

Digital Toolkit: “Preserving Collective Memory in the Digital World”

This document gathers all digital tools and methodological principles presented during the seminar **Preserving Collective Memory in the Digital World** (facilitated by Julie Collet / Infinitivity Design Labs as part of the ReMEMBER Europe project). It is designed as a practical, comprehensive guide to share with participants to help them discover each tool in detail and explore its potential for creating impactful, ethical, and sustainable digital memory narratives.

1. Storytelling Principles & Narrative Angles

Golden Rule – AI and the Duty of Truth:

Artificial intelligence must be used exclusively for structuring and formatting (form vs. content). Content creators bear full responsibility for providing verified primary source material: real archival documents, fact-checked information, primary sources, authentic photographs, and precise dates to avoid any risk of hallucination or fabrication.

Crucially, AI must never be used to clone voices or generate imagery that depicts historical figures saying or doing things they never did, or participating in contexts without their prior consent. Preserving human dignity and historical accuracy requires that no generated content ever alters or misrepresents a real person’s legacy.

Storytelling Principles & Narrative Angles:

To resonate with audiences and foster empathy, three fundamental rules should guide your content creation:

- **The Micro-Perspective ("The Diary of Anne Frank" Effect):** Avoid impersonal statistics ("thousands of casualties"). Focus the narrative on a single object, a specific street, or a particular individual. Empathy among younger generations is sparked through personal, individual human stories.
- **Emphasize Resilience:** Do not focus solely on tragedy or destruction. Highlight acts of mutual support, processes of community rebuilding, and how local populations preserved their dignity and heritage.
- **Bridge to the Present:** Ask contemporary questions to engage the audience (e.g., *"What story is this monument trying to tell you as you pass by it every morning on your way to school?"*).

