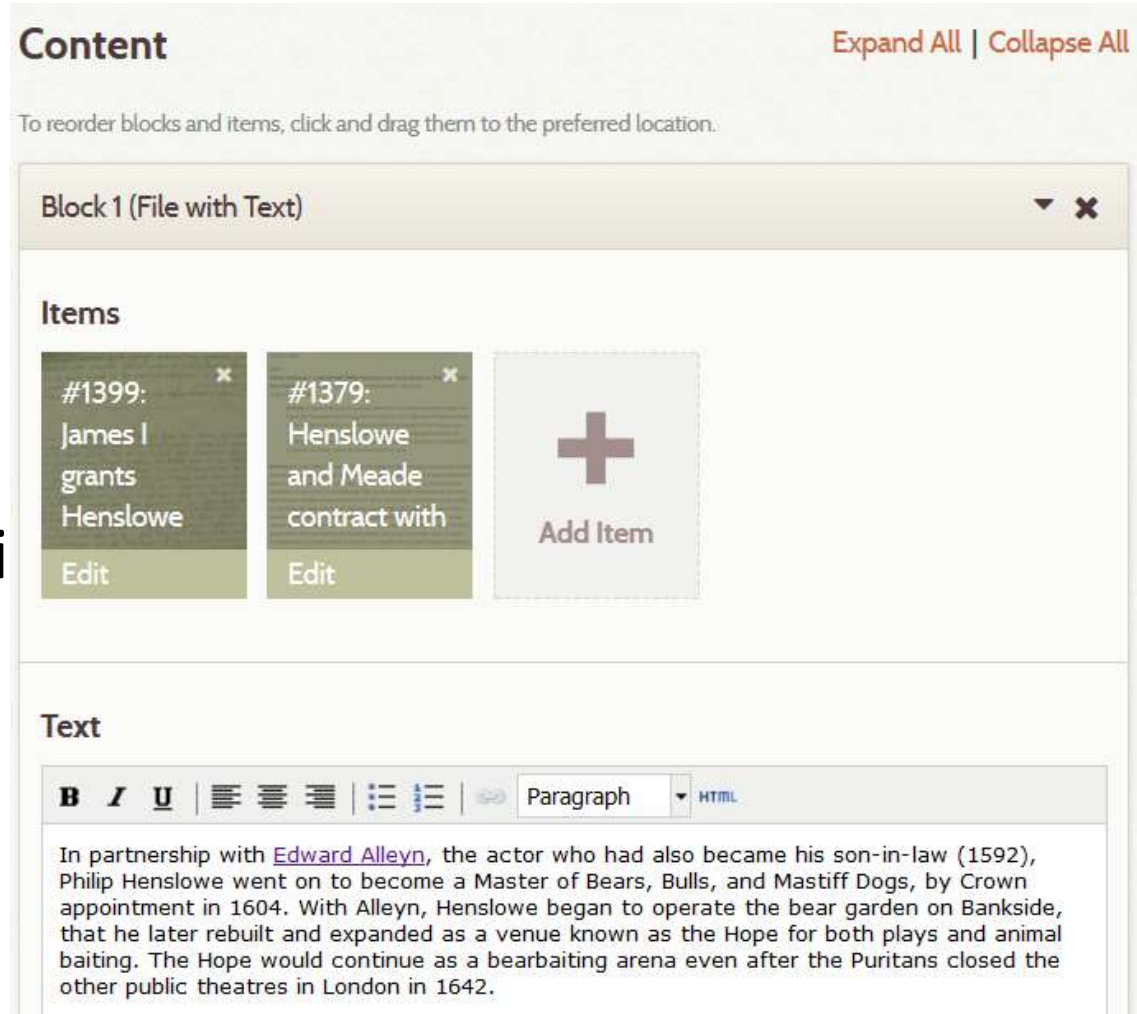
Add an Exhibit: Blocks

- Once you add a block, enter your narrative in the window labelled Text.
- Then click on the Add Item button to add items that illustrate your narrative.



