# Centre for Digital Humanities and Arts

Introduction, 22 May 2022 in Edda

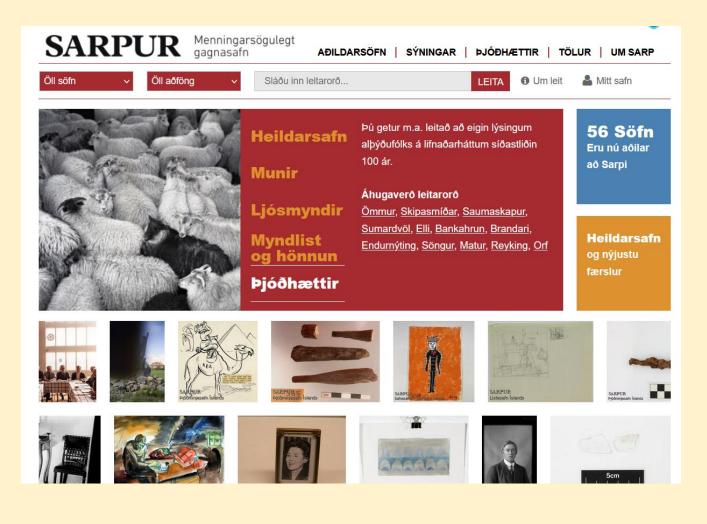
# Organisation

- Consortium of 11 key institutes (and growing!)
  - Operated within the University of Iceland, which funds the day-to-day operations.
- Centred around projects funded by the Infrastructure Fund.
  - Each project governed by an administrative board.
- Part of the first Roadmap for Research Infrastructure in Iceland since 2021.
  - Future of Roadmap not clear.
- Homepage: mshl.is

# The funded projects

- Historical Farm and People Registry
- Icelandic models for Transkribus
- Automatic speech recognition of folklore audio recordings
- 3D scanners
- RUV digital transfer of audio recordings
- Manuscript catalogue (handrit.is)
- Sarpur cultural database
- New projects being developed for funding applications

# Sarpur



#### Long-term objective

- Developing a "service centre" for researchers working under the DH umbrella.
  - In collaboration with IREI: Icelandic e-Research Infrastructure.
- A major opportunity, but also a major challenge.
  - Funding for the CDHA very limited and not secure (as opposed to the projects).

## Ownership and access

- New projects owned jointly by members of CDHA.
- Existing projects, developed by CDHA:
  - Main principle: Ownership stays with the original owner.
- All projects are Open Access as far as possible.
  - Exceptions due to copyright and privacy issues.
- Challenge: Access to data for research purposes.
  - The visual arts a special problem (but not the only one!). Need a new contract with The Icelandic Visual Art Copyright Association.

# Collaboration, domestic and international

#### • Domestic:

- IREI: Icelandic e-Research Infrastructure (another Roadmap project).
- Language technology (incl. CLARIN).
- International:
  - Institutional member of DARIAH.
  - Hosting the Digital Humanities in the Nordic and Baltic (DHNB) annual conference in 2024.
  - Minnesota Population Centre (for census data).
- A number of more specific projects.

## Research: The criterion of success

- The future of CDHA depends on new research and research opportunities.
  - The whole rationale of the Roadmap!
- Our projects can already be used.
  - Domestic funding applications currently being developed, using one or more of our projects.
- The Centre is participating in international projects and applications.
  - *Digital Action on Climate Change with Heritage Environments* (Northern Periphery and Arctic Programme, funded 2023).
  - A funding application being developed by a NOS-HS network!!!

#### Impact

- Our projects (funded or not) relevant to stakeholders outside the network and to society in general.
- Databases and tools relevant:
  - to start-ups and industry;
  - for teaching at different levels;
  - for curious citizens and anyone eager to become an explorer;
  - for regional development;
  - more?

## Thank you!