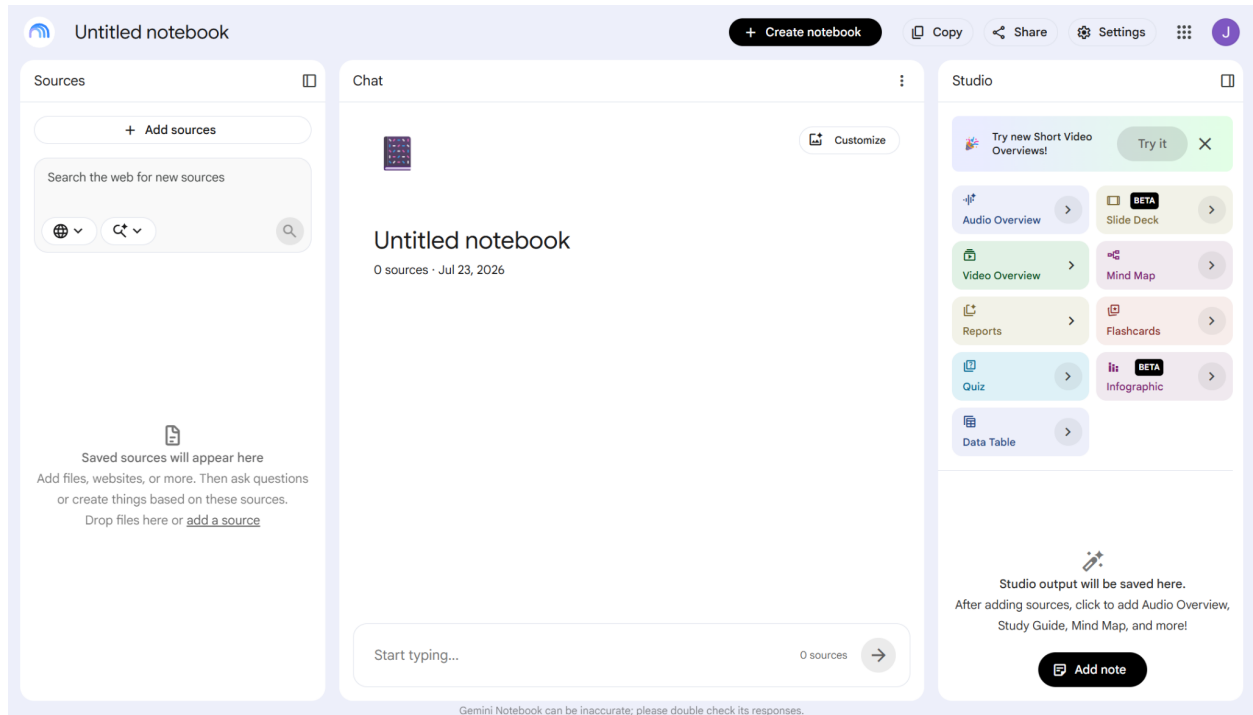
2. Digital Tools Overview Table

Domain	Tool	Primary Use Case	Key Strengths in Digital Memory Practices
Research & Scriptwriting	NotebookLM	Source-grounded AI research assistant	Source-grounded summaries, generation of Audio and Video Overviews, study guides, presentation outlines, and structured reports.
Audio & Podcast Production Tools	ElevenLabs	AI voice synthesis & audio editing	Hyper-realistic voiceovers, Voice Isolator, voice modification, and multi-language dubbing.
	Adobe Podcast	Web-based audio enhancement & recording	Enhance Speech (one-click studio quality noise removal), podcast recording, automated transcription, and captioning.
	SoundciteJS	Inline audio embedding for interactive storytelling	Audio clip integration (oral history quotes, ambient soundscapes), and seamless text-to-sound playback.
Video Generation	Kling AI	Advanced AI video generation	Archival photo animation (Image-to-Video),

Domain	Tool	Primary Use Case	Key Strengths in Digital Memory Practices
Visual Creation and Editing			Text-to-Video, lip-syncing, and digital avatars.
	Sparki	Prompt-driven AI video editing	Automated editing via text prompts, Smart Clipping, customizable storytelling styles, AI subtitle & translation, vlog format generation.
	Canva	Visual design & Podcast creation studio	Social media formats (Instagram post, Instagram Story, carousels, Reels, LinkedIn posts, etc.), audio & video recording/editing, auto-captioning, multi-platform resizing.
	CapCut	All-in-one mobile & desktop video editor	Short-form video formats, auto-captions, noise isolation, Script-to-Video generation, and video editing.
	StoryMapJS	Spatial & location-based historical storytelling	Location-based slide creation, text & media embedding, customizable maps.

3. Detailed Tool Breakdown & Tutorials

1. NotebookLM



Overview: Gemini Notebook is an AI-powered research and writing assistant developed by Google. Unlike general generative AI tools, it grounds its responses strictly on the documents uploaded by the user (PDFs, interview transcripts, archival records and more).

Use Case for Collective Memory: Analyze large volumes of archival material and oral history transcripts without the risk of AI hallucination. Automatically produce summaries, educational worksheets, resources with a tone tailored to a specific audience, or an "Audio Overview" (a synthetic podcast-style conversation between two virtual hosts discussing your documents).

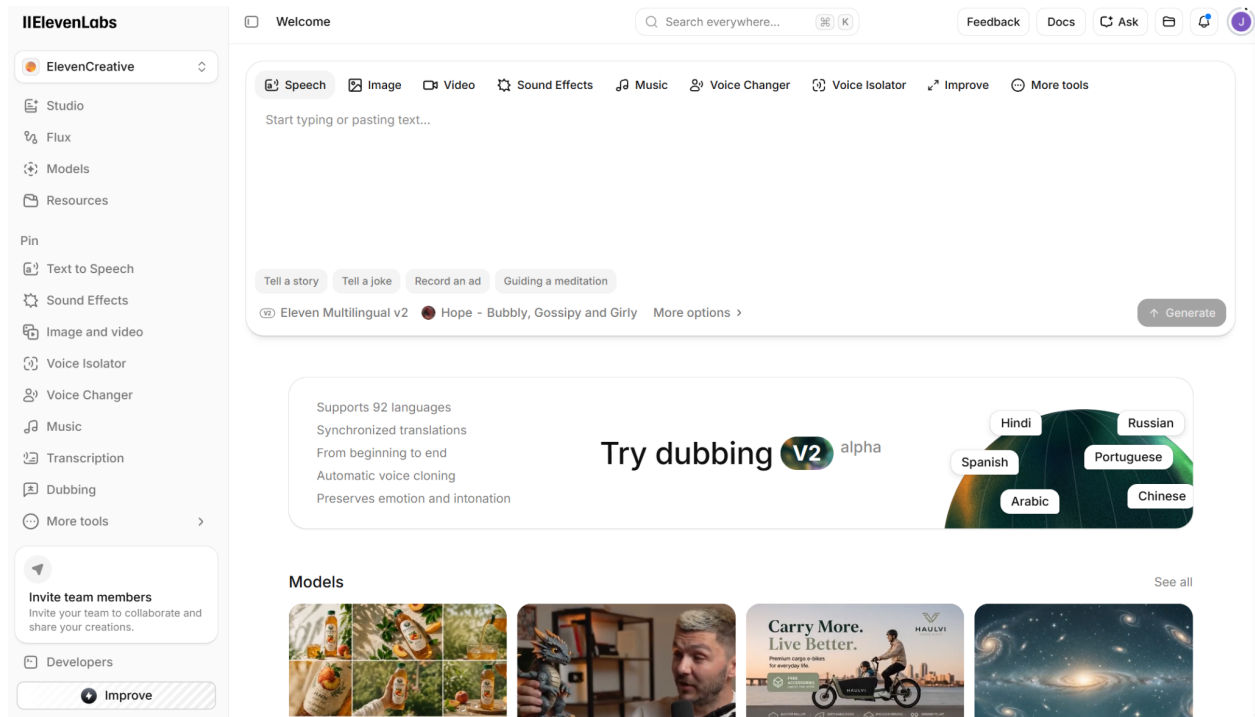
Key Features: Strict source grounding, audio/podcast script generation, audio & video overviews, presentation outlines, mind maps, reports.