Add an Exhibit: Blocks

- Once you have added your narrative and selected your Items, your block will look like this:
- To see what the Page actually looks like, select the View Public Page button (right side of browser, in line with Content).



The screenshot displays a 'Content' management interface. At the top, the word 'Content' is on the left, and 'Expand All | Collapse All' is on the right. Below this is a instruction: 'To reorder blocks and items, click and drag them to the preferred location.' The main area is titled 'Block 1 (File with Text)' and contains an 'Items' section. This section shows two items: '#1399: James I grants Henslowe' and '#1379: Henslowe and Meade contract with', each with an 'Edit' button. To the right of these items is a large '+' icon with the text 'Add Item'. Below the items is a 'Text' section with a rich text editor toolbar. The toolbar includes buttons for bold (B), italic (I), underline (U), bulleted list, numbered list, link, and unlink, along with a dropdown menu set to 'Paragraph' and a 'HTML' link. The text area contains a paragraph: 'In partnership with [Edward Alleyn](#), the actor who had also become his son-in-law (1592), Philip Henslowe went on to become a Master of Bears, Bulls, and Mastiff Dogs, by Crown appointment in 1604. With Alleyn, Henslowe began to operate the bear garden on Bankside, that he later rebuilt and expanded as a venue known as the Hope for both plays and animal baiting. The Hope would continue as a bearbaiting arena even after the Puritans closed the other public theatres in London in 1642.'

Add an Exhibit: Overall Design

- In your finished Exhibit, each Page will be a Section of the Narrative, illustrated with Items from your digital collection.
- You can use and reuse items from your collection in as many Exhibits as you wish.

Appearance

- You can customize the appearance of your Omeka site by configuring its theme (i.e. colours, fonts, and layout of the site, or even of an individual exhibit) and adding a logo image.

The screenshot displays the Omeka Appearance configuration page. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation tabs for Themes, Navigation, and Settings. The main content area shows the 'Berlin' theme selected as the 'Current Theme'. Below this, there is a 'Configure Theme' button. The interface also displays three other theme options: 'Rhythm', 'Seasons', and 'Minimalist'. Each theme option includes a preview image, a 'Use this theme' button, the theme name, the creator 'By Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media', and a 'Get support' link.

Appearance

Themes Navigation Settings

Current Theme

Berlin
By Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media
Abstraction of the Making the History of 1989 theme.
Get support

Configure Theme

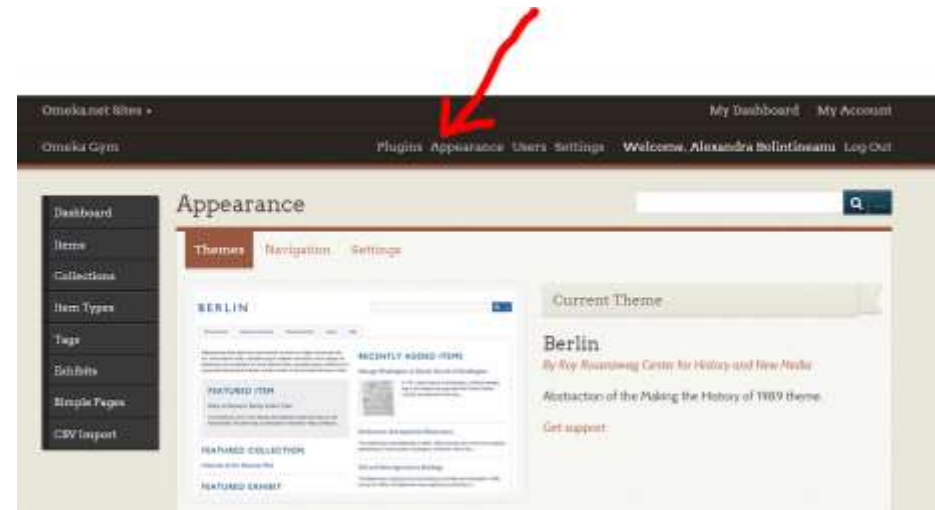
Rhythm
By Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media
Get support

