

"Abstract"

During the past four years, public libraries in Denmark, Norway and Sweden have all begun to implement virtual music collections for their patrons. These services are simply a traditional library service in a new, digital form, yet they have challenged our perception of what we do and how we do it.

Acquisitions, cataloguing, presentation and of course circulation must all be approached in new ways, and we must relate to new partners in order to create and maintain the service.

Each country has chosen slightly different technical platforms, providers, and repertoire, and each country has gone through ? or is in the process of going through ? negotiations with the relevant rights organisations. How are these services to be funded, and who should pay? What is the balance between physical and virtual collections? How does copyright and various national law play in?

These questions and more will be addressed in this presentation given by Ole Bisbjerg (Denmark), Ann Kunish (Norway) and XXX (Sweden).