👉 **Access to the tool:** [Try Gemini Notebook](#) or [Download the App](#)

Recommended YouTube Tutorial:

 [How to Use Google NotebookLM \(Full Tutorial\)](#)

2. ElevenLabs



Overview: ElevenLabs is an industry-leading platform for AI speech synthesis and audio manipulation, known for generating remarkably realistic human speech.

Use Case for Collective Memory: Create captivating voiceovers for written historical narratives, translate and dub oral testimonies into multiple languages for an international audience, or enhance the audio quality of historical recordings.

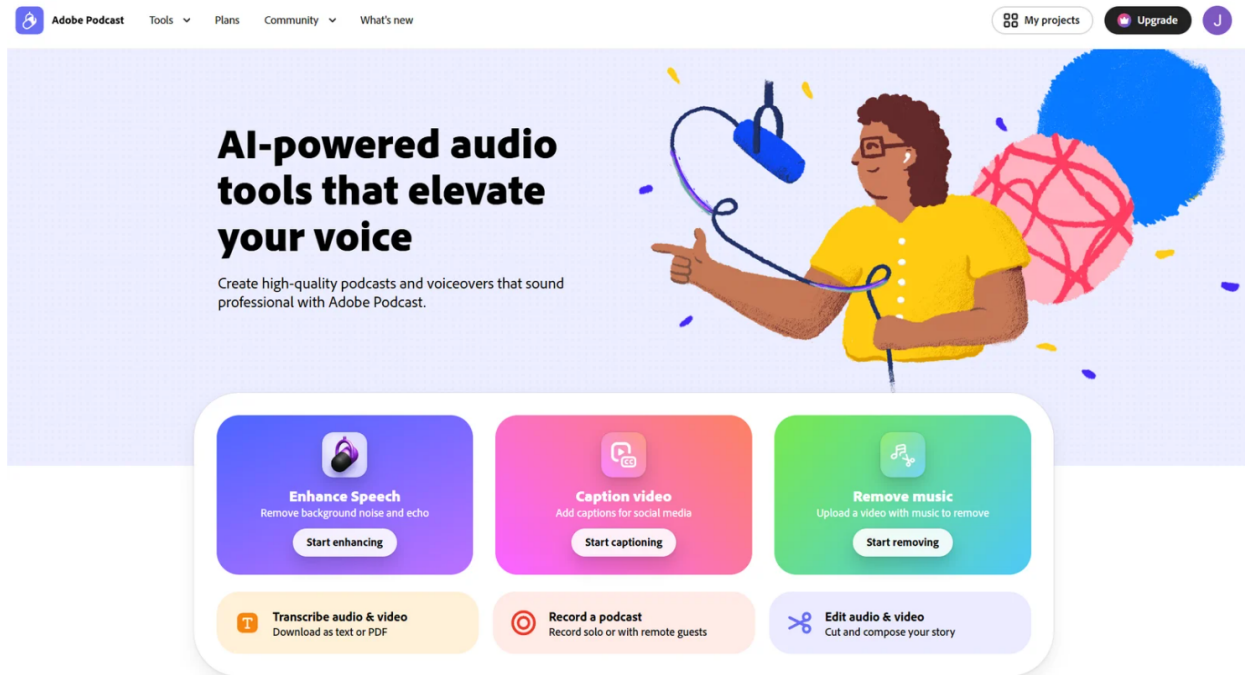
Key Features: Realistic and expressive Text-to-Speech, Audio Cleaning / Voice Isolator, Voice Changer, custom sound effects generation, and automated multilingual dubbing.

