

# DLF

## Seas of Data

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# NPR: Sound Clips

SoundClips is an occasional series from All Things Considered that collects the sounds that fascinate our listeners.

[Elevators falling down](#)

# Gee, like, huh

- What *is* it about the data we generate?
- I used to wonder about “preservation.”
- What cultural production should be saved?
- I think that’s maybe that not all.

# New ways to tell stories

*“ What works and doesn't work in today's universe. Multi-format storytelling. Cross-platform storytelling. Mixing words and sounds and pictures to extend the story beyond the book. Mixing fiction and reality in the blogosphere and beyond. “*

Kassia Krozser, Booksquare

# Our relationship to books

*“ Continuous partial attention. Porous boundaries between documents and media. Social and participatory forms of reading. Writing in public. All these things change the very idea of reading and writing, so when you resume an offline mode of doing these things, your perceptions and way of thinking have likely changed.”*

Ben Vershbow, [if:book](#)

# Creolization of Media\*

We will live in an interconnected skein of rich multimedia, interactive services, and fully participative interfaces.

*\*courtesy Clay Shirky*

# Expecting interactions

*We leap from semantically sensitive text to connected video to connected data display or analysis to writing, responding via Twitter, blogs, and community spaces like Facebook.*

In this world

everything is saved.

there is no privacy.

# No privacy

“ Younger people, one could point out, are the only ones for whom it seems to have sunk in that the idea of a truly private life is already an illusion. Your life is being lived in public whether you choose to acknowledge it or not.

Emily Nussbaum, New York Magazine

# Archiving Adolescence

Old school records,  
for a new generation.

*“ If I don’t delete it, I’m still gonna be there.  
My generation is going to have all this  
history; we can document anything so  
easily. “*

Caitlan Opperman, in New York Magazine

# Back to “Sound Clips”

Not about preserving this or that.

The data exists. More is being created.

The data will flow onwards, outwards.

Continuously, and interconnected.

# Drinking from streams

Water overflowing from a pond ...

*That* is the data.

Not like the individual rocks fallen in.

Data is not a record of “who we are”  
right here, right now.

It's not actually a “record” at all.

# Not a snapshot

Preservation is not about:

- saving “things”
- recording “objects”

Preservation is different when we recognize that digital production is constantly happening, bound in networks made real through use.

# No fetish

- Choosing what we know we value now.
- We can only save some forms of “knowledge,” socially conditioned
- Some will remain, latent, sometimes hidden but there, without intervention.
- We must broker new relations with content and service services.

# Where to take us

- Flow with the content, don't dam it.
- Collab to save aspects of the whole
- Don't overly worry about fidelity
- Engage with the production flow
- Recognize value of latent preservation

# Catch the conversation

- Hold to the conversation, not the words
- Speakers + audiences are intermingled
- Save relationships not merely objects