

Soutron Archive Captures Performance-based Artifacts at The Radical Archive of Preservation Helping Preserve Community Character

INTRODUCTION

Established in 2019, The Radical Archive of Preservation (T.R.A.P.) based in Atlanta, has a mission to preserve the community narratives of Black Women and performance-based artists through preservation consultation, collaboration, performance and scholarship.

CHALLENGE

Founder and Performance Archivist Dr. Shady Radical, M.A., CA, Ph.D., has challenged herself to use archival research and scholarship to capture the important heritage stories of Black Women in unique and powerful ways, creating and capturing performances and rituals that lead to the recognition and appreciation of the culture.

As a performance-based archive, Dr. Radical employs performative archival techniques such as storytelling, reenactment through dance, and oral history to create “Living Archives”. The challenge is to make these performances and associated materials available to the public.

SOLUTION

T.R.A.P isn't a typical static collection, rather the collection's artifacts capture the communities' relationships, strategies of resistance and care rituals that preserve the communities' character, constitution and constituency.

T.R.A.P. exposes how much of their cultural history is found in performance-based work when they preserve embodied knowledge, dance, movements and oral traditions.



The T.R.A.P. catalogue contains ephemera from past performances, including links to the dancers, the choreographers, interview transcripts, costumes and much more.

“This information really helps the public, internal operations, and people who are interested in studying, researching, and writing about performative memory work,” states Dr. Radical.



Soutron is used to store our performance-based stories and make them available to the public.

Dr Shady Radical, M.A., CA, Ph.D.
The Radical Archive Founder and Performance Archivist



Ease of Use

T.R.A.P. workers, also known as students, interns, archivists and differently situated memory workers, bring the past into the present by capturing, organising and cataloguing ephemera and archival performance material.

Offering Archival Services designed to support performance-based artists, professionals and companies, Dr. Radical uses Soutron Archive to store digital cultural artifacts and make them available to their communities and the public.

Customisation

The ease of customisation of Soutron’s search portal has provided the ability to create custom search categories for materials, costume designers, dancers, and more, providing for the exposure of materials associated with the performance work being undertaken.

Searches can be easily filtered for results or tabbed to directly, as can be seen in their search portal:

www.soutron.com/trap

RESULTS

With a focus on Black Women and performance-based artists, T.R.A.P. works to curate, preserve and present these cultural memories in a digital format.

“By digging into institutional memories and personal stories, we can creatively preserve these narratives for the future,” states Dr. Radical. “Oftentimes, the performance copy we have documenting those stories is the only artifact available that tells the complete story. Soutron is used to store our performance-based stories and make them available to the public.”

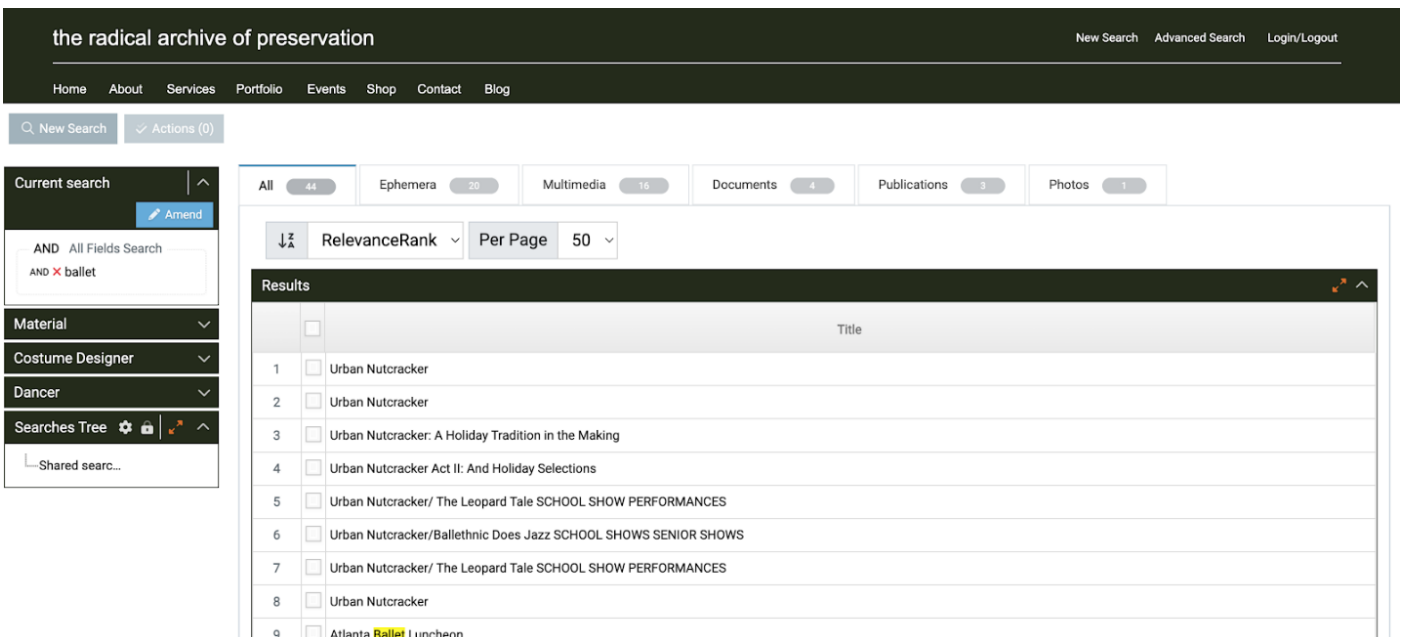
These performances honour and validate the historical agency that Black Women have experienced and their contributions to society, keeping this cross-generational history alive.

To find out more about The Radical Archive of Preservation (T.R.A.P.) and the work they do, visit:

www.theradicalarchive.com

To find out how you can migrate to a fast, secure, cloud-based archive management system to support your organisation, start a conversation with Soutron Global today:

www.soutron.com



The screenshot shows the search interface for 'the radical archive of preservation'. At the top, there are navigation links: Home, About, Services, Portfolio, Events, Shop, Contact, Blog. On the right, there are links for New Search, Advanced Search, and Login/Logout. Below the navigation is a search bar with 'New Search' and 'Actions (0)'. The main search area shows 'Current search' with 'AND All Fields Search' and 'AND x ballet'. There are filters for Material, Costume Designer, and Dancer. A 'Searches Tree' is also visible. The results section shows a table with 9 items, all related to 'Urban Nutcracker' and 'Atlanta Ballet Luncheon'. The table has columns for 'Title' and a checkbox for each row.

| | RelevanceRank | Per Page | 50 |
|---|--------------------------|--|----|
| 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Nutcracker | |
| 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Nutcracker | |
| 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Nutcracker: A Holiday Tradition in the Making | |
| 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Nutcracker Act II: And Holiday Selections | |
| 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Nutcracker/ The Leopard Tale SCHOOL SHOW PERFORMANCES | |
| 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Nutcracker/Balletnic Does Jazz SCHOOL SHOWS SENIOR SHOWS | |
| 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Nutcracker/ The Leopard Tale SCHOOL SHOW PERFORMANCES | |
| 8 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Urban Nutcracker | |
| 9 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Atlanta Ballet Luncheon | |