A la bastoche

Resource link: https://musicbrainz.org/recording/b590284a-15c5-46a2-a9a8-808f543cf03b

MusicBrainz

We found some data about a musical recording on MusicBrainz (https://musicbrainz.org/doc/About), an open-source, community-based music encyclopedia with a database that stores information about various pieces of music, recordings and other kinds of audio media. Originally born as a one-man project designed as a response to the privatisation of the CDDB project (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/CDDB), it has now become an international community of music enthusiasts that seek to collect as much information about music as they can.

In the *Overview* section we can see that the **official title** of the recording is *A la bastoche*. Its **length** is 2 minutes and 49 seconds. It is part of a collective release called *Accordéon : Musette / Swing / Paris, Volume 2*, made by pieces composed by various artists between 1925 and 1942 and released by the label *Frémeaux & Associés*. Its **Catalog#** is *FA 005*.

As we can see, the resource itself is not exactly rich in respect to metadata and related information; it is interesting, however, how the information is organized.

In the *Fingerprints* section, for example, we can find the associated **AcoustID** (**b0eab9b1-a618-4b55-bc7b-c0c0e86ff8f0**) which redirects to its proper page on AcoustID (https://acoustid.org/), which, among other functions, serves as a large crowd-sourced database of audio fingerprints, many of which are linked to the MusicBrainz metadata database using their unique identifiers.

Track "b0eab9b1-a618-4b55-bc7b-c0c0e86ff8f0"

This track has 2 fingerprint(s) and is linked to 2 MusicBrainz recording(s).

Fingerprints

ID	Length	Sources
51812823	2:48	3
21659520	2:49	3

Linked MusicBrainz recordings

Title	Artist	Length	Sources
À la bastoche	Orchestre Musette de Grock	2:48	1
À la bastoche	Grock	2:48	3

Additional user-submitted metadata

Title	Artist	Album
A la Bastoche	Orchèstre Musette de Grock	Café Parisien
A La Bastoche	Grock	Accordeon/Musette/Swing/Paris 1925-1942 - CD 2
À la bastoche	Orchestre Musette de Grock	Café Parisien

It has no Aliases nor Tags.

À la bastoche
~ Recording by Grock

Overview Fingerprints Aliases Tags **Details** Edit

Details

Name: À la bastoche
MBID: b590284a-15c5-46a2-a9a8-808f543cf03b
Last updated: (unknown)
Permanent link: https://musicbrainz.org/recording/b590284a-15c5-46a2-a9a8-808f543cf03b
XML: https://musicbrainz.org/ws/2/recording/b590284a-15c5-46a2-a9a8-808f543cf03b?inc=aliases%2Bartist-credits%2Breleases

Recording information
Artist: Grock
Length: 2:49

Rating
★★★★★

Tags
(none)

Editing
■ Log in to edit

In the *Details* section we can find some interesting information. First of all, it is shown the recording **MBID** (**MusicBrainz Identifier**), which is a 36 character Universally Unique Identifier that is permanently assigned to each entity in the MusicBrainz database. There is also a **Permanent link** to the resource.

What interests us the most is, however, the presence of an **XML file** that shows metadata information associated to the recording itself. However, before examining that, we better understand how metadata are modelled and managed within MusicBrainz environment.

Metadata Standard (?): *MusicBrainz XML Metadata Format (**MMD**)*

The **MusicBrainz** **XML Metadata Format** (**MMD**) is an XML schema, based on *RELAX NG* (http://www.relaxng.org/), used to represent music metadata. It has been designed to be easy to read, powerful and extensible.

All valid MMD documents are in the **http://musicbrainz.org/ns/mmd-2.0#** namespace.

```
▼<metadata xmlns="http://musicbrainz.org/ns/mmd-2.0#">
```

The metadata element contains the following elements:

```
−<recording id="b590284a-15c5-46a2-a9a8-808f543cf03b">
```

- **<recording>**, coupled with its **id**, which is basically the MBID (*b590284a-15c5-46a2-a9a8-808f543cf03b*). It is important to note that to keep the

transmission overhead low, all URIs in the MusicBrainz namespace are used in their *relative* form. This shortening is only allowed for URIs from the MusicBrainz namespace.

```
<title>À la bastoche</title>
<length>168933</length>
```

- **<title>** of the recording and its **<length>** expressed in milliseconds.

```
-<artist-credit>
  -<name-credit>
    -<artist id="4d637e77-44f4-4b24-b1b9-2984909adccb">
       <name>Grock</name>
       <sort-name>Grock</sort-name>
     -<alias-list count="1">
        <alias sort-name="Charles Adrien Wettach">Charles Adrien Wettach</alias>
       </alias-list>
     </artist>
   </name-credit>
 </artist-credit>
```

- **<artist-credit>**, which includes information about the identity of the creator of the object, such as the **name** (plus the name sorted) and possible **aliases** ordered in a list.

(Technically, the metadata about the resource itself end here; those that follow are in fact related to the *release* (a MusicBrainz release represents the unique release of a product on a specific date with specific release information such as the country, label, barcode and packaging.)).

```
-<release-list count="1">
```

- **<release-list>**. MMD supports several list elements. The metadata element may contain artist-list, release-list, and track-list elements, the release element can (among others) contain a track-list element etc. Usually, a list contains other elements.

```
-<release id="0760cca1-8d5b-43c3-919f-660c4e21ed3c">
```

- **<release>**, which obviously contains information about the *release*. It is accompanied by its own **id**.

```
-<title>
   Accordéon : Musette / Swing / Paris, Volume 2 : 1925-1942
 </title>
 <status id="4e304316-386d-3409-af2e-78857eec5cfe">Official</status>
 <quality>normal</quality>
-<text-representation>
   <language>fra</language>
   <script>Latn</script>
 </text-representation>
-<artist-credit>
  -<name-credit>
    -<artist id="89ad4ac3-39f7-470e-963a-56509c546377">
       <name>Various Artists</name>
       <sort-name>Various Artists</sort-name>
       <disambiguation>add compilations to this artist</disambiguation>
     </artist>
   </name-credit>
 </artist-credit>
 <date>1993</date>
 <country>FR</country>
```

- **<title>** of the release.
- **<status>**, which describes how "official" a release is. In this case, the release status is *official*, which means it has been officially sanctioned by the artist and/or their record company. Most releases will fit into this category.

- **<quality>**, which indicates how good the data for a release is. *Normal* means that it has default quality that has been modified.
- **<text representation>**, which gives the language and script the release and track titles are written in.
- again, there is <**artist-credit**>. In addition to *artist id, name* and *sort-name*, there is a <**disambiguation comment**>, a field in the database used to help distinguish identically named artists, labels and other entities. It seems like it has been misused, though: the comment fields should not be used to store general background information. That kind of information should go in the annotation instead.
- **<date>**, the date the release was issued.
- **<country>**, in which the release was issued.

```xml
-<release-event-list count="1">
  -<release-event>
     <date>1993</date>
    -<area id="08310658-51eb-3801-80de-5a0739207115">
       <name>France</name>
       <sort-name>France</sort-name>
      -<iso-3166-1-code-list>
         <iso-3166-1-code>FR</iso-3166-1-code>
       </iso-3166-1-code-list>
     </area>
   </release-event>
 </release-event-list>
 <barcode>3448960200523</barcode>
    </release>
  </release-list>
 </recording>
</metadata>
```

- **<release-event>**, which is a **date** on which a <u>release</u> was released in a <u>country/region</u> (**area**) with a particular <u>label</u> and <u>barcode</u>.