



Once upon a time

a brave and adventurous group of multimedia researchers set out in search of a place where they could hold a different kind of benchmarking workshop. They wished to develop algorithms exploring the possibilities of multiple modalities (including speech, music, vision, tags, geo-tags, and network structure). They felt a strong calling to tackle tasks related to real world problems, so that their work

would address the human and social aspects of multimedia. And so the MediaEval Benchmark Initiative for Multimedia Evaluation was born. The researchers' path took them to Pisa in 2010, 2011, 2012 and to Barcelona in 2013 and 2014. In 2015, the MediaEval Workshop was accepted as a satellite event of Interspeech 2015 (held in Dresden 6-10 Sept. 2015). We are happy to welcome this brave group, now strong in numbers, to Schloss Wurzen 14-15 Sept. 2015 for the MediaEval 2015 workshop.

Schloss Wurzen

Wurzen Castle was built between 1491 and 1497 in Late-gothic style. Architecturally, the castle already integrates many elements of the Early Renaissance. It was built by Bishop Johann IV. von Salhausen, who decided to move his residence from Meißen to Wurzen. At the same time, he extended the church, which became a cathedral. According to Wikipedia, the original church on the site was built in 1114, and has been Protestant since 1542. Over the years, the castle has passed through many noble hands, and at one point was in the possession of the Kingdom of Saxony. In the last century, it was used as an administrative center and a courthouse. After WWII, including the time of the German Democratic Republic, it was used by the police and other authorities. In 2002, the castle was purchased by the Wedekind Family, who restored it as a restaurant and a hotel. Today, we have the privilege of holding the MediaEval 2015 workshop here, supported by the work of Frau Wedekind and the castle staff, to whom we are very grateful.

Danke Schön

MediaEval is a bottom-up benchmark, meaning that there is no central organization. It exists because of the collective efforts of the task organizers, and the enthusiasm and dedication of the participants. For this reason, our first thanks goes to all of you: the MediaEval Community. We would also like to thank this year's supporters: ELIAS/ESF, Friends of SIGIR, and a special thanks to Technicolor. These supporters make it possible to extend grants to students and early researchers. Dutch national project COMMIT/ and EC FP7 project CrowdRec have also contributed to supporting the workshop organization. We are also supported by a number of organizations who stand behind our cause and make our network strong. This year we would like to single out ISCA, the organization behind Interspeech, and also the ISCA Special Interest Group on Speech and Language in Multimedia (SIG SLIM), that works to bring the speech and multimedia communities together. Further we would like to mention IEEE SIG ASP, IEEE STC Social Networking, and the Technical Committee TC12 "Multimedia and Visual Information Systems" of IAPR. This year, MediaEval 2015 is for the first time an event of EuroMM, the European Chapter of ACM SIGMM. For a complete list of organizers and sponsors, please see the MediaEval website:

<http://multimediaeval.org/mediaeval2015> and <http://multimediaeval.org/who>