Recent Conferences with Papers on Musics of Oceania:

The 10th National Conference of the Musicological Society of Australia (Margaret Kartomi, president; Gordon Spearritt, convenor) with the theme "Music in the Life of Man" was held 9-12 May at the University of Queensland. Mervyn McLean gave one of the keynote addresses, "Music in the Life of Man" Project--Oceania Region." Other papers of interest to this Study Group were: Stephen Wild's "Implications of Oral Transmission of a Musical Tradition: The Cases of Djambidj and Goyulan" which was followed by a live performance of songs by members of these groups from Arnhem Land, N.T.; Jill Stubington's "The Weaving Industry Workshop: An Exploration of Attitudes and Values in Contemporary Australian Folk Music"; and Gordon Spearritt's "Comparative Musicology: River People and Mountain People in Papua New Guinea." Catherine Ellis and Alice Moyle each chaired a session. After the formal close of the conference, Barry Brook, head of the UNESCO MLM project, met with MSA members to discuss the presentation of Australian musics in MLM.

An ICTM Colloquium on "The Impact of Tourism on Traditional Music and Dance" was held 10-14 July in Kingston and Newcastle, Jamaica. One session, chaired by Dieter Christensen, was devoted to the Pacific Islands with papers: "Images and Realities: Visitor Responses to Tahitian Dance" by Amy Stillman; "Adaptations of Kiribati Dance for the Third South Pacific Arts Festival" by Virginia Marion; "Pacific Festivals and Ethnic Identity" by Adrienne Kaeppler. Other Study Group members who attended (but whose papers were focussed on other cultures) were Dorothy Lee and Ricardo Trimillos.

Forthcoming Conferences and Festivals:

Alice Moyle is looking into the possibility of a scholarly conference in Townsville, Australia just prior to the Fifth Festival of Pacific Arts.

The Fifth Festival of Pacific Arts, to be held in Townsville, is to be part of Australia's bicentenary celebration in 1988. Exact dates will not be confirmed until summer 1987, however for long-range planning, it may be helpful to know that 14-28 August is being considered.

The Sixth International Symposium of IMS will be held in Melbourne, 28 August - 2 September, also in association with Australia's bicentenary. Chairman Margaret Kartomi has asked Stephen Wild to convene a session on Australian Aboriginal Music, and Florian Messner and Barbara Smith to co-convene one on intercultural contact through music and dance since 1960 in Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia (within and among these areas, and with other areas of the world).

It is hoped that a long-awaited meeting of our Study Group may be arranged to immediately follow the IMS Symposium. More information will be forthcoming in future circulars.

Publications of Works by Members:

Alyawarra Music: Songs and society in a central Australian community by Richard M. Moyle with the help of Slippery Morton, Alyawarra interpreter, has been published by the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies. A 7" 45rpm disc is bound to the front cover.
Rom: An Aboriginal Ritual of Diplomacy, edited by Stephen Wild, is an account of
an Aboriginal ceremony from Arnhem Land performed at the Australian Institute of
Aboriginal Studies in November 1982. The book includes a description of the cere­
mony as performed in Arnhem Land, the history of its performance in Canberra at
the Institute, and an analysis of its adaptation to the Institute setting. It also
contains an illustrated catalogue of bark painting on the themes of the two song
series performed at the ceremony. The paintings were exhibited in association with
the ceremony and were subsequently purchased by the National Museum of Australia.
The book was launched at the Institute's Biennial Conference in May 1986 when the
four main singers of the two song series performed (following their performance at
the MSA conference, mentioned above).

