

Research Statement for Peer Review of Creative Works

Iama Wakai Tusi/Voices of Iama: Traditional and Contemporary Music and Dance of Iama/Yam 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 'Central Island 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 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).