Seasons
By Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media
Get support

Minimalist
By Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media
Get support

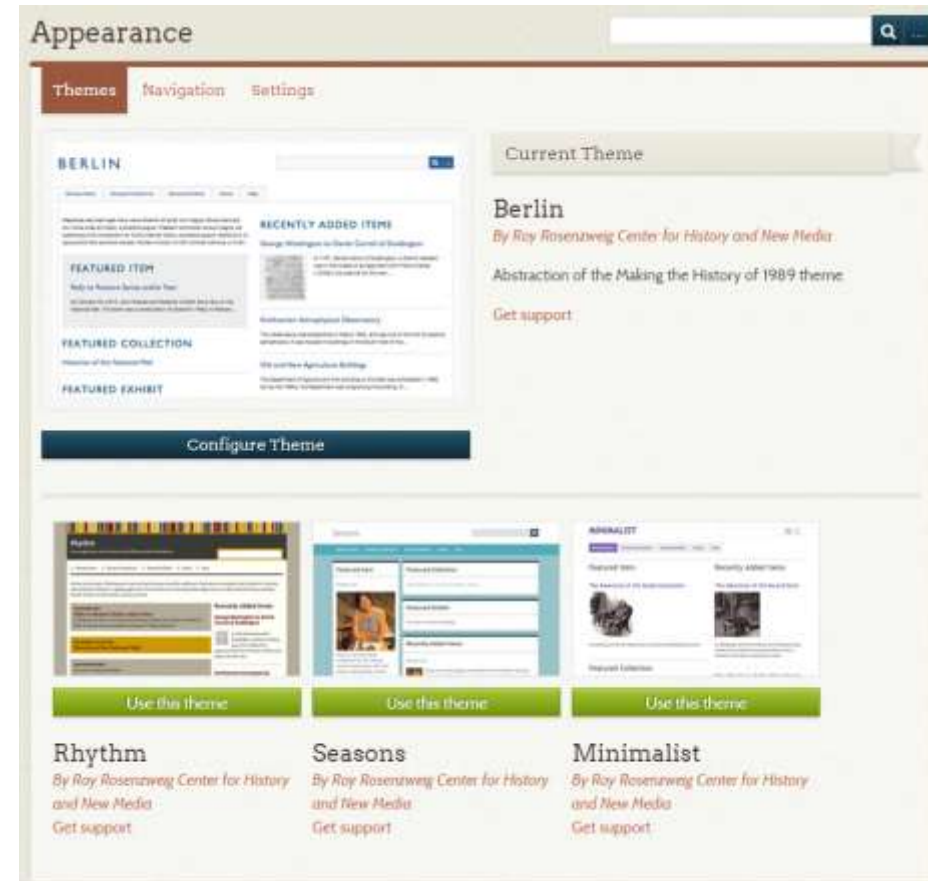
Appearance

- To configure the theme and add a header image to your Omeka site, first find or create that image.
- Go to Dashboard
- From the horizontal top menu, select Appearance