 **Access to the tool:** [Start creating for free](#)

Recommended YouTube Tutorial:

 [ElevenLabs Tutorial for Beginners \(Complete Step-by-Step Guide\)](#)

3. Adobe Podcast



Overview: A web-based suite of audio tools developed by Adobe, designed to make professional-grade audio recording and enhancement accessible directly from any web browser.

Use Case for Collective Memory: Instantly transform field-recorded interviews captured on smartphones into crisp, studio-quality audio, or use the platform to record, edit, and produce full audio and video podcasts directly online.

Key Features: Enhance Speech (one-click background noise and echo removal), podcast recording, audio and video edit, automated transcription, and subtitles generation.

👉 **Access to the tool:** [Adobe Podcast](#)

👤 **Recommended YouTube Tutorial:**

📺 Adobe Podcast - How to Record and Edit Audio for Non-Techys

4. SoundciteJS

SoundciteJS

Overview

Examples

Make a Clip

Help

Create Clips

On your site or blog in no time. As easy as 1-2-3.

1

Paste your audio URL

Before you start, you must publish your sound files to the web. Put MP3, M4A, WAV or Ogg audio files on a webserver of your choice. (Confused? What about Soundcloud? [See the FAQ below.](#))

Put the URL to your audio in the field below and click "load."

Audio URL

LOAD

Note: Want to try Soundcite but you don't have any audio? Try this: [/media/bach-cello-suite.mp3](#)

2

Set clip options

Do you want to play just part of your audio file? Soundcite can do that without you having to cut the file up into separate clips.

If you want to play the entire audio file, you don't have to do anything. If you want to play just a clip, you can enter the start and end times in the fields below. Don't know the exact time? Use the player to listen to your source, and click the "set from player" buttons at the right time.

3

Embedding

When you are finished creating clips, take the following embed code and paste it at the top of your page.

```
<link href='https://cdn.knightlab.com/libs/soundcite/latest/css/player.css' rel='stylesheet' type='text/css'><script type='text/javascript' src='https://cdn.knightlab.com/libs/soundcite/latest/js/soundcite.min.js'></script>
```

Then, for each clip, paste its associated embed code (created above) where the text would normally go in the page.

Attention:

SoundCloud imposes rate limits on API key usage. By default, all Soundcite users use the same API key, which can lead to cases where your Soundcite clips temporarily stop working. You can prevent this from happening by registering for your own free SoundCloud API key and pasting it in the field below.

SoundCloud Client ID

(Optional) Paste SoundCloud Client ID here

Getting a SoundCloud client ID

To get a SoundCloud client ID, you must register an application with them. However, for many years now, the process to register an application has had this message: "Due to the high amount of requests recently received, we will no longer be processing API application requests at this time. We are working to re-evaluate our process to make it more efficient." Unfortunately, this means that if you do not already have a SoundCloud client ID, you are unlikely to have satisfying results using SoundCite with SoundCloud audio. The best solution is to upload audio files in supported formats (MP3, M4A, WAV, or Ogg) to a webserver.

Overview: An open-source tool developed by the Northwestern University Knight Lab that enables creators to embed playable audio clips directly into inline text without disrupting the reader's flow.

