

To: Peter Rolla, chair  
ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access

From: Adam Schiff

Subject: Pseudonymous corporate bodies

## Background

In the course of upgrading some records for corporate bodies to RDA, research that I did indicated that, like persons, corporate bodies may also have alternate identities. This apparently happens with some frequency in musical groups.

The Wikipedia entry for the rock group R.E.M. stated that it was also known as Bingo Hand Job. My initial instinct was to add a variant accent point on the R.E.M. authority record. However, I found a separate authority record in the LC/NACO Authority File for Bingo Hand Job, with no indication that it was related in any way to R.E.M. Some quick research on the Web revealed a site (<http://everything2.com/title/Bingo+Hand+Job>) with this information about Bingo Hand Job:

A number of popular bands books shows in small, intimate venues under fake names. REM has done this a number of times. Bingo Hand Job was the name they used at The Borderline in London on March 14 and 15, 1991. They took it a step further by using fake names for each of the band members and guest musicians:

Michael Stipe – the Reverend Bingo  
Peter Buck – Raoul  
Bill Berry – the Doc  
Mike Mills – Stinky  
Peter Holsapple – Spanish Charlie  
Billy Bragg – Conrad  
Violet (on March 14) – Robyn Hitchcock  
Ophelia (on March 15)

The opening act was the Chickasaw Mudd Puppies, playing under the name Stump Monkey. The second night they recorded a parody of Suzanne Vega's "Tom's Diner" called "Tom's ?", which later ended up on a B-side and a cover album.

It was the cover album released in 1991 with title Tom's Album (LCCN 92-752781; OCLC #25098361) that resulted in the creation of the authority record for Bingo Hand Job. Apparently there was no information in that recording that the band was actually R.E.M., so the cataloger at LC simply created a new name authority record for the group, not linking in any way to R.E.M.

A timeline of R.E.M. concerts online (<http://members.iinet.net.au/~darryl74/1985.html>) also refers to another pseudonym used by R.E.M.: Hornets Attack Victor Mature.

### **1985 Concert Chronology**

#### **12 February 1985 - Uptown Lounge, Athens, GA**

*support:* Dark Harvest

*set included:* Under My Thumb

*notes:* Playing under the pseudonym Hornets Attack Victor Mature, the band sang mainly new Fables songs, along with The Rolling Stones song 'Under My Thumb'

The same timeline lists the 1991 concerts performed as Bingo Hand Job (<http://members.iinet.net.au/~darryl74/1990.html>):

**14 March 1991 - The Borderline, London, England**

*support:* Chickasaw Mudd Puppies

*R.E.M.:* Pop Song 89 / World Leader Pretend / Half A World Away / Fretless

*Peter Holsapple:* Why Did You Sleep With My Girlfriend? / Darby Hall / White Train (w/ Buck)

*R.E.M.:* Swan Swan H / You Are The Everything / Love Is All Around

*Billy Bragg:* Love Has No Pride / The Auld Triangle / Reason To Believe (w/ Buck) / Hello In There (w/ Stipe)

*R.E.M.:* Dallas (w/ Bragg) / Radio Song / Low / Losing My Religion

*Robyn Hitchcock:* Sometimes I Wish I Was A Pretty Girl / Birds In Perspex / Balloon Man (w/ Buck) / So You Think You're In Love (w/ Buck)

*R.E.M.:* Disturbance At The Heron House / Belong / Fall On Me / Dark Globe / Get Up  
*encore:*

*R.E.M., Hitchcock and Bragg:* You Ain't Goin' Nowhere

*notes:* First of the 2 nights playing under the name 'Bingo Hand Job'

**15 March 1991 - The Borderline, London, England**

*support:* Chickasaw Mudd Puppies

*R.E.M.:* World Leader Pretend / Half A World Away / Fretless / The One I Love

*Billy Bragg:* Cindy Of A Thousand Lives / The Auld Triangle / Reason To Believe / Hello in There (w/ Stipe) / My Youngest Son Came Home Today (w/ Stipe) / Jackson (w/ Stipe) / Dallas (w/ Stipe)