Appearance

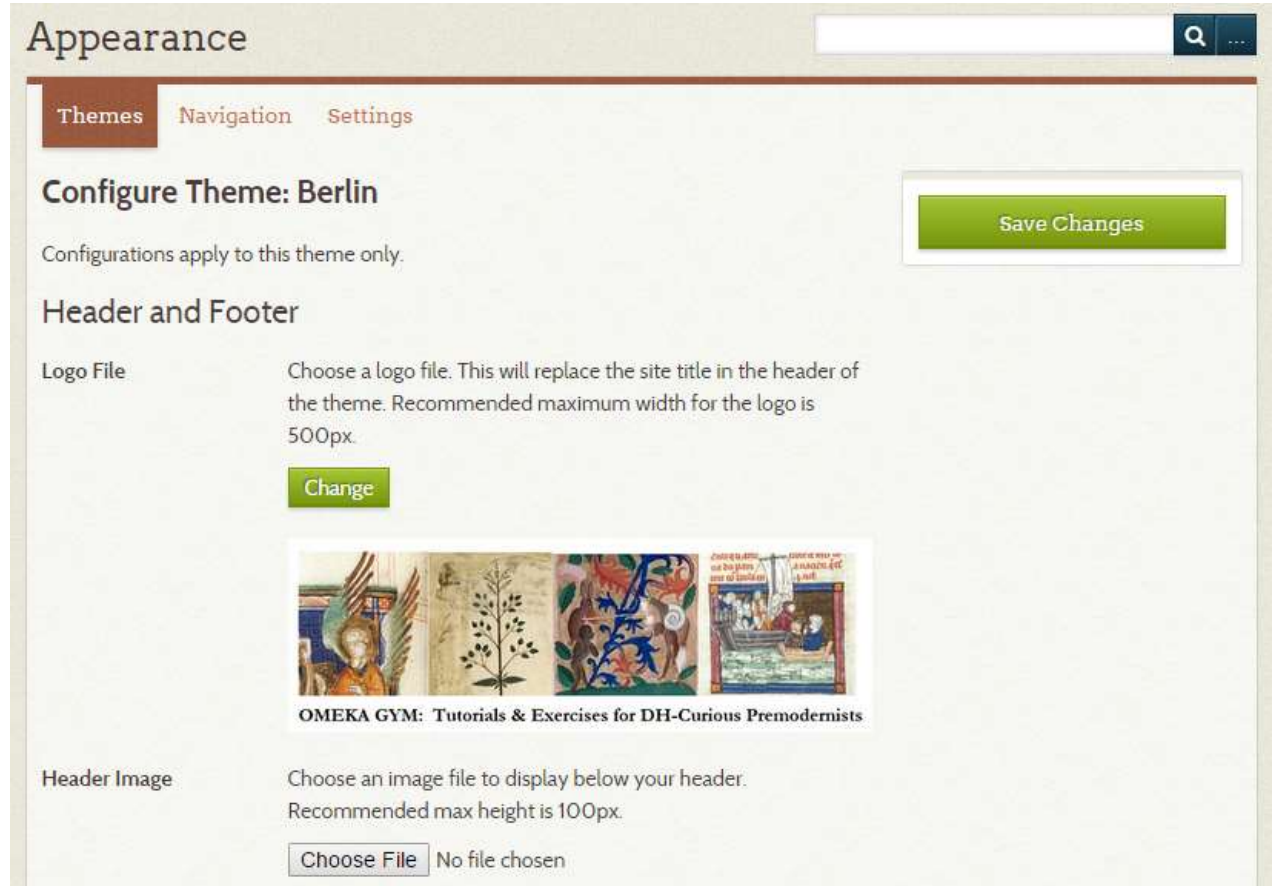
- Choose from the themes available. Your choice of theme will determine the fonts, colour scheme, and layout of your site (or of your exhibit).



The screenshot displays the 'Appearance' settings page. At the top, there are tabs for 'Themes', 'Navigation', and 'Settings'. The 'Themes' tab is active, showing a preview of the 'BERLIN' theme and a 'Configure Theme' button. Below this, three theme options are presented: 'Rhythm', 'Seasons', and 'Minimalist'. Each option includes a small preview image, the theme name, the creator 'By Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media', and a 'Get support' link. The 'Berlin' theme is currently selected, as indicated by the 'Current Theme' section at the top right of the theme selection area.

Appearance

- To configure your theme or add a logo for your site, select “Configure Theme.”
- Then add a logo or header image, paying attention to file size restrictions.
- Save changes.