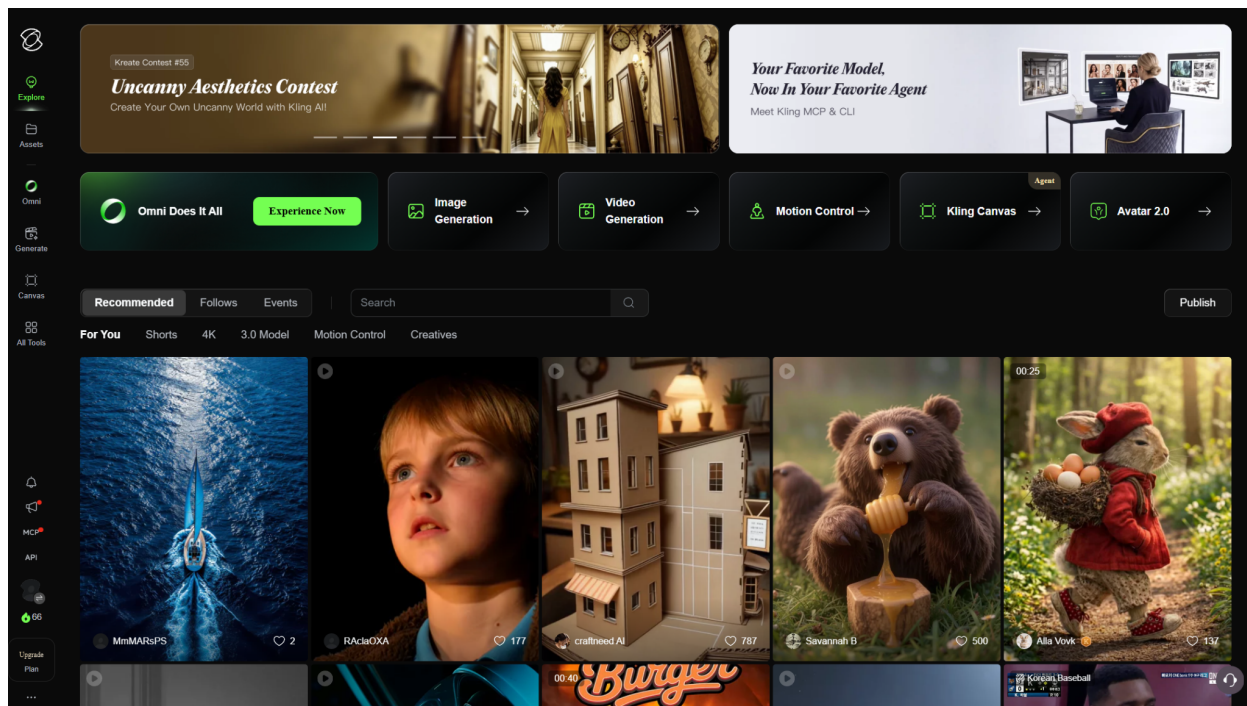
Use Case for Collective Memory: Seamlessly bring written archival research, oral histories, and historical essays to life by embedding real voice quotes, historical speeches, or ambient field recordings directly inside the narrative text.

Key Features: Inline audio clip integration, seamless text-to-sound playback, non-intrusive reader experience and custom start/end time markers.

👉 **Access to the tool:** [SoundciteJS](#)

 **A tutorial is directly available on the SoundciteJS website** (*link above*)

5. Kling AI



Overview: A next-generation AI video generator capable of producing realistic video sequences from natural language text prompts or static images.

Use Case for Collective Memory: Animate historical photographs with subtle movement to engage audiences, and visually reconstruct lost historical settings based on verified archival sources for educational documentaries.

Ethical Note:

In line with our Golden Rule, AI video should only enhance visual engagement (camera movement, background depth, verified environment reconstruction) without altering historical truth. Never modify expressions or actions of real individuals. Always label AI-animated visuals and credit original sources.

Key Features: Image-to-Video animation, Text-to-Video generation, precise camera movement control, Lip Sync, and digital human avatar generation.

