Original Creative Work

Citation: Mabuygiw Awgadhaw Nawul: Traditional and Contemporary Music and Dance of Mabuiag Island, Torres Strait 2008 CD/DVD (Karl Neuenfeldt: Co-Producer and Performer)

1. Research Background
• Field – Indigenous Music
• Context – Torres Strait Islander Music
• Research Question – What styles of music are performed by communities in the Near Western Cluster’ of the Outer Islands of Torres Strait?

2. Research Contribution
• Innovation – First time comprehensive recording and filming had been done at this location.
• New Knowledge – There is a rich tradition of both secular and sacred traditional and contemporary music. The recording chronicles the cultural life of the community.

3. Research Significance
• Evidence of Excellence – The CD/DVD has been well received by the community and broadcasters and songs from the CD were broadcast on The Rhythm Divine 5 December 2008: ‘Hymns and Kores of the Torres Strait Islands’

Summary: The Torres Strait islands, nestled between the tip of Australia’s Cape York Peninsula and Papua New Guinea, are home to almost 6 000 people. A part of Queensland since 1879, the islands have their own http://www.abc.net.au/rn/rhythmdivine/stories/2008/2435679.htm - 12k - [ html ] - 5 Dec 2008’. The song We Sing Kumbaya by Cygnet Repu was selected for inclusion for the Dept of Foreign Affairs and Trade’s Songs of Indigenous Australia (2008) CD, which has been distributed to Australian Embassies and Consulates worldwide. A book chapter on the project has been written and accepted for publication in 2010 (“Assembling a Sacred Soundscape: Choosing Repertoire for Torres Strait Islander Community CDs/DVDs in Australia” Austronesian Soundscapes: Performing Arts in Oceania and South East Asia Birgit Abels (ed) University of Amsterdam Press). Aspects of the project’s processes and protocols are recounted in an article (“Notes on the Engagement of Indigenous Peoples with Recording Technology” The World of Music 2007 49(1) 7-21).

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