ICTM Study Group on Music of Oceania

Circular No. 3

March 1, 1985

We welcome four new members to the Study Group. Please put the list of names and addresses on page 3 with the lists sent in Circulars 1 and 2.

The writing of this Circular was delayed so as to include information on the Fourth Festival of Pacific Arts that was postponed from December 1984 in New Caledonia. It is re-scheduled for 29 June through 13 July 1985 in Papeete, Tahiti. (Bastille Day, 14 July, has been the beginning of the Tahiti Fête, and apparently it is planned to hold the two events back-to-back.) I have heard, unofficially, that 24 countries will be represented in the Festival of Pacific Arts in Tahiti. The address of the FPA office in Tahiti is:

M. Marceau Galenon
Director of Festival Organizing Committee
Territorial Board for Cultural Activities
Papeete, Tahiti.
(telephone: 42-88-50; telex: 404GVPT-PFR)

To date, I know of no scholarly conference to be scheduled in conjunction with the Festival; however I understand that some members of the Westpolynesian Genre Project are surveying that group to determine if meeting in Tahiti might be preferable to meeting in Stockholm as previously planned (see Christensen's item for circulation below). Any Study Group member interested in further information on the project and its plans are invited to write to Adrienne Kaeppler.

The following news items have been submitted for circulation to the Study Group's members:

Christensen [as of Nov. 1984]: Participants in the Westpolynesian Genre Project of the Study Group are preparing to meet for a two-day work session during the Stockholm Conference of the ICTM, 30 July - 8 August. The active members of this project are at present: Richard Feinberg, Adrienne Kaeppler, Dorothy Sara Lee, Jacob Lave, Raymond Mayer, Jane Mink Rossen, Allen Thomas, and Dieter Christensen. [Note: see above about possible re-scheduling.]

Lobban [as of Nov. 1984]: In December 1984, my book TAFAOOGA USUUSU A TAMALIKI TUVALU: A collection of children's singing games from Tuvalu, will be published by the University of the South Pacific in Suva, Fiji. At present I am involved with a project to collect and collate as many of the traditional singing games of Vanuatu as possible. This study has also been extended to include string figures (Cat's cradles) as there is a folklore link between the two areas. [Note: sometime after this information was submitted, Mr. Lobban was invited to assist with the administration of the Festival and, as of February 1985, plans to be in Noumea for the rest of the year.]

R. Moyle: My monograph on traditional music of Tonga has been accepted for publication by the University of Auckland Press.

(please turn over)
ICTM Study Group on Music of Oceania
Circular No. 3 (p. 2)

Other news items:

A special sale of the complete set of ICTM Yearbooks (vols. 1-15) is available to new members of ICTM at a reduced price of US $75.00. Orders from new members may be sent to the Council's office in New York.

William Lobban's book (see above) was published on schedule. It contains texts, translations, music notations, movement directions, and photographs of 29 of the 80 singing games he collected on four of the islands in 1981. It may be ordered from The University of the South Pacific, P. O. Box 1168, Suva, Fiji. The price is F$3.00.

Richard Moyle has completed a survey of the music of Niue under the auspices of the Territorial Survey.

Osamu Yamaguchi is compiling an anthology of Palauan song texts.

Jacob Love in teaching at the University of Hawaii at Manoa during the Spring 1985 semester.

The announcement of the Territorial Survey is reproduced on the back of the page of names and addresses of new members of the Study Group in case any mail from New Zealand went astray.

Next Circular: New and updated items received by May 15th will be included in Circular No. 4. It may be helpful to include updated information on who is planning to attend the Festival in Tahiti and the conference in Stockholm.

Barbara B. Smith
Music Department
University of Hawaii at Manoa
2411 Dole Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822, USA
Unesco and The Institute for Polynesian Studies (Laie) have jointly contributed US$35,000 to begin a Territorial Survey of Oceanic Music during 1984-85. Further funding will be sought to continue the programme from 1986 onwards. Applications are now invited from persons wishing to take part.