 **Access to the tool:** [Kling AI](#)

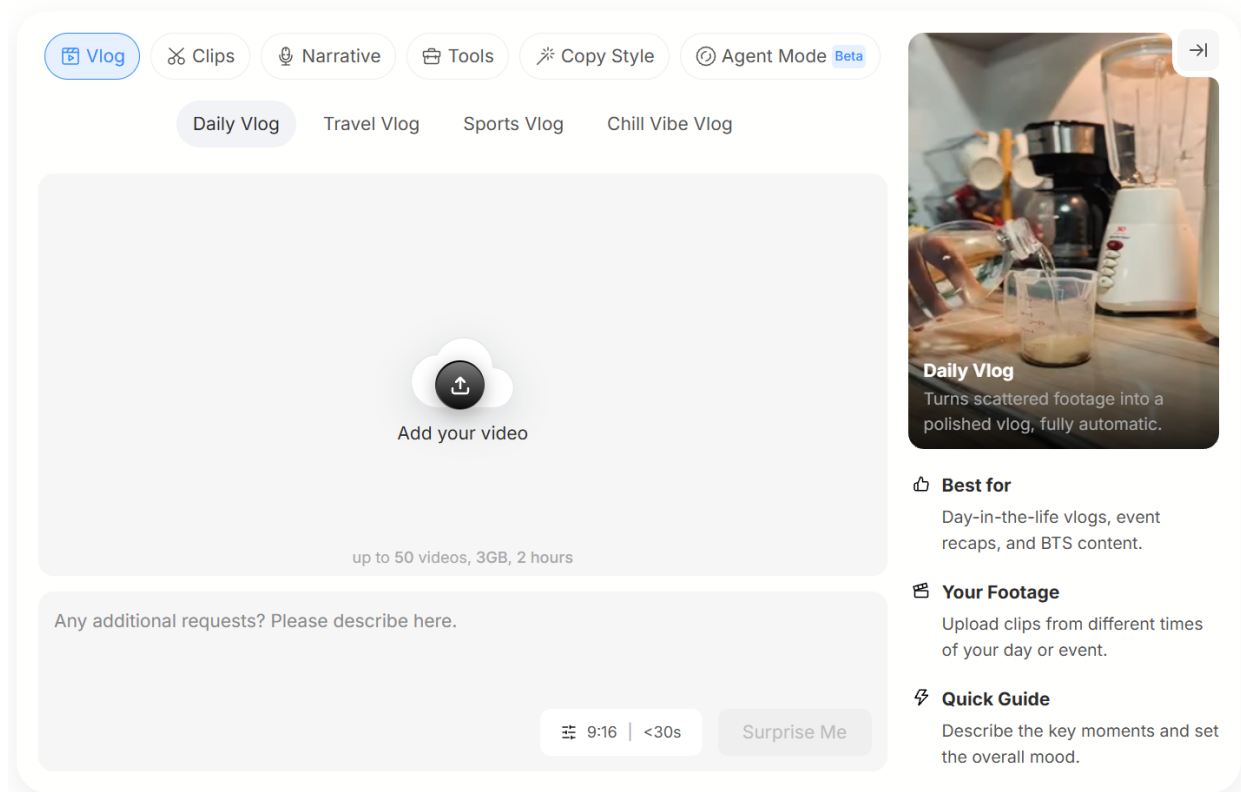
 **Recommended YouTube Tutorial:**

📺 Kling 3.0 for Beginners: Step-by-Step Tutorial

📺 Deep Dive into Cinematic AI Films with Kling 3.0 & 3.0 Omni | Tutorial

6. Sparki

Pick a category. Sparki will do the rest|



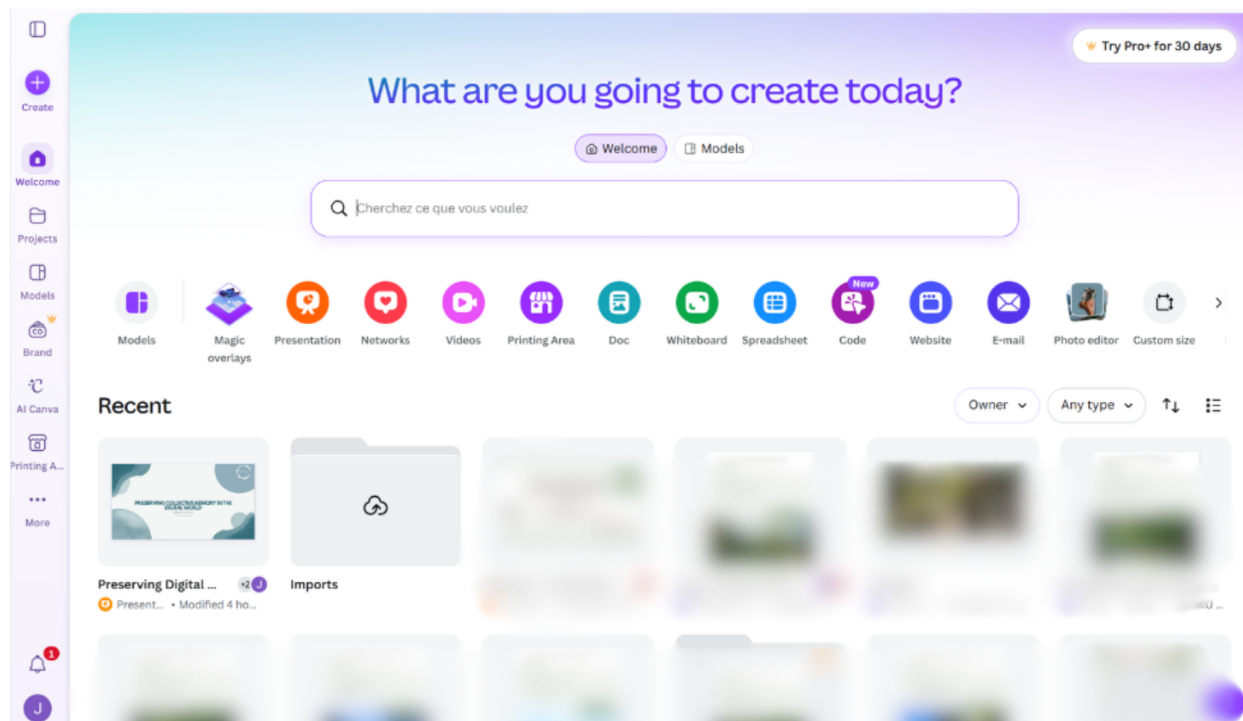
Overview: An AI-assisted video editing tool that enables users to generate and assemble video content simply by entering natural language prompts and instructions.

