ICTM Study Group on Musics of Oceania
Circular No. 29

ICTM 33rd World Conference, 5-11 January 1995, Canberra, Australia

26 November 1993

This World Conference and our Study Group meeting immediately following it should be a wonderful opportunity for our members to present results of their research and to share information of mutual interest. Please send proposals for papers to the Program Chair, Prof. Dieter Christensen, as soon as possible (and in no case later than will assure his receipt by 30 April 1994). Our Study Group has proposed a panel for the World Conference which we hope will be accepted for the program. It is a revision of Stillman's suggestion (circulated in Circular No. 27). Because the topic is appropriate to the interests of so many of our members (and to the location of the meeting), we have requested a double time slot so more Study Group members can participate in it. We expect that, if accepted, there will be only a short lead time for submitting the names of the panelists and their specific topics, so members who expect to attend the Conference and would like to be considered for participation in the panel should contact the organizer promptly: Dr. Amy K. Stillman, Department of Music, University of California at Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, California 93106-6070 USA. As submitted, the proposal reads as follows:

OCEANIC MUSIC AND DANCE
IN EXPATRIATE AND RELOCATED COMMUNITIES

A Panel Proposal by
The ICTM Study Group on Musics of Oceania
Amy Ku'uleialoha Stillman, Organizer

This panel will focus on a fairly neglected aspect of Oceanic performing traditions, namely, their maintenance and/or transformation in communities away from the "land of birth." We propose to consider the following questions:

What kinds of interaction do expatriate residents conduct with homeland residents with respect to performing traditions? Are expatriate residents "avant-garde," "up to date" or conservatively "old-fashioned" vis-a-vis innovations or trends in the homeland? Do interactions in multicultural coalitions (e.g. the Pacific Islander Council in Los Angeles, USA, and the Council for Maori and South Pacific Arts in Wellington, NEW ZEALAND) promote creative adaptation of music and dance features among Oceanic traditions, or is emphasis placed on asserting distinctiveness? And what impacts are there of non-indigenous participants as students, performers, and presenters?

Please remember that you can present a paper and also participate in a panel; also that membership status must be current—so check to make sure your dues are paid.

ICTM Study Group on Musics of Oceania Meeting, 12-13 January 1995, Canberra

In Berlin in June 1993, most of the topics we had suggested for the World Conference were accepted as themes (and our members can propose to address them through papers). So our Study Group meeting should probably focus primarily on mass media and Oceanic music and dance. At an informal gathering of some SGMO members during the recent SEM meeting, it was suggested that we request a visit/tour of resources of the Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Studies as our first activity (12 January). In the afternoon we (and, perhaps also invited media personnel) would discuss the import of mass media on traditional arts and early sound recordings from the region (members would bring data to discuss rather than preparing formal papers). There will probably be an evening activity. In the morning of 13 January—if we succeed in bringing a few bearers/carriers of traditions (who are not necessarily members of the Study Group)—they may be asked to share their perspectives on how the electronic media affect their own performance. We did not propose the content for the afternoon
session because we want all members to have a chance to give feedback on the above and to submit further ideas/requests to Smith for circulation. Departure is anticipated for the morning of 14 January (which will allow us to get home for the beginning of the work week). Of course, all this is tentative until our host, Wild, can consider its feasibility.

Please return the enclosed questionnaire as promptly as possible—its receipt here in January '94 will help us in planning a stimulating and worthwhile meeting.

Other Meetings—Past and Future


The XVIII Pacific Science Congress will meet in Beijing, China, 5-12 June 1995. There will be a session(s) on ethnomusicology. The address of the office of the Pacific Science Association is P.O.Box 17801, Honolulu, Hawaii 97817 USA; Individual Associate membership is US $25.00. The 2nd Circular for the Congress (which will include the call for papers) is in preparation; it will be issued by the Congress office: XVIII Pacific Science Congress, c/o Institute of Atmospheric Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, P.O.Box 2718, Beijing 100080, P R CHINA.

News of Members

Crowe hopes to write a general review of Oceanic music on CD for the 1994 issue of the Journal of Pacific Arts. He will appreciate information and/or arrangements to receive review copies at: 29 rue Roquelaine, 31000 Toulouse, France.

Konishi, on trip to Yap in August, collected information on the influence of Japanese songs on Yapese songs during the period between WWI and WWII.

Lawrence is now a Visiting Researcher at the North Australia Research Unit of The Australian National University. (See new address below.)

Other News

The Consortium for Pacific Arts and Cultures has initiated a regional heritage awards program. Performers of traditional music and dance are eligible for the honor.

The Sasakawa Peace Foundation has published the Collective Works of Hijikata Hisakatsu: Society and Life in Palau. Ed. by Endo Hisashi. 1993. For information, write: the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, 3-12-12 Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan 108. (Hijikata lived in Palau during the Japanese occupation before and during WWII.

"Bunggridj-bunggridj: Wamga Songs from Northern Australia" by Alan Maralung is scheduled for release in 1993 by the International Institute for Traditional Music.

Address Changes

Randall Kohl
Helen Reeves Lawrence

Please return the enclosed questionnaire and send other news items to: Barbara B. Smith, Music Dept., Univ. of Hawai'i at Manoa, 2411 Dole St. Honolulu, HI 96822 USA.
1. At present, I expect to attend the ICTM Study Group Meeting in Canberra, 12-13 January 1995: yes no have not yet considered it

2. If your answer to #1 is "yes," please comment on the proposed (a) content and (b) the format—i.e. discussion rather than papers—for this Study Group Meeting:

3. Other comments/news:

Name: ____________________ (Address if changed/new: ____________________________)

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Music Department
University of Hawai'i at Manoa
2411 Dole St.
Honolulu, HI 96822 USA

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