Project description

1. The Survey follows the recommendations of a Planning Committee Meeting held under Unesco auspices at Laie, Hawaii, in July 1983.
2. The purpose of the Survey is to meet the most urgent needs for music research in the Pacific and to pinpoint areas for future study.
3. Recordings resulting from the Survey are to be widely disseminated both at Pacific Islands local level for educational use in schools, museums, cultural centres and radio stations, and within and beyond the Pacific for purposes of study and research.
4. The Planning Committee has identified 66 islands or island groups in Oceania requiring urgent study. For the first two years of the Survey priority is to be given to Polynesia. Areas favoured for research include the Marquesas Islands, Mangareva, Manihiki/Rakahanga, Penrhyn and the Polynesian Outliers. (Note: Lead-time for processing research applications for Solomon Islands Outliers is currently nine months.) It is expected that up to three areas will be surveyed during 1984-85.
5. The Committee is seeking a very high level of local Pacific Inland involvement. The project will pay the salary in each survey area of a local worker who will assist with all aspects of research and will be trained in field recording and documentation techniques by the visiting researcher.
6. In each area a surveyed representative sample is to be recorded of all extant categories of song, song-dance and instrumental music. Participants will be provided with a list of these insofar as they are known from existing literature. Full documentation, including song texts, is to be obtained for all items recorded.

Duration

Each area survey is expected to require one to three months of field work followed by a period of one month for writing up the results.

Administration

The project will be administered by the New Zealand National Commission for Unesco in association with the Archive of Maori and Pacific Music, University of Auckland. An Executive Committee has been set up consisting of Mervyn McLean (Chairman, New Zealand), Dieter Christensen (U.S.A.) and Palamu Tutuosalsopo (American Samoa).

Responsibilities of researchers

1. Liaison with governments and applications to governments for research permits must be arranged through the Survey Committee.
2. During the tenure of the survey researchers will be expected to occupy their full time on the objects of the survey, including the training of local co-workers.
3. At the conclusion of the survey researchers will be required to submit a preliminary report in writing within a specified period. Additionally they will be encouraged to write up their results in more detail for submission to such journals as the Yearbook for Traditional Music, Ethnomusicology, and Pacific Studies (Laie).
4. Recordings. One of the objects of the Survey is to obtain the widest possible dissemination of recordings. To ensure this, collectors will be asked to spend a short time at the University of Auckland supervising copying of their recordings by the Archive of Maori and Pacific Music.
   (i) Original recordings will be stored either at the Archive of Maori and Pacific Music or, by agreement, at an institution designated by the principal researcher.
   (ii) Three professional-quality documented copies will be made by the Archive. These will be deposited (a) with an institution in the area of origin to be designated by the government concerned, (b) with the The Institute for Polynesian Studies, and (c) either with the Archive or with the principal researcher, as the case may be, in lieu of the originals.
   (iii) For each survey area the collector will select representative recordings of each genre sufficient to fill a demonstration tape of up to one hour. Multiple copies of the tape will be made by the Archive and distributed to participating institutions.
   (iv) If the materials are suitable, and if the local people approve, a disc and/or cassette may be compiled for commercial distribution. Authority to decide on reproduction of material for commercial purposes would reside expressly with the respective local governments on behalf of the local people.
5. Financial contributions. Appointees or their home institutions will be expected to provide the necessary funding (a) for equipment (such as tape recorders, cameras and microphones), (b) for the appointee's own salaries and (c) for personal and equipment insurance. Additionally they are asked to make a contribution of up to 20% towards other expenses. Costs to be borne by the project will include allowances towards travel, subsistence in the field, consumables (such as tapes, batteries and films) and freight. The project will bear all of the costs for tape duplicates, salaries for local co-workers and gifts and payments to performers. Researchers who have been accepted as Research Fellows attached to the Archive of Maori and Pacific Music (see below) could additionally have equipment loaned to them by the Archive. Equipment in this case will be insured by the University of Auckland.

Research Fellowships

Applicants who wish to work on their collected materials at the University of Auckland may apply for Research Fellow status within the Department of Anthropology. Library facilities and use of Archive resources will be available to Fellows, including space to work. There is no stipend and secretarial services will not normally be provided. Services such as computer, parking, photocopying, etc are charged for and will be supplied only on an 'as available' basis. Further information can be obtained from the undersigned.

Applications

Applications for 1984-85 should be made as soon as possible, in writing, to the undersigned. Letters of enquiry and expressions of interest or intent for 1986 onwards are also solicited and will be used in support of applications for further funding. Applicants should state which area they wish to research and when they would be available. Applications for 1984-85 should be accompanied by a curriculum vitae and the names of two referees who could be consulted by the Committee.

Mervyn McLean
Anthropology Department, University of Auckland
Private Bag, Auckland, NEW ZEALAND
ICTM Study Group on Music of Oceania
Circular No. 3 (p.3)

Additions to List of Members

Professor C. ELLIS

Mr. W. D. LOBBAN

Jacob Wainwright LOVE

Yoko MITANI
Note to members who might want to go to Tahiti via Honolulu:

The plane taking the Hawaii performing group to the Festival has the following schedule: Honolulu-Papeete June 27th; Papeete-Honolulu July 16th. If you are interested in this flight, call Trudi Zelko