Use Case for Collective Memory: Rapidly assemble short video clips from interview highlights and visual archives without requiring advanced traditional video editing skills.

Key Features: Smart Clipping, customizable storytelling styles, automatic subtitle generation, video translation, and vlog format generation.

👉 Access to the tool: [Sparki](#)

7. Canva



Overview: An all-in-one graphic design and content creation platform combining visual layout, collaborative editing, and multimedia production tools.

Use Case for Collective Memory: Design engaging social media carousels or video, educational posters, and interactive presentation decks from archival assets. Record and edit full audio or video podcasts featuring oral histories.

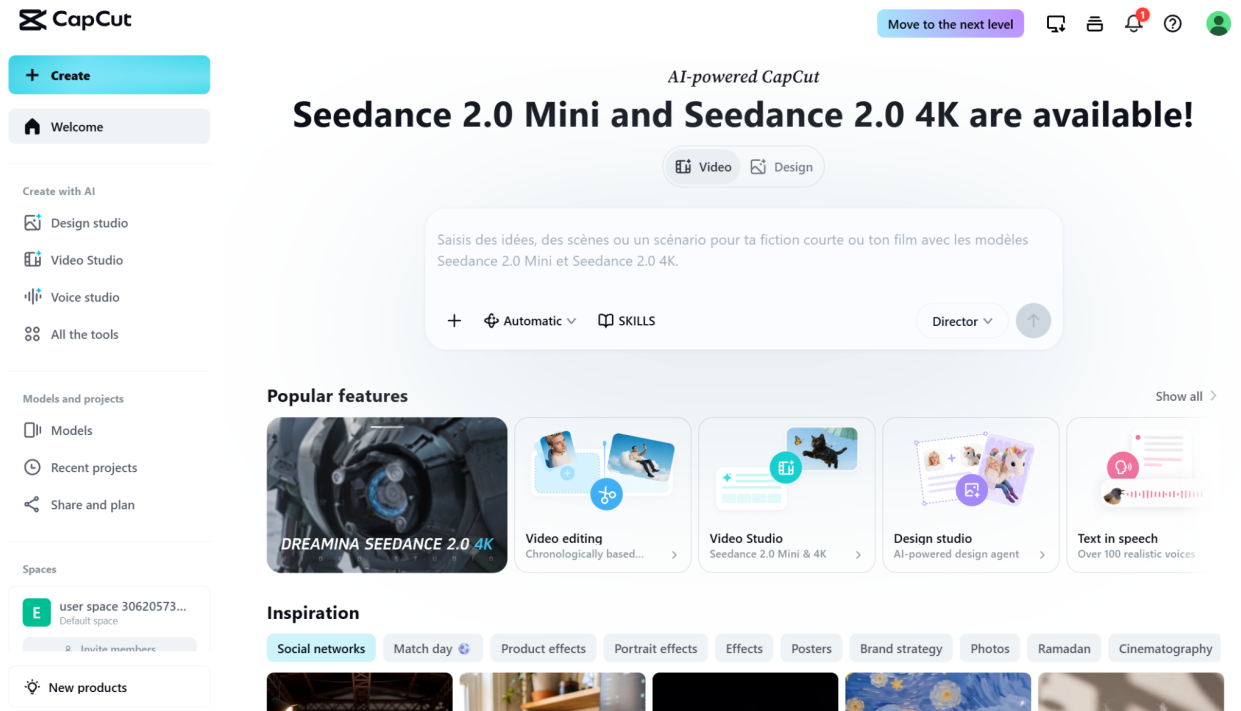
Key Features: Extensive library of templates, content creation and editing (audio, podcast, video, social media content, presentations, etc), direct webcam/microphone recording, auto-captioning, and multi-platform resizing.

