

# **CRITLOD: Critical Archiving for Linked Open Data**

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## **Abstract:**

The CRITLOD research project lays the foundation for a strategic framework meant to empower practitioners, institutions, and communities to deploy linked open data to address ongoing issues of biased descriptive practices and outright erasure in cultural heritage collections. Through an extended analysis of the digital representation of Black female artists selected from two major museum exhibitions, the research project considers how the strategic use of linked open data at each stage of the archival process could enrich our understanding of entity records.

The authors find that the use of linked open data in archives necessitates the development of new data models that center community and intergenerational relationships. In particular, a heuristic model of influence offers one promising pathway to enhancing the visibility of previously marginalized figures. In CRITLOD, the application of the heuristic model clearly disrupts standard patterns of archival acquisition, processing, and access.

This strategic approach to linked open data can further serve as a guiding paradigm for digital collections and offer an efficient way for those with limited resources to describe information scarce records and improve discoverability. Archivists may also be able to take advantage of the findings to pursue research into semantic inference, automation, and other new forms of analysis.

## **About the author:**

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