The screenshot shows the 'Appearance' configuration interface for the Berlin theme. At the top, there are tabs for 'Themes', 'Navigation', and 'Settings'. The 'Configure Theme: Berlin' section is active, with a 'Save Changes' button on the right. Below this, the 'Header and Footer' section is visible. The 'Logo File' section includes a description: 'Choose a logo file. This will replace the site title in the header of the theme. Recommended maximum width for the logo is 500px.' A 'Change' button is provided. Below the description is a preview of the current logo, which is a collage of four historical manuscript pages. The text below the preview reads 'OMEKA GYM: Tutorials & Exercises for DH-Curious Premodernists'. The 'Header Image' section includes a description: 'Choose an image file to display below your header. Recommended max height is 100px.' A 'Choose File' button is present, followed by the text 'No file chosen'.

Appearance

Themes Navigation Settings

Configure Theme: Berlin

Configurations apply to this theme only.

Save Changes

Header and Footer

Logo File

Choose a logo file. This will replace the site title in the header of the theme. Recommended maximum width for the logo is 500px.

Change

OMEKA GYM: Tutorials & Exercises for DH-Curious Premodernists

Header Image

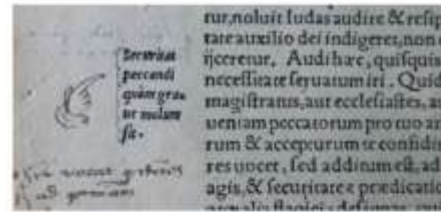
Choose an image file to display below your header. Recommended max height is 100px.

Choose File No file chosen

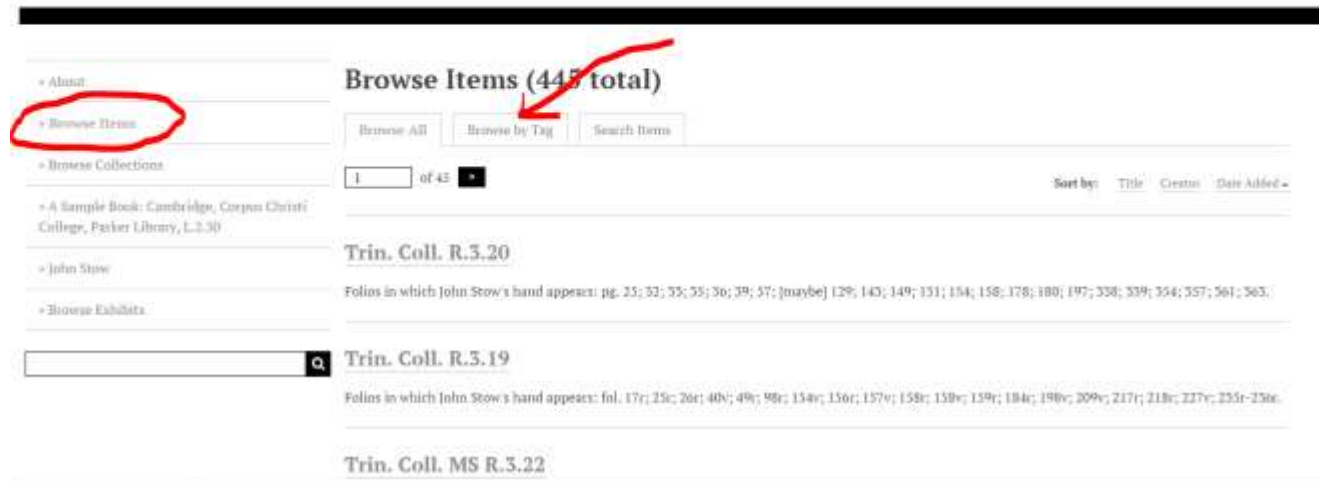
Visualize & Display Items by Criteria

Browse by Tag

- No need to log in for this task!
- Go to your Omeka website's home page.
- From the public menu, select "Browse Items."
- Then select "Browse by Tag."



**Matthew Parker's Printed Books:
An Online Catalogue of Scribal Additions**



The screenshot shows the Omeka website's 'Browse Items' page. The 'Browse Items (445 total)' section is highlighted with a red circle. The 'Browse by Tag' button is also highlighted with a red circle and an arrow. The page shows a list of items with search filters and a search bar.