*R.E.M.:* Disturbance At The Heron House / Belong / Low / Love Is All Around

*Peter Holsapple:* Next To The Last Waltz / Lonely Is As Lonely Does / Neverland / White Train

*R.E.M.:* You Are The Everything / Swan Swan H / Radio Song / Perfect Circle

*Robyn Hitchcock:* Oceanside / Ultra-Unbelievable Love / Birdshhead / Queen Of Eyes

*R.E.M.:* Endgame / Pop Song 89 / Losing My Religion / Fall On Me

*Stipe solo:* classical organ piece / waltz organ piece

*R.E.M., Hitchcock and Bragg:* Tom's Diner / Listening To The Higsons / You Ain't Going Nowhere - A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall

*encore:*

*R.E.M.:* Get Up / Moon River

*notes:* Second of the 2 nights playing under the name 'Bingo Hand Job'. Michael Stipe guests with the Chickasaw Mudd Puppies on 'Words And Knives' during their opening set. This show can be found on the double CD bootleg "From The Borderline", as well as the vinyl bootleg "R.E.M. As Bingo Hand Job", minus the solo tracks from Peter Holsapple, Billy Bragg and Robyn Hitchcock

Subsequent research on pseudonymous corporate bodies that I've done has indicated that the use of pseudonyms for musical groups is not uncommon. It was apparently done quite often by jazz and orchestral groups for contractual reasons. For example, the blog posting "Pseudonyms for Orchestras" found on The Classical Music Guide Forums website (<http://classicalmusicguide.com/viewtopic.php?f=6&t=10568>) states:

In the early LP days, the London Philharmonic wasn't allowed to use its own name when recording for American labels Vanguard & Westminster; so, both companies named it the "Philharmonic Promenade Orchestra." This is where you get all those Boult recordings from that era that appeared on those labels.

The Pristine Classical Historic Recordings website (<http://www.pristineclassical.com/LargeWorks/Vocal/PACO018.php>) has this to say about Sir Adrian Boult's 1953 recording of William Walton's *Belshazzar's Feast*:

Some ten years after composer William Walton conducted the first recording of his oratorio, *Belshazzar's Feast*, Sir Adrian Boult made this, the first recording for LP issue, on the Nixa label. For contractual reasons, the original orchestra was credited as the 'Philharmonic Promenade Orchestra' - the British Library's Sound Archive Catalogue has corrected this to the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

Based on this information, I contacted John Attig in September 2012 to suggest that two new relationship designators were needed in RDA Appendix K.4.3:

**alternate corporate identity** A pseudonymous or other identity assumed by the corporate body

**real corporate identity** A real corporate body that assumes the alternate identity

John's email response to me was:

Unfortunately, the concepts of pseudonymity (?) and multiple identities seem to be limited to persons in RDA, so this will require more than just adding some relationship designators. And it is certainly not something that we can handle on the Fast Track.

In devising new instructions for alternate corporate identities, it is necessary to see how RDA deals with pseudonyms for persons. Identities of persons are mentioned in 9.2.2.6, 9.2.2.8, and chapter 30.

#### 9.2.2.6 Different Names for the Same Person

If a person is known by more than one name, choose the name by which the person is clearly most commonly known.

If a person has changed his or her name, see [9.2.2.7](#).

If a person has more than one identity, see [9.2.2.8](#).

Otherwise, choose the preferred name according to the following order of preference:

- a) the name that appears most frequently in resources associated with the person
- b) the name that appears most frequently in reference sources
- c) the latest name.

**Variant names.** Record the other names by which the person is known as variant names (see [9.2.3](#)).

#### 9.2.2.8 Individuals with More Than One Identity

If an individual has more than one identity, choose the name associated with each identity as the preferred name for that identity.

If an individual uses one or more pseudonyms (including joint pseudonyms), consider the individual to have more than one identity.

If an individual uses his or her real name as well as one or more pseudonyms, consider the individual to have more than one identity.

[examples omitted]

#### *Exception*

If an individual uses only one pseudonym and does not use his or her real name as a creator or contributor, choose the pseudonym as the preferred name.