Other Publications:

Peter Crowe has sent information on La Case, a local New Caledonia publication,
which has reported some of Jean-Michel Beaudet's research: No. 2, a flute melody;
No. 4, 28 pages on music of Hienghène; No. 5, a 1-page formal analysis of ayoii
chants. For further information, write to Office Culturel, Scientifique et
Technique Canaque (OCSTC), B.P. 378, Nouméa, Nouvelle-Calédonie (or Crowe suggests
sending about 200 Pacific Francs [FrsCFP]with "top-up for postage, generously done,
may well be enough for an order to succeed"). Crowe also recommends No. 6 (Oct. 84)
of Pacific 2000, one of the several issues prepared in advance of the Pacific Festi­
vale of Arts intended for New Caledonia in 1984, for Beaudet's material on Kanak
musical instruments. Crowe also informs us that a cassette, Chants de Hienghène--
containing "an hour of 2-part male polyphonic singing with percussion and other
accompaniments, mostly in forgotten languages, but one which is translatable refers
to Captain Cook's arrival and the consequences (1774), but may be a recent work
aligned with later independence aspirations"---costs 1000 FrsCFP. There is also a
videotape, Kanak et fier de l'âtre, 8000 FrsCFP. Inquiries may be addressed to
OCSTC.

News of Study Group Members:

Vida Chenoweth and her students, Daniel Limkeman, LaMoyne Schneider, and Susan
Richardson (Wheaton College) worked with the Kol, Sulka, Baining (East New Britain),
and Kilenge (West New Britain) in 1985.

Peter Crowe spoke on "Style musicale d'un arc mélanésien: Vanikoro-Vanuatu-Fidji"
at the Société Française d'Ethnomusicologie seminar at the Musée de l'Homme in Paris
and, with Raymond Clausen, on Vanuatu music at the School of Oriental and African
Studies, University of London--both events in February of this year.

Lisa Lawson reports:"I returned in late September 1985 from Kiribati after thirteen
months of fieldwork for my doctoral dissertation. Islands visited included
Tabiteuea, Abaiang, Marakei, Butaritari and Tarawa. My interest is in meaning and
change in Kiribati performance. Presently [as of February] I have a teaching fel­
lowship at Brown University through May, and have had a proposal accepted to teach
a world music course for the Brown Summer Academy."

Dorothy Lee has been appointed Assistant Director of the Archives of Traditional
Music, Indiana University. She will take up her new post in late Fall.

Mervyn McLean is completing his appointment as a National Library Fellow at Canberra
and, from August, will be a visiting professor at Monash University.
Carol Robertson has completed her research fellowship and will return to her position at the University of Maryland, College Park.

Jane Rossen has accepted a position, as of 1 May, in ethnomusicology at the University of Copenhagen.

Gordon Spearritt will be in Europe on study-leave in 1986-87. Among his activities, he will be heading a section for the IMS Congress in Bologna.

Elizabeth Tatar will direct a 2-year project in preservation and cataloguing of the Hawaiian, Micronesian, and Samoan tape collection (nearly 900 hours of tape) at the Bernice P. Bishop Museum made possible by a grant to the Museum from the National Science Foundation. The project will employ the latest state-of-the-art techniques.


News of Other Persons Active with Musics of Oceania:

David Fanshawe (National Film and Sound Archive, Canberra) recorded groups at the annual Port Moresby show, the 100th anniversary of the Catholic Church celebrations of Yule Island (Central Province), and the 10th anniversary of Independence celebrations in Mt. Hagen and Tabibuga (Western Highlands Province). Extensive recordings were made among the Kaningara, Alamblak, Kapriman, Iatmul, Enga, Karawari, Alfendio, Kwoma, and Ngala speakers of East Sepik Province in 1985.

Lynn Steward-Dillon (University of British Columbia) worked among the Kilenge (West New Britain Province) in 1985.

Hugo Zemp received the first Klaus Wachsmann Prize, awarded by the Society for Ethnomusicology, for advanced and critical essays on organology.

Death:
Mary Kawena Pukui, authority on Hawaiian, noted author, and composer of many songs, died in May at age 91. Although not trained in ethnomusicology, she contributed greatly to this field.

Various:

Peter Crowe wonders if there would be interest among Study Group members in sharing information about areas where ethnomusicologist researchers are welcome or not so welcome, government requirements, etc. If you are interested in sharing such information, please let me know.

My apologies for the delay in sending this Circular; I had planned to send it prior to going to China but it just didn't get done.

Thanks to Don Niles for the items on 1985 research in Papua New Guinea.

Please send items of interest for the next circular to:
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