

Ruprecht Langer

German Music Archive of the German National Library

# The Collection Mandate of the German Music Archive of the German National Library

Backgrounds, Challenges, Solutions



Foto: DNB

## Structure

- 1. Legal Mandate / Collecting policy**
- 2. Non-physical music publications**
- 3. Below radar level**
- 4. Foreign acquisitions**
- 5. Major labels**
- 6. Parallel publications**

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# Legal mandate


## From the Law regarding the German National Library:

„... to collect, inventory, index and bibliographically record, permanently preserve and make available to the general public everything that has been published in **writing, image and sound in Germany since 1913.**“

# Legal mandate

Law regarding the German National Library

 Legal Deposit Regulation

 Collecting guidelines / explanatory notes (internal)

# The collection of the German Music Archive

~ 1 m items of sheet music

~ 2,5 m sound carriers

- 1,4 m Audio CDs
- 400.000 vinyls
- 200.000 shellacs (78s)  
and wax cylinders
- 50.000 music cassettes



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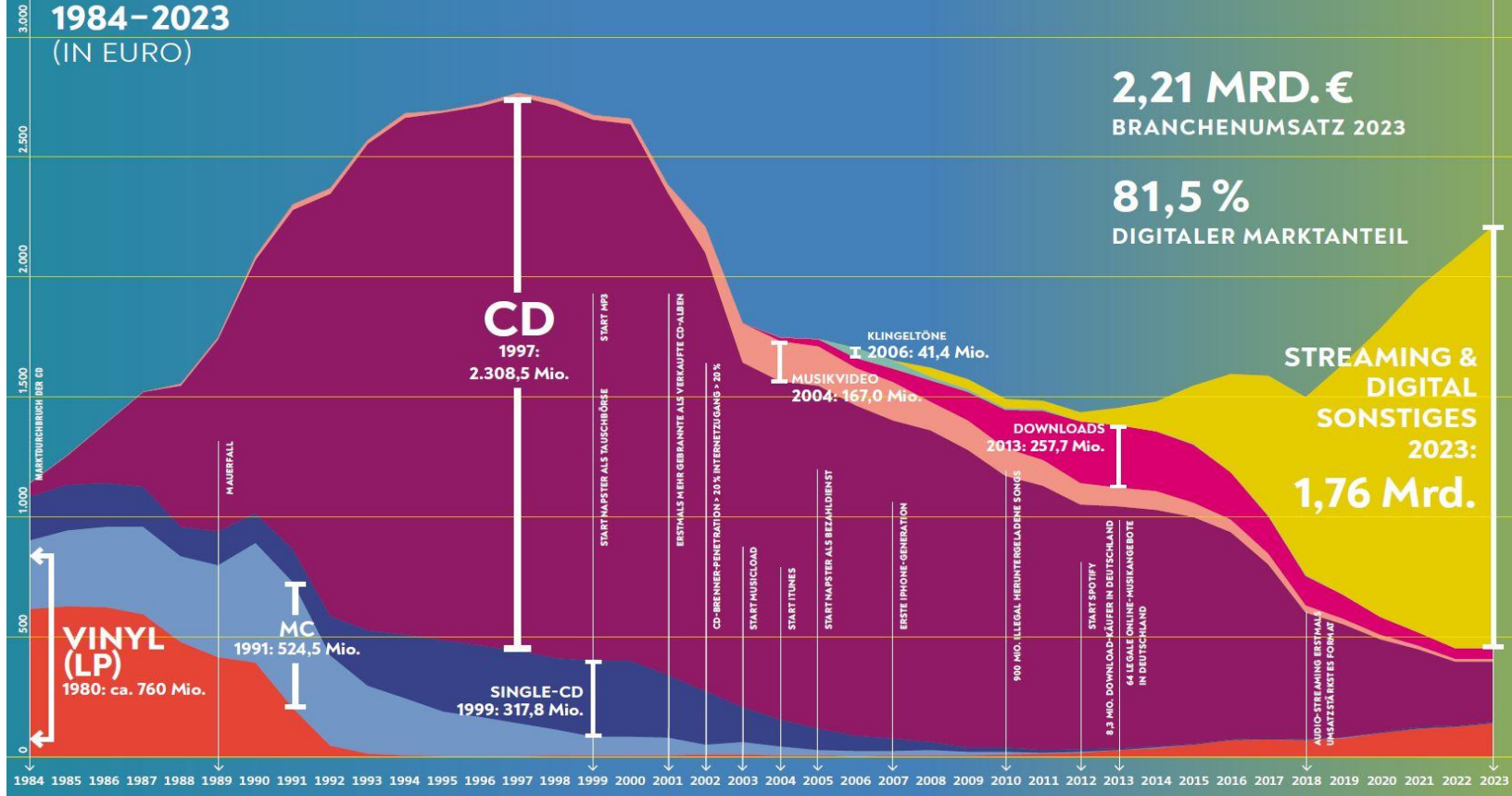
# Non-physical music publications