[examples omitted]

**Variant names.** Record the individual's real name as a variant name (see 9.2.3.4).

If an individual has more than one identity, record the relationships between these separate identities. Apply the instructions in chapter 30 (related persons).

## 30.1 Related Person

### 30.1.1 Basic Instructions on Referencing a Related Person

#### 30.1.1.1 Scope

A **related person** is a person who is associated with the person, family, or corporate body being identified (e.g., a collaborator, a member of a family, a founder of a corporate body).

Related persons include separate identities established by an individual (either alone or in collaboration with one or more other individuals).

The relationship to the related person is recorded by using an authorized access point and/or identifier representing the related person.

If CC:DA agrees with the assessment that corporate bodies can have alternate identities, then a formal proposal to revise instructions in chapter 11 and 32 should be made, and new relationship designators added to Appendix K.4.3. Chapter 11 does not have an instruction similar to 9.2.2.6 (which would deal with different names for the same corporate body), and a new instruction similar to 9.2.2.8 would need to be written for corporate bodies with more than one identity.

I suggest considering forming a task group to further discuss this issue and to draft a revision proposal for corporate identities. The group may wish to do additional research to determine if the concept of pseudonyms/alternate identities extends beyond musical groups. CC:DA may also wish to task the group with determining whether families can have alternate identities, and if so, to draft instructions to cover that as well.

In February 2013, I took a stab at possible revisions to RDA, which I have here given as an appendix. The revisions reflect my thoughts at that time, but are probably just a starting point for discussion. No doubt there may be things I haven't considered or other places where revisions may be needed. Alternate ways of revising RDA to accommodate corporate identities are also certainly possible.

## **APPENDIX: Possible Proposed Revisions To Accommodate Corporate Identities**

### **1. Addition to RDA 11.2.1.3**

#### **11.2.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Names of Corporate Bodies**

When recording a name of a corporate body, apply the general guidelines on recording names at [8.5](#). When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

Choose a preferred name for the corporate body by applying the instructions at [11.2.2.3](#) and [11.2.2.5](#).

If a body changes its name, choose a new preferred name for use with resources associated with that name (see [11.2.2.6](#)).

If a body has more than one identity, choose a preferred name for each identity (see [11.2.2.7](#)).

Record the name chosen as the preferred name. Apply the instructions at [11.2.2.4](#) and [11.2.2.7–11.2.2.3132](#).

Names and forms of the name not chosen as the preferred name may be recorded as variant names (see [11.2.3](#)).

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#### **11.2.1.3 General Guidelines on Recording Names of Corporate Bodies**

When recording a name of a corporate body, apply the general guidelines on recording names at [8.5](#). When those guidelines refer to an appendix, apply the additional instructions in that appendix, as applicable.

Choose a preferred name for the corporate body by applying the instructions at [11.2.2.3](#) and [11.2.2.5](#).

If a body changes its name, choose a new preferred name for use with resources associated with that name (see [11.2.2.6](#)).

If a body has more than one identity, choose a preferred name for each identity (see [11.2.2.7](#)).

Record the name chosen as the preferred name. Apply the instructions at [11.2.2.4](#) and [11.2.2.7–11.2.2.32](#).

Names and forms of the name not chosen as the preferred name may be recorded as variant names (see [11.2.3](#)).

## 2. Addition to RDA 11.2.2.5

### 11.2.2.5 Different Forms of the Same Name

This general instruction applies to the name of a corporate body that appears in different forms in resources associated with this body.

When appropriate, also apply these special instructions:

spelling (see [11.2.2.5.1](#))

language (see [11.2.2.5.2](#))

international bodies (see [11.2.2.5.3](#))

conventional name (see [11.2.2.5.4](#)).

If variant forms of the name are found in resources associated with the body, choose the name that appears in the preferred sources of information (see [2.2.2](#)).

Variant forms do not include changes of name, i.e., names that the body has abandoned in the past or adopted for the future. For a change of name, see [11.2.2.6](#).

Variant forms do not include alternative identities associated with the body. For a body with alternative identities, see [11.2.2.7](#).

