Cervantes Project

The Digital Quixote Iconography Collection

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General Description

A digital archive of the illustrations from the most significant editions of the Quixote. The main objectives are: 1) to make the textual iconography of the Quixote more accessible; 2) to establish their contributions to the reception and interpretation of the text.

- A growing collection with 720 editions total at present
- Spans from the early 17th century to the present
- Focuses initially on the English, Spanish, and French illustrated editions of the 18th and 19th centuries
- Currently 275 editions digitized, with 13000 images available online
- Each month about 20 editions are being digitized and added online

Metadata Editing

A web-based interface used for entering both edition and image metadata. The hermeneutic and aesthetic values of each individual image have been carefully examined by art historians and the results incorporated in the metadata as scholarly commentary.

Search and Browse

A four-layered web-based interface for searching, navigating, and browsing the collection: a) an edition index; b) a thumbnail overview; c) a low resolution image together with metadata; and d) a high resolution image.

Current Developments

- Applying a comprehensive taxonomy of the episodes, adventures, themes, and characters and creating a thematic collation of the images
- Inserting cataloged anchors to establish the inter-linkage between the textual narrative and the pictorial representations

Contributions

- Expanding the understanding and appreciation of Cervantes’ novel
- Initiating new explorations from textual, artistic, critical, bibliographical, and historical perspectives
- Examining the reception and evolution of the Quixote’s readings across time, culture, audience, and milieu