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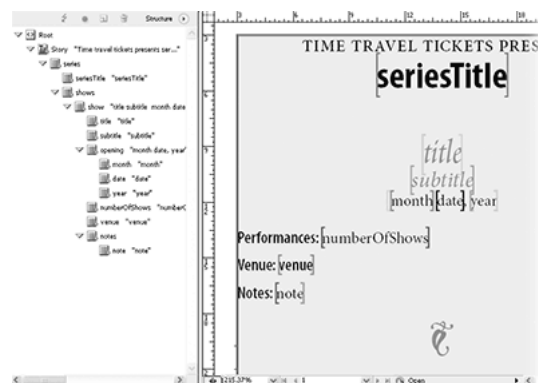
Create placeholders for repeating content

Tagging text and frames, importing XML, and replacing XML can be used to create and populate placeholder frames for XML content. A key point, however, is that Adobe® InDesign® CS2 will never create new frames or add pages to accommodate new XML elements.

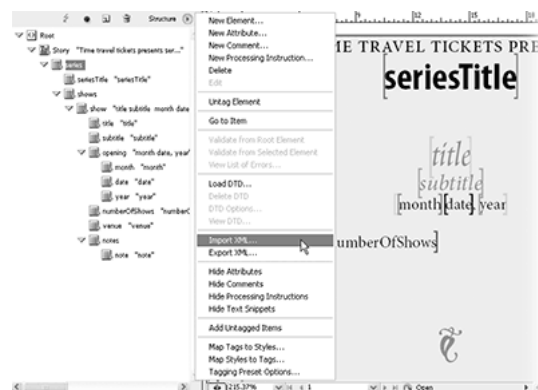
InDesign will, however, duplicate text items as you import XML elements into a placeholder story. This means that you can have InDesign repeat the arrangement of placeholder elements and static text for each corresponding element in an imported XML file.

You create placeholder text by creating an XML structure that matches the structure of the XML content you plan to import. You then use the elements from the XML structure to mark up text. The structures do not need to be an exact match, but the sequence of elements in the template and the sequence of elements in the incoming XML file must match.

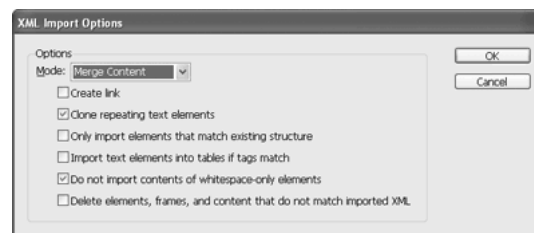
Creating placeholders for XML content



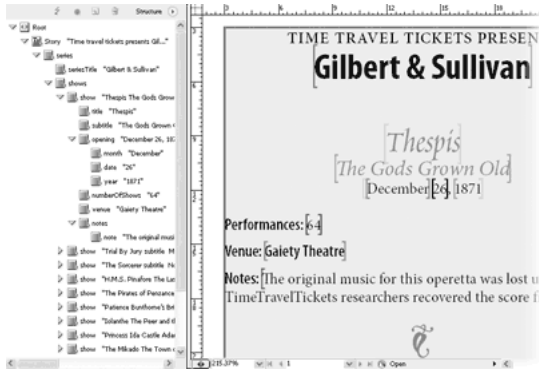
Make a text frame and use tags to create a series of XML placeholders. In this example, the main repeating element—similar to a record in a database—is the “show” element.



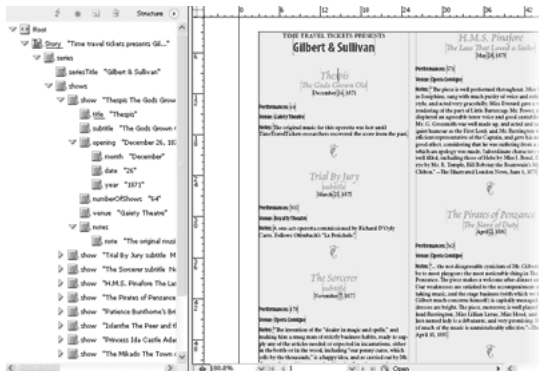
Choose **Import XML** from the Structure menu or the File menu.



Choose **Merge Content** in the XML Import Options dialog box. Select **Clone Repeating Text Elements**. Select **Do Not Import Contents Of Whitespace-Only Elements** to preserve any static text you have added between placeholder elements.



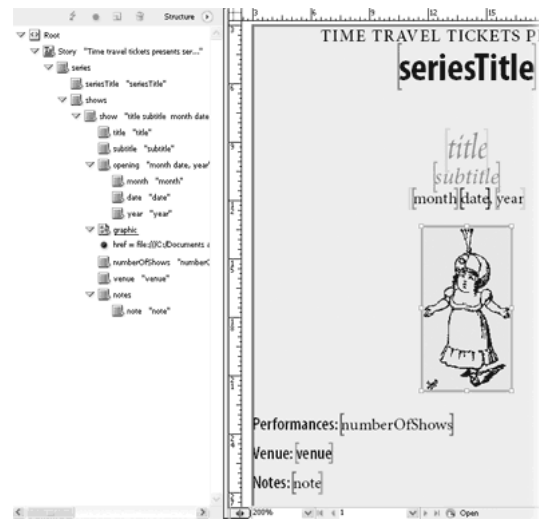
InDesign flows the XML data into the story, repeating the XML elements that match the structure of the placeholder elements.



Each "show" element is laid out according to the format of the placeholder elements.

We know that we said that InDesign won't create new frames, but there is a way to incorporate graphics in your XML placeholder—and that is to create inline frames. Inline graphic frames can be filled in with a graphic just like XML placeholder text.

Inline placeholders for graphics



Again, set up the structure using placeholder XML elements. This time, add an anchored graphic and apply an XML tag to it.

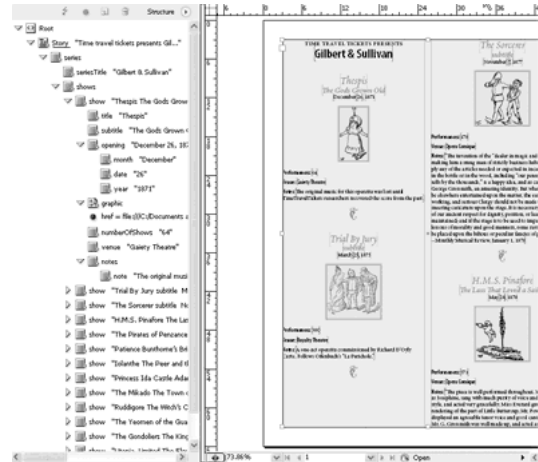
```

20 <title>Trial By Jury</title>
21 <subitle></subitle>
22 <opening>
23   <month>March</month>
24   <date>25</date>
25   <year>1875</year>
26 </opening>
27 <graphic href="file:///images/pir_eud.gif"></graphic>
28 <numberofShows>300</numberofShows>
29 <venue>Royalty Theatre</venue>
30 <notes>
    
```

Add graphic elements to the structure of the XML file you plan to export. For each graphic element, add the location of the graphic you want inserted for that element.



When you import the XML, InDesign will duplicate the graphic placeholder, and will import the graphic specified in the corresponding XML element.



The new graphics replace the placeholder graphic in each duplicate of the placeholder text.

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