👉 **Access to the tool:** [Canva](https://www.canva.com)

 **Recommended YouTube Tutorial:**

- ▶ Canva Tutorial for Beginners 2026 | Everything you NEED to KNOW!
- ▶ Canva Video Editor - COMPLETE Tutorial for Beginners!
- ▶ How to Create a Podcast with Canva + MemberSpace

8. CapCut



Overview: A widely popular and user-friendly video editing application (available on mobile, web, and desktop) known for its AI-powered features and automated workflows.

Use Case for Collective Memory: Adapt archival interviews, historical footage, and oral history recordings into engaging short-form videos (TikTok, Instagram Reels, YouTube Shorts) to engage younger audiences directly on their preferred platforms.

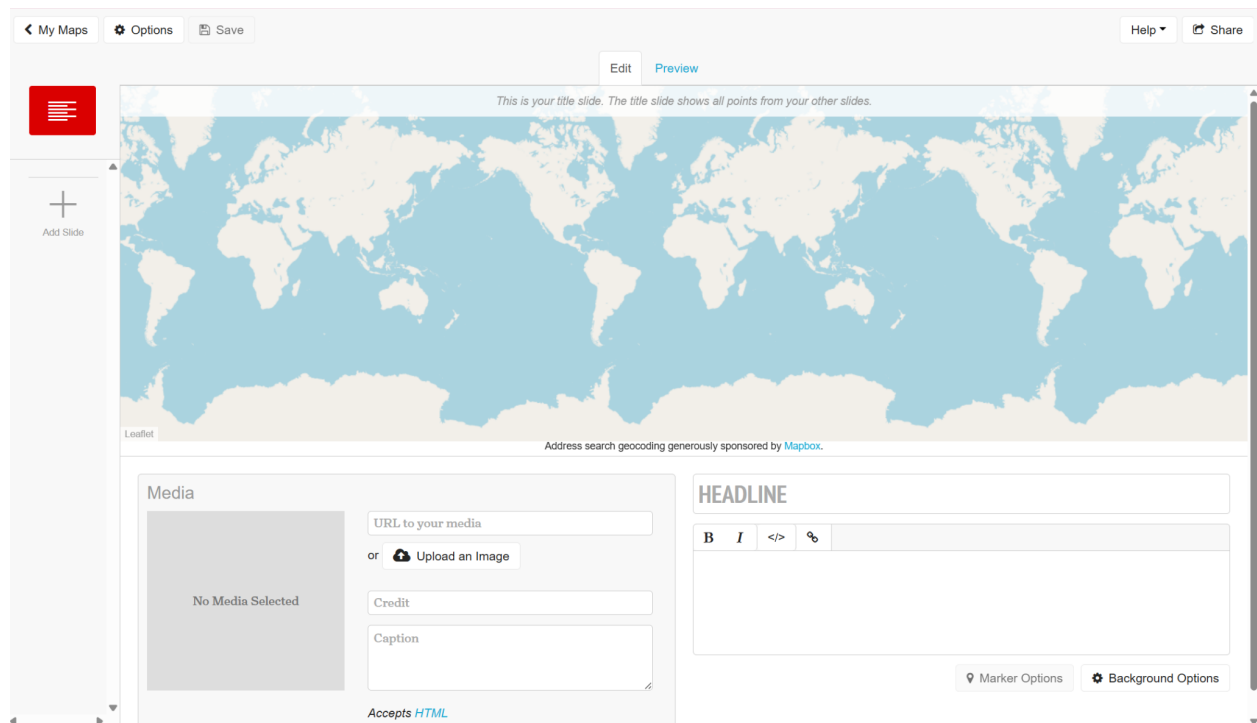
Key Features: Auto-captions, Script-to-Video generation, custom AI assets, automatic Long-to-Short video conversion, background removal, audio isolation, and beat-sync audio editing.

👉 **Access to the tool:** [Try online](#) or [Download the App](#)

 **Recommended YouTube Tutorial:**

📺 [Learn CapCut in 10 Minutes - Beginner Tutorial \(PC & MAC\)](#)

9. StoryMapJS



Overview: An open-source storytelling tool developed by the Northwestern University Knight Lab that allows creators to build interactive, location-based narratives mapped across geographic places.

Use Case for Collective Memory: Map historical events, archival media, and personal journeys across space and time to provide a compelling, geographical context to collective memory narratives and heritage trails.

Key Features: Location-based slide creation, custom map styles, support for gigapixel image maps (e.g., historical maps/artworks), multimedia embedding (photos, video, audio), and rich-text narrative annotations.

👉 **Access to the tool:** [StoryMapJS](https://storymapjs.net/)



Recommended YouTube Tutorial:

 **StoryMap JS Tutorial**