Request for Information on the Chinese and Chinese Music in Oceania for ICTM-HK

After a preliminary meeting of the Programme Committee for the forthcoming 31st World Conference of the ICTM in Hong Kong (during the AMS/SEM/SMT conference in Oakland) Smith was told that the Committee was enthusiastic about a panel proposed by our Study Group on the musical activities of the Chinese in Oceania—a topic which joins the area interests of our Study Group to the major focus of this conference. To date, little scholarly attention has been devoted to the effects of the Chinese on the musics in Oceania. This panel is intended as a preliminary, exploratory sharing of information on the subject.

To prepare for the panel, I request that every member of the Study Group—not just those expecting to attend the conference in Hong Kong—fill out the enclosed Questionnaire to contribute to a preliminary database. The area to be embraced is expected to include Island Southeast Asia as well as Oceania (and may be expanded further by the Programme Committee); however the intent is to focus on areas that have had little study (so will not include areas or genres, e.g., Japanese gagaku which have been studied extensively).

The Programme Committee also seemed pleased with the proposals for papers on Oceania; a final decision will be made at its mid-December meeting.

New Member

We welcome Michael Webb to membership. Please add his name and address (given at the end of this Circular) to the membership list.

SEM Meeting in Oakland

Nine members of the Study Group participated in the Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology in early November. Ellis' paper was "False Front and Reality in South Australian Aboriginal Song Behavior"; Stillman's was "The 'Old Way of Singing': Its Manifestations in Tahiti." Christensen's and Kartomi's papers were on non-Oceania subjects. Robertson used data from her research in Hawai’i in a round table "Toward a Theoretical Framework for the Study of Gender and Music"; Trimillos referred to Hawaiian music in one on "What is the Responsibility of the Press Towards Ethnic Music?" Carmack, Thomas and Smith were also present. During an informal breakfast meeting, the possibility of a conference before the 1992 Festival in Rarotonga and other Study Group matters were discussed.

SIMS-1990

Four members of the Study Group participated in SIMS-1990 in Osaka. Yamaguti, one of the main organizers, also presented a paper "Performance as a historical source in music research"; Kartomi's paper was "Problems of the intercultural reception and methods of describing and analysing musical rhythm"; Niles was "Spirits given substance through sound: Men's cult usage of voice-modifiers in Papua New Guinea"; and Sajnovsky's was "Micronesian music: A voice from the past."

Publications by Members

Music, Gender, and Culture, Vol. 1 of Intercultural Music Studies, Florian Noetzel Verlag (D-2940 Wilhelmshaven, P.O.Box 580, FRG) includes an article by Rossen "Politics and Songs: A Study in Gender on Mungiki"; and one by Kaeppler "The Production and Reproduction of Social and Cultural Values in the Compositions of Queen Salote of Tonga." Music in the Dialogue of Cultures: Traditional Music and Cultural Policy, Vol. 2 in the same series, includes an article by Christensen "Traditional Music, Nationalism, and Musicological Research"; and one by Robertson "The Ethnomusicologist as Midwife."

Feld's "Rainforest Voice," which will feature the Kaluli of PNG in the first major compact disc recording by Ryko Disc, will be available for international distribution in February 1991 with proceeds going to rainforest preservation.

McLean and Orbell's Traditional Songs of the Maori is now available in paperback for NZ $39.95 from Auckland University press, University of Auckland, Private Bag, Auckland, New Zealand.

Thomas' video & booklet Pacific Island Drums: Drum Traditions of the Cook Islands, Fiji, Niue, Samoa, Tokelau and Tonga (from a festival of local communities in Wellington) is available on PAL at NZ $25, or NTSC at NZ $55 from MASPAC, P.O.Box 1095, Wellington, New Zealand. His book & sound cassette Songs and Stories of Tokelau: an introduction to the cultural heritage are available from Victoria University Press, P.O.Box 600, Wellington, New Zealand, both for NZ $23.

Other News of Members

Kaeppler documented the performances of the Wallis Islanders at the Los Angeles Festival in September.

Kelsey has returned to Wesleyan after further fieldwork in Papua New Guinea.

Lawson is now Lisa Lawson Burke. Congratulations, Lisa!

Nero is on leave from UC-Irvine for further work in Micronesia.

Smith made a brief trip to Kosrae and Pohnpei in October.