Public menu: [Home](#) [Browse Items](#) [Browse Collections](#) [A Sample Book: Cambridge, Corpus Christi College, Parker Library, L.2.50](#) [John Stow](#) [Browse Exhibits](#)

Browse Items (445 total)

Browse All **Browse by Tag** Search Items

1 of 45 Sort by: Title Created Date Added

Trin. Coll. R.3.20
Folios in which John Stow's hand appears: pg. 25; 32; 33; 35; 36; 39; 57; [maybe] 129; 143; 149; 131; 154; 158; 178; 180; 197; 338; 339; 354; 357; 361; 363.

Trin. Coll. R.3.19
Folios in which John Stow's hand appears: fol. 17r; 25r; 26r; 40v; 49r; 98r; 154v; 156r; 157v; 158r; 158v; 159r; 184r; 190v; 209v; 217r; 218r; 227v; 235r-236r.

Trin. Coll. MS R.3.22

Visualize & Display Items by Criteria

Browse by Tag

- When you select “Browse by Tag,” Omeka displays the tags in use for your items.
- In this view, tags work like word clouds: the bigger the tag, the more items have that tag.
- In this example, manuscript shelfmarks are used as tags. Cambridge Corpus Christi Library MS. EP.N.2 is the shelfmark with the most items related to it.