- Streaming: ~80 % of sales in Germany (BVMI)
- „Published in Germany“: should everybody collect everything?
- Metadata and metadata transport (DDEX)
- Hard to grasp: Self-publishing via Soundcloud e.a.
- Originals and versions



# UMSATZENTWICKLUNG DER DEUTSCHEN MUSIKINDUSTRIE 1984-2023 (IN EURO)

Quellen:  
BVMi, auf Basis der Mitglieder-Meldesstatistik hochgerechnet auf den Gesamtmarkt, ab 2008 Physical und Download auf Basis Handelspanel GfK Entertainment  
Musik im digitalen Wandel: Eine Bilanz aus zehn Jahren Brennerstudie, Digital Music Report, pro-music.org  
Umsätze vor 2002: Umrechnung zum fiktiven Wechselskurs 1,35583 DM = 1 Euro  
Rekordumsatz pro Format



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## Below radar level

- What is the 100 per cent?
- Music publications without label
- Example case *instrumental Jazz*: German artists in Switzerland

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# Foreign acquisitions

- Germanica:
  - German-language media works and translations of German-language publications that are published abroad
  - Foreign-language media works published abroad that relate to Germany
- Acquisition via gift, purchase or exchange
- Foreign music acquisitions: Language as a criterion

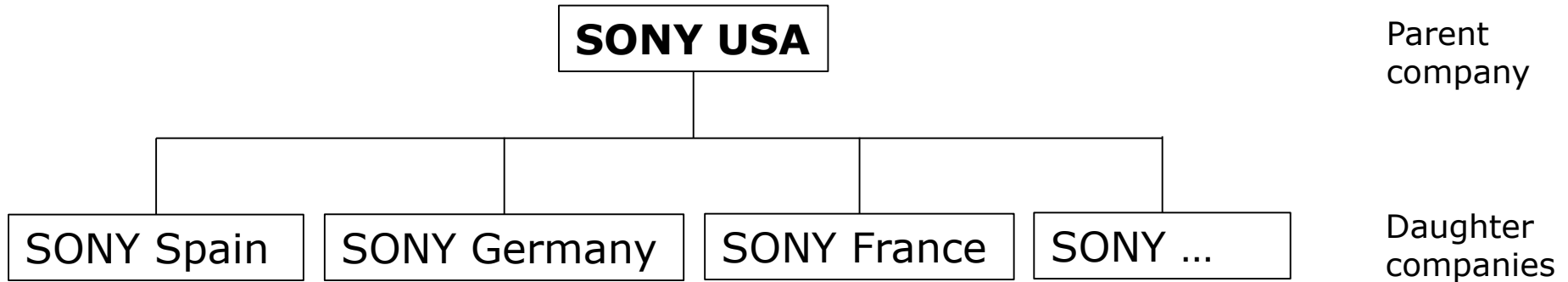
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## Majorlabels