Stillman accepted an AMS 50 Fellowship on an honorary basis, having also been awarded a Ford Foundation Minority Dissertation Fellowship for the academic year.

Thomas recorded in the Polynesian Outlier, West Futuna in Vanuatu for the Territorial Survey of Oceanic Music in August-September. He is currently visiting the US mainland and Hawai'i on a Fulbright Travel Grant during which he worked with Kaeppler at the Smithsonian and visited various institutions. He is working on the biography of a Tokelau Island composer, and is interested to hear from others about profiles/life-stories/personal-studies of musicians in Oceania.

Webb's MA thesis (1990) at Wesleyan University is titled "Lingua Franca Song and Identity in Papua New Guinea." He has begun doctoral studies there after spending a month in each of PNG and Australia establishing a dissertation research project.

Additions/Changes For Membership Address List

Lisa Lawson BURKE
John R. KELSEY

Randall C. KOHL
Michael WEBB

For The Next Circular
Please return the Questionnaire promptly and send address changes/corrections and news items to Barbara B. Smith, Music Dept., University of Hawai'i at Manoa, 2411 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822 USA.
ICTM-SGMO Circular No. 19 (enclosure)

QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING THE CHINESE IN OCEANIA
(and Island Southeast Asia for those with relevant expertise)

This is an urgent request to all Study Group members to answer as many of the questions as possible (without taking time to undertake research on them) for areas of your research expertise and, for those living in Oceania, of your residence. Please return this form as quickly as possible to Barbara Smith. The form has space for three areas (the numbers applying throughout the form); anyone able to supply information on more than three areas is requested to add a page(s) identifying the question by letter and filling in the answer. It will be helpful even if only geographic area(s) are identified in Question A and the answer(s) are "no" in Question B—knowing which area(s) have no Chinese residents will be helpful. Most questions can be answered with just yes or no, or alpha. Further comments on the back of this sheet will be appreciated.

YOUR NAME: __________________________

A. Please designate your geographic area(s) of expertise/research. Where relevant, please indicate both a broad area (e.g., Papua New Guinea) and a more specific area (e.g., Eastern Highlands—or even a tribal area within that). Answer questions B through K for the specific area: 1. broad specific __ 2. broad specific __ 3. broad specific __

B. Are there any residents of Chinese ancestry in the designated area(s)/living with the tribal group(s)? 1. __ 2. __ 3. __

C. If the answer to B is "yes," did they arrive (a) more than a generation ago (or, pre-WW II if that is more convenient), or (b) they are recent arrivals, or (c) some of both? 1. __ 2. __ 3. __

D. If the Chinese arrived more than a generation ago ("a" in question C), have they tended to (a) remain a separate ethnic group, or (b) intermarry with the local Oceanic population? 1. __ 2. __ 3. __

E. If the answer to D is "a," do they tend to live in the more urban part(s) of the area (if any) or (b) are they dispersed throughout it? 1. __ 2. __ 3. __

F. If you have information on the percentage of Chinese to the total population in the specific area, please give that (an approximation or guess is adequate for present purposes): 1. ___ 2. ___ 3. ___

G. If you know what part of China (e.g., Fujian Province of mainland China) or other area with long-term Chinese community they came from (e.g., Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore), please indicate that: 1. ___ 2. ___ 3. ___

H. Do the Chinese (some of them and/or others in the area) perform any (a) traditional Chinese music/dance, (b) current Chinese popular music/dance, or (c) no Chinese music/dance? 1. ___ 2. ___ 3. ___

I. If the answer to G is "a" or "b" or both "a" and "b," do you know if there is a study(s) of these people and their music/dance in this location in Oceania? 1. ___ 2. ___ 3. ___

J. If the answer to I is "yes," if you know the author(s) and/or title(s)—without having to take a lot of time to look for this information—it would be helpful if you add it: 1. ___________________________________________________________ 2. ___________________________________________________________ 3. ___________________________________________________________

K. Has there been any performance(s) by touring Chinese musicians/dancers in this area(s)? 1. ___ 2. ___ 3. ___

K. Do the Chinese (or some of them) participate in the performance of the local Oceanic music/dance tradition(s)? (This question contrasts with question H, although affirmative answers to both are possible.) 1. ___ 2. ___ 3. ___

Please return promptly to Barbara B. Smith, Music Dept., Univ. of Hawaii at Manoa, 2411 Dole St., Honolulu, HI 96822 USA. Thanks for your cooperation!