

RESEARCH STATEMENT

Original Creative Work

Citation: Douglas, J & Lawrence, P 2010, *A Piss in the Ocean – Cameron Borg: A Ripple in the Mainstream*, DVD, D.O.D. Productions

1. Research Background

This music documentary short film explores the creative life of musician and writer Cameron Borg through interviews and archival footage. The film represents a ‘snapshot’ in the history of punk rock music in an Australian regional setting, in this case Rockhampton in Central Queensland. The overall question is one of defining success when