

## RESEARCH STATEMENT

### Original Creative Work

**Citation:** *Rotuman Chants and Hymns* [Recorded in Fiji] 2005 CD (Karl Neuenfeldt: Co-Producer)

#### 1. Research Background

- Field – Indigenous Music
- Context – Rotuman Music
- Research Question – What traditional styles of music were and are part of Rotuman musical practice and how do diasporic (sic) Rotuman communities retain musical heritage?

#### 2. Research Contribution

- Innovation – The CD was the first time the Rotuman Churchward Choir in Suva Fiji had been professionally recorded and produced.
- New Knowledge – There are two styles of traditional music, the sacred and the secular, and the recordings documented both styles. There were also well-established hierarchical structures that determined repertoire and the process of recording.

#### 3. Research Significance

- Evidence of Excellence – The CD has been circulated internationally via the Rotuman website and the choir. It has been used to teach music and language to choir groups, in particular to younger members who do not have language proficiency. Karl Neuenfeldt published an article on the research outcomes of the project (“Bring the Past to Present: Recording and Reviving Rotuman Music Via a Collaborative Rotuman/Fijian/Australian CD Project” *The World of Music* 2007 49(1) 83-103).

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