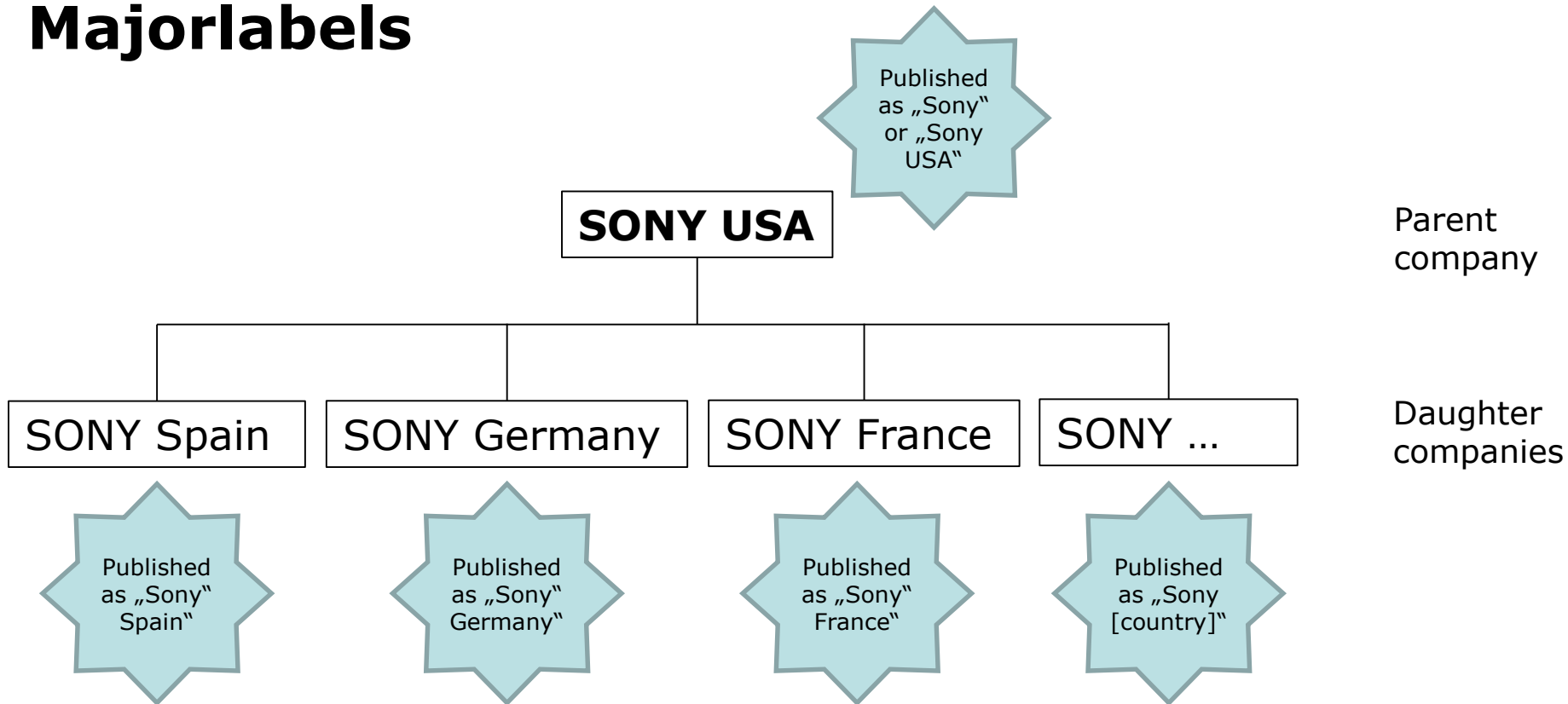
- Majors: SONY, BMG, Universal, Warner
- Registered office or place of business in Germany
- Parent companies outside of Germany
- Further offices (daughter companies) in other countries
- Should we collect daughters, parents or the entire family?



# Majorlabels



# Majorlabels



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## Parallel publications

- CD and audio file: easiest to be digitised (bit-level accuracy)
- Vinyl records: most durable
- But what about artwork? Booklets? Additional material?
- Same but different

**Thank you,  
that`s all.**

I am looking forward  
to your questions.

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