

A full version of this review has been published in *Béascna* 2017.

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Johnston, P. (2017). Review of *Oral History and Digital Humanities: Voice, Access, and Engagement* by D.A. Boyd and M.A. Larson (Eds.), *Béascna* 10, pp. 164-168.

Oral History and Digital Humanities: Voice, Access, and Engagement. Douglas A. Boyd and Mary A. Larson (eds.). New York: Palgrave Macmillan. 2014. 205pp. ISBN: 978-1-137-32201-2.

Recording technology underpinned the emergence of oral history in the twentieth century and now new digital technologies are changing the way oral history is recorded, archived and disseminated into the twenty-first century. This book is a timely contribution to the emerging discussions of, as the subtitle suggests, issues of voice, access and engagement in both oral history and digital humanities. With critical discussions on the importance of keeping the original material at the centre of the work (rather than getting distracted by technology) and the ethical responsibilities of scholars who publish/broadcast online, this book will also be of interest to anyone disseminating humanities material online.

This edited collection of eleven essays includes contributions from oral historians, folklorists and archivists working in the U.S, many digital oral history pioneers. All of the authors reflect on the challenges of presenting oral history in an online world, celebrating the ability to showcase oral/aural material, highlighting ethical concerns, and exploring ideas on how widespread online dissemination of oral history is changing the way oral history is practised.

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[The review goes on to describe the essays in each section, Part I on themes of orality/aurality, Part II on discovery and Part III about parallels between perspectives in oral history and digital humanities.]

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Finally, a website (<http://www.digitaloralhistory.net>) accompanies the book and includes interviews about digital oral history work with contributors, as well as all of the images that accompany the text (these are displayed only as QR codes in the paper copy of the book). This illustrates the commitment of the contributors to both oral history and digital humanities, and their willingness to try to go beyond the idea of text and book in the age of digital possibilities.