If variant forms of the name appear in the preferred source of information, choose the form of the name that is presented formally. If no form is presented formally, or if all the forms are presented formally, choose the most commonly found form of the name.

If there is no most commonly found form of the name, choose a brief form of the name. The brief form may be an initialism or an acronym. The brief form must be sufficiently specific to differentiate the body from others with the same or similar brief names.

[remainder of instruction unchanged]

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### 11.2.2.5 Different Forms of the Same Name

This general instruction applies to the name of a corporate body that appears in different forms in resources associated with this body.

When appropriate, also apply these special instructions:

spelling (see [11.2.2.5.1](#))

language (see [11.2.2.5.2](#))

international bodies (see [11.2.2.5.3](#))

conventional name (see [11.2.2.5.4](#)).

If variant forms of the name are found in resources associated with the body, choose the name that appears in the preferred sources of information (see [2.2.2](#)).

Variant forms do not include changes of name, i.e., names that the body has abandoned in the past or adopted for the future. For a change of name, see [11.2.2.6](#).

Variant forms do not include alternative identities associated with the body. For a body with alternative identities, see [11.2.2.7](#).

If variant forms of the name appear in the preferred source of information, choose the form of the name that is presented formally. If no form is presented formally, or if all the forms are presented formally, choose the most commonly found form of the name.

If there is no most commonly found form of the name, choose a brief form of the name. The brief form may be an initialism or an acronym. The brief form must be sufficiently specific to differentiate the body from others with the same or similar brief names.

[remainder of instruction unchanged]

### 3. Addition to RDA 11.2.2.6

#### 11.2.2.6 Change of Name

If the name of a corporate body has changed (including changes from one language to another), choose the earlier name as the preferred name for use with resources associated with the earlier name. Choose the later name as the preferred name for use with resources associated with the later name.

[examples omitted]

If a body has more than one identity, apply instead the instructions at [11.2.2.7](#).

For instructions on recording relationships between the earlier and later names of the body, see chapter [32](#) (related corporate bodies).

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#### 11.2.2.6 Change of Name

If the name of a corporate body has changed (including changes from one language to another), choose the earlier name as the preferred name for use with resources associated with the earlier name. Choose the later name as the preferred name for use with resources associated with the later name.

[examples omitted]

If a body has more than one identity, apply instead the instructions at [11.2.2.7](#).

For instructions on recording relationships between the earlier and later names of the body, see chapter [32](#) (related corporate bodies).

### 4. RDA 11.2.2.7 [New]

*[Renumber current instructions 11.2.2.7 through 11.2.2.31 as 11.2.2.8 through 11.2.2.32; adjust all references to these instructions.]*

#### 11.2.2.7 Corporate Bodies with More Than One Identity

If a corporate body has more than one identity, choose the name associated with each identity as the preferred name for that identity.

If a corporate body uses one or more pseudonyms (including joint pseudonyms), consider the body to have more than one identity.

If a corporate body uses its real name as well as one or more pseudonyms, consider the body to have more than one identity.

**EXAMPLE**

R.E.M.

**Real name of a musical group used on most of its audio recordings**

Bingo Hand Job

**Pseudonym used by R.E.M. on one audio recording**

London Philharmonic Orchestra

**Real name used on most of its audio recordings**

Philharmonic Promenade Orchestra

**Pseudonym used by the London Philharmonic Orchestra on some audio recordings when, for contractual reasons, its real name was not permitted to be used**

*Exception*

If a corporate body uses only one pseudonym and does not use its real name as a creator or contributor, choose the pseudonym as the preferred name.

**Variant names.** Record the body's real name as a variant name (11.2.3.4).

**Variant names.** Record as a variant name a name that was not chosen as the preferred name for an identity (see 11.2.3).

If a corporate body has more than one identity, record the relationships between these separate identities. Apply the instructions in Chapter 32 (related corporate bodies).

## 5. Revisions of RDA 11.2.3.3

### 11.2.3.3 General Guidelines on Recording Variant Names for Corporate Bodies

Record variant names for a corporate body by applying the general guidelines on recording names at 8.5.

Record a variant name when it is different from the name recorded as the preferred name. Record as a variant name:

a name or form of name used by the corporate body

*or*

a name or form of name found in reference sources

*or*

a form of name resulting from a different transliteration of the name.

For corporate bodies that have changed their name, or that have two or more identities, see the instructions on recording relationships between related corporate bodies in chapter 32.

Record as a variant name a direct form of the name if the preferred name is recorded as a subdivision of a higher or related body. Record only if the name might reasonably be searched in that variant form.

Record as a variant name the name as a subdivision of a higher or related body if the preferred name is recorded in direct form. Record only if the name might reasonably be searched in that variant form.

Apply the specific instructions at [11.2.3.4–11.2.3.78](#), as applicable. Also apply instructions about recording variant names at [11.2.2.5–11.2.2.3132](#), as applicable.

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#### **11.2.3.3 General Guidelines on Recording Variant Names for Corporate Bodies**

Record variant names for a corporate body by applying the general guidelines on recording names at [8.5](#).

Record a variant name when it is different from the name recorded as the preferred name. Record as a variant name:

a name or form of name used by the corporate body

*or*

a name or form of name found in reference sources

*or*

a form of name resulting from a different transliteration of the name.

For corporate bodies that have changed their name, or that have two or more identities, see the instructions on recording relationships between related corporate bodies in chapter [32](#).

Record as a variant name a direct form of the name if the preferred name is recorded as a subdivision of a higher or related body. Record only if the name might reasonably be searched in that variant form.

Record as a variant name the name as a subdivision of a higher or related body if the preferred name is recorded in direct form. Record only if the name might reasonably be searched in that variant form.

Apply the specific instructions at [11.2.3.4–11.2.3.8](#), as applicable. Also apply instructions about recording variant names at [11.2.2.5–11.2.2.32](#), as applicable.

## 6. RDA 11.2.3.4 [New]

*[Renumber current instructions 11.2.3.4 through 11.2.3.7 as 11.2.3.5 through 11.2.3.8; adjust all references to these instructions.]*

### 11.2.3.4 Real Name

If:

the preferred name or names for a corporate body are pseudonyms

*and*

the body does not use its real name as a creator or contributor

*and*

the body's real name is known

then:

record the body's real name as a variant name for each pseudonym.

## 7. Addition to RDA 32.1.1.1

### 32.1.1.1 Scope

A **related corporate body**▼ is a corporate body that is associated with the person, family, or corporate body being identified (e.g., a musical group to which a person belongs, a subsidiary company).

Related corporate bodies include corporate bodies that precede or succeed the corporate body being identified as the result of a change of name.

Related corporate bodies also include corporate bodies that have more than one identity.

The relationship to the related corporate body is recorded by using an authorized access point and/or identifier representing the related corporate body.

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### 32.1.1.1 Scope

A **related corporate body**▼ is a corporate body that is associated with the person, family, or corporate body being identified (e.g., a musical group to which a person belongs, a subsidiary company).

Related corporate bodies include corporate bodies that precede or succeed the corporate body being identified as the result of a change of name.

Related corporate bodies also include corporate bodies that have more than one identity.

The relationship to the related corporate body is recorded by using an authorized access point and/or identifier representing the related corporate body.

**8. New examples at RDA 32.1.1.3, Referencing a Related Corporate Body**

*[Insert the following examples after the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons example.]*

London Philharmonic Orchestra

**Authorized access point representing the real identity of the orchestra that also recorded under the pseudonym** Philharmonic Promenade Orchestra

Philharmonic Promenade Orchestra

**Authorized access point representing a pseudonym of the** London Philharmonic Orchestra

**9. New designators at RDA K.4.3, Relationship Designators to Relate Corporate Bodies to Other Corporate Bodies**

*[Insert alphabetically in the correct place.]*

**alternate corporate identity** A pseudonymous or other identity assumed by the corporate body. *Reciprocal relationship:* real corporate identity

**real corporate identity** A real corporate body that assumes the alternate identity. *Reciprocal relationship:* alternate corporate identity