Browse Items

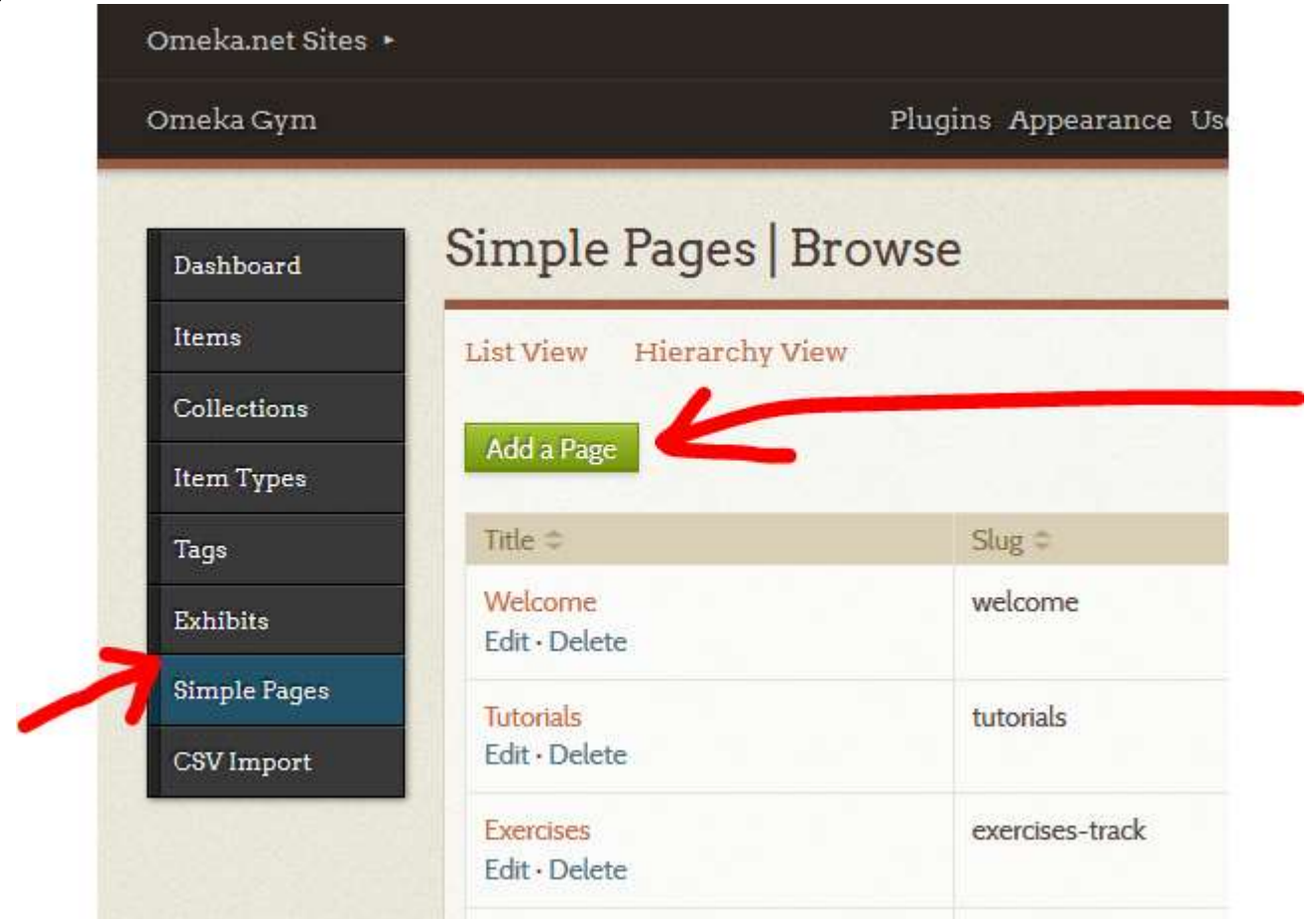


Visualize & Display Items by Criteria

- But what if you want more control? What if you want a page that displays all items with a specific tag -- for example, all items related to one manuscript's shelfmark?
- You could create an exhibit and manually add all items with the right shelfmark to that exhibit. But if you add more items with that shelfmark to your collection, these will be left out, and you will have to manually update your exhibit.
- There is an easier way: **shortcodes**.

Omeka: Custom Pages

- You can create custom pages for your Omeka site.



The screenshot shows the Omeka Gym admin interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Omeka.net Sites', 'Omeka Gym', and 'Plugins Appearance Us'. The left sidebar contains a menu with items: Dashboard, Items, Collections, Item Types, Tags, Exhibits, Simple Pages (highlighted with a red arrow), and CSV Import. The main content area is titled 'Simple Pages | Browse' and features two view options: 'List View' and 'Hierarchy View'. A green 'Add a Page' button is prominently displayed, with a red arrow pointing to it from the right. Below the button is a table listing existing pages.

Title ↕	Slug ↕
Welcome Edit · Delete	welcome
Tutorials Edit · Delete	tutorials
Exercises Edit · Delete	exercises-track

Omeka: Custom Pages

- You can add content to the new page: either prose you've created, or items automatically selected from your site.

The screenshot shows the Omeka Simple Pages 'Add Page' interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Omeka.net Sites' and 'My Dashboard My Account'. Below that, a secondary bar shows 'Omeka Gym' and 'Plugins Appearance Users Settings Welcome, Alexandra Bolintineanu Log Out'. A left sidebar contains menu items: Dashboard, Items, Collections, Item Types, Tags, Exhibits, Simple Pages (highlighted), and CSV Import. The main content area is titled 'Simple Pages | Add Page' and includes a search bar. The form fields are: 'Title*' (required, with a description 'Name and heading for the page (required)') and an input field; 'Slug' (with a description 'The slug is the part of the URL for this page. A slug will be created automatically from the title if one is not entered. Letters, numbers, underscores, dashes, and forward slashes are allowed.') and an input field; 'Use HTML editor?' (a checkbox with the text 'Check this to add an HTML editor bar for easily creating HTML'); and 'Text' (with a description 'Add content for page. This field supports shortcodes. For a list of available shortcodes, refer to the Omeka Codex.') and a large text area. On the right side, there is a 'Save Changes' button, a 'Parent' dropdown menu (set to 'Main Page (No Parent)') with the text 'The parent page', an 'Order' input field (set to '0') with the text 'The order of the page relative to the other pages with the same parent', and a 'Publish this page?' checkbox (checked) with the text 'Checking this box will make the page public'.

