

# From Abstract to Virtual Entities: Implementation of Work-Based Searching in a Multimedia Digital Library

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**Abstract.** Libraries of digitized multimedia content provide access to virtual entities. In the case of music, where there are frequently many different performances, editions, and arrangements of a given work, the Variations2 metadata model, links all instances of a work to an abstract work record, thus yielding superior search capabilities to digital library users. This paper summarizes the motivation for addressing the music metadata problem and describes the Variations2 search user interface, which is based on our work-centric, FRBR-like metadata model.