

# FAIR Epigraphic Vocabularies

## FAIR Epigraphy Project (<https://inscriptiones.org/>)

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## Advancing FAIR and Open Science in Epigraphy

### Introduction

The development of updated **controlled epigraphic vocabularies** is crucial for the advancement of FAIR and Open Science practices in epigraphy (Tupman 2021; Heřmánková et al. 2022).

- building upon previous work by the **EAGLE Europeana Project** (2013-2016) (Liuzzo et al. 2013; Liuzzo 2015; Liuzzo and Evangelisti 2021) and an alignment of current standards in partner projects of the FAIR Epigraphy Project (<https://inscriptiones.org/>)
- **2 years of work** by the Epigraphy.info **Vocabularies working group**
- 'bottom-up' approach to accommodate the diverse and multilingual nature of inscriptions, discipline specificity and project specificity

### Key Features

- Multifaceted and multilingual **hierarchical** categorisation system
- Adherence to **FAIR** data principles (Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability, and Reusability)
- Availability as **Linked Open Data (LOD)** resource with stable URIs hosted by FAIR Epigraphy Project and University of Oxford
- Friendly user interface
- Linked to other FAIR resources (bibliography, ontology etc.)

### Try us out!

Stage one focuses on **type of inscriptions** structured in a simple hierarchical order, examples from partner projects, descriptions and links to the EAGLE and other existing vocabularies.



Try the vocabularies out at

[https://ontology.inscriptiones.org/type\\_of\\_inscription/](https://ontology.inscriptiones.org/type_of_inscription/) and talk to us!

- Do you see yourself using such vocabulary?
- How can we make it more useful / better?
- Do you like the interface?

The screenshot shows the 'FAIR Epigraphy (Type of Inscription)' web interface. On the left, there is a search bar and a hierarchical tree of vocabularies. The tree includes categories like 'Anepigraphic', 'Commemorative', 'Didascalic', 'Entertainment', 'Expressive', 'Honorific', 'Identification', 'Building inscription', 'Description', 'Origin', 'Production / Ownership', 'Ownership', 'Production', 'Army', 'Imperial production', 'Procuratorial production', 'Civic production', 'Private production', 'Mason', 'Maker', 'Pragmatic', 'Record keeping', 'Regulatory', 'Religious', 'Space delimitation', 'Unable to determine', and 'Unassigned'. On the right, there is a 'Details' panel for the 'Artist' vocabulary. It shows the IRI ([https://ontology.inscriptiones.org/type\\_of\\_inscription/Artist/](https://ontology.inscriptiones.org/type_of_inscription/Artist/)), Label (Artist), Description (Signatures of artists or craftsmen or short texts indicating authorship), and several Relations to other vocabularies. It also lists Alt Labels (Artist's signature, Aufschrift, Beischrift, Epigrafe di artista, Firma del artesano, Sculptor's signature, Signature d'artiste) and provides several Example URIs.

FAIR Vocabularies interface showing vocabularies as hierarchical tree, with detailed overview of one record (Artist's signature). See more at [https://ontology.inscriptiones.org/type\\_of\\_inscription/](https://ontology.inscriptiones.org/type_of_inscription/)

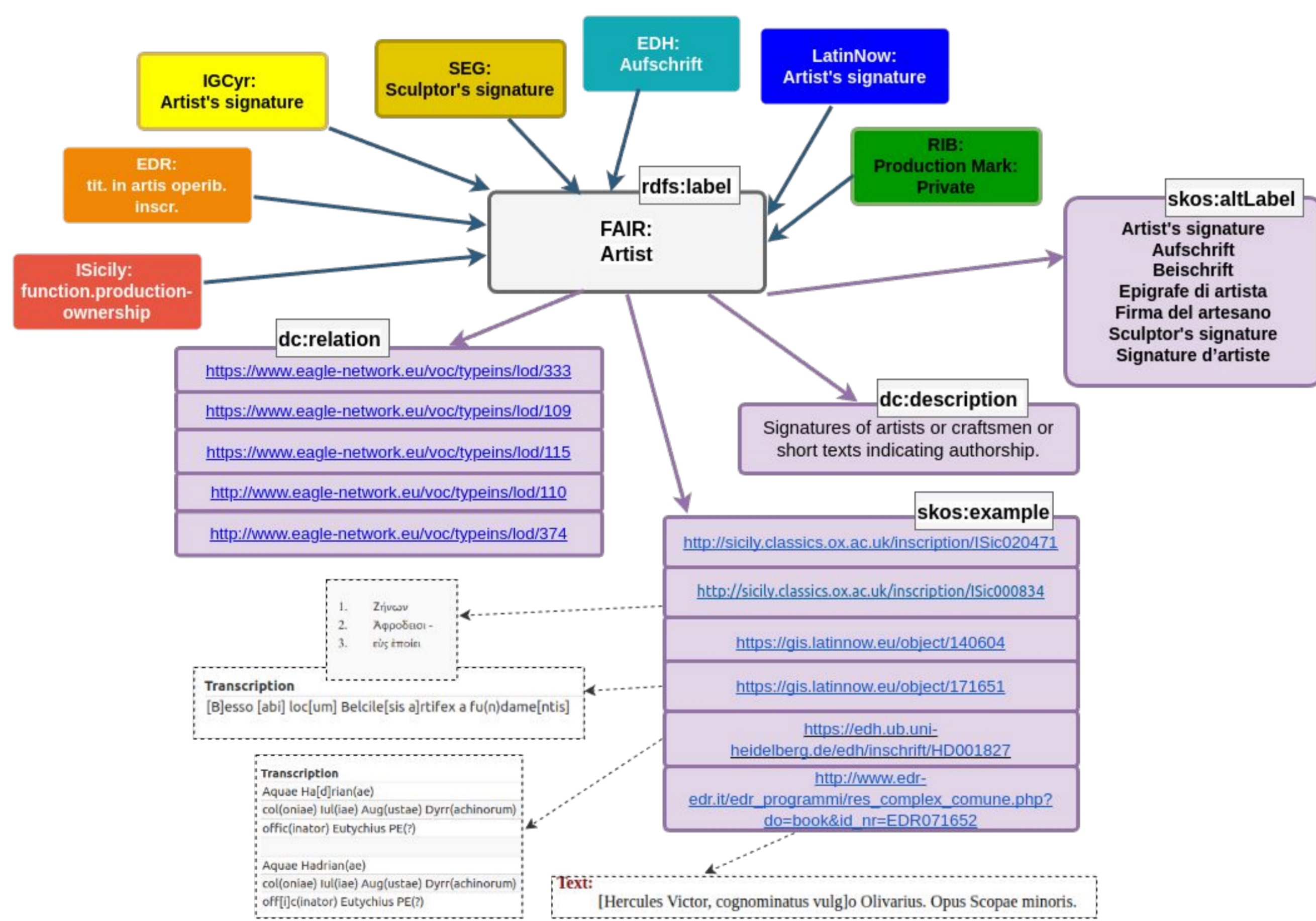
### Benefits

- Easy access and **discoverability** of terms for researchers
- Facilitates efficient **collaboration** and cross-referencing
- Enhances research landscape in epigraphy through cooperation and **standardisation**
- Enables comparative studies and cross-corpus searching

All references can be found at: [http://bit.ly/FAIRvocabularies\\_poster](http://bit.ly/FAIRvocabularies_poster)

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Example of FAIR Vocabulary: Type of inscription (Artist's signature)

### Next steps

Creation of the FAIR Epigraphic Vocabularies represent a significant step towards promoting cooperation and providing a standardized resource for scholars in digital epigraphy, **but we are not done yet!**

**Stage 2:** more examples, more languages, improved definitions, **and more vocabularies:** object, material, execution, decoration, date, preservation, language (bilingualism)

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If you would like to collaborate on making the community FAIR(er), please get in touch at [fair.epigraphy@inscriptiones.org](mailto:fair.epigraphy@inscriptiones.org)!