Omeka: Shortcodes

- Shortcodes are formulas you can embed in an Omeka page. These formulas allow you to select items that fulfill specific criteria
(more on shortcodes:
<http://info.omeka.net/shortcodes/>)
- To add a shortcode to a page, go to your Dashboard, select the Page, and select Edit. Then add the shortcode to the page's Text field. Save changes.

Examples:

[items tags=L.2.30] displays items bearing the shelfmark L.2.30 as a tag.

The screenshot shows the 'Edit' interface for a page titled "Scribal Additions" in the Omeka Simple Pages system. The page was created by bolintineanu on 4/6/15, 1:40 PM, and last modified by bolintineanu on 4/6/15, 2:55 PM.

The form includes the following fields and options:

- Title***: Name and heading for the page (required). The value is "Scribal Additions".
- Slug**: The slug is the part of the URL for this page. A slug will be created automatically from the title if one is not entered. Letters, numbers, underscores, dashes, and forward slashes are allowed. The value is "scribal-additions-sample".
- Use HTML editor?**: Check this to add an HTML editor bar for easily creating HTML.
- Text**: Add content for page. This field supports shortcodes. For a list of available shortcodes, refer to the [Omeka Codex](#). The content includes a heading "Parker Library, L.2.30" and a paragraph: "Commentariorum vrbanoru[m] Raphaelis Volaterrani, octo & triginta libri cum duplici eoru[n]dem indice secundum tomos collecto.. Item Oeconomicus Xenophontis, ab eodem latio donatus.. (University of Cambridge, [Newton Library Catalogue 576588](#))". Below the text, the shortcode "[items tags=L.2.30]" is highlighted in yellow.

On the right side, there are three buttons: "Save Changes" (green), "View Public Page" (dark blue), and "Delete" (brown). Below these are additional options:

- Parent**: A dropdown menu set to "Main Page (No Parent)". The label below it says "The parent page".
- Order**: A text input field containing the number "0". The label below it says "The order of the page relative to the other pages with the same parent".
- Publish this page?**: . The label below it says "Checking this box will make the page public".

Omeka: Shortcodes

- `[items tags=L.2.30]` displays items bearing the shelfmark L.2.30 as a tag.
- Public view of the page: all items (in this site's case, annotations) related to shelfmark L.2.30
- What else can shortcodes do? Read more on shortcodes: <http://info.omeka.net/shortcodes>

Scribal Additions

Parker Library, L.2.30

Commentariorum vrbanoru[m] Raphaelis Volaterrani, octo & triginta libri cum duplici eoru[n]dem indice secundum tomos collecto.. Item Oeconomicus Xenophontis, ab eodem latio donatus.. (University of Cambridge, [Newton Library Catalogue 576588](#))

[Annotation in L.2.30 at fol. 121r bottom](#)



[Annotation in L.2.30 at fol. 121r right](#)



[Annotation in L.2.30 at fol. 121v left](#)



Building an Omeka Site

- Decide if Omeka is right for you: it is not a preservation platform, nor a powerful search platform, but a beautiful, user-friendly platform for digital collections and collection-based digital essays.
- Design the information: what data will the Omeka site contain? What digital artifacts? How will its contents be described in terms of the Dublin Core metadata standard?
- Make a project plan with deadlines. But allow for disasters.
- Prototype: Make a site with 1 item. Create a spreadsheet with a batch of 5 items, of different types if necessary. Link up the files. Get feedback on the site from your collaborators.
- In fact, prototype and iteratively test each step of your process.
- Organize items in collections.
- Build exhibits: plan your exhibits (possibly on paper); draft and save in word processing software (because you cannot export exhibit contents from Omeka the way you can export items); then paste into Omeka.
- Document your process: crosswalks, spreadsheets, data processing scripts, exhibit narratives (save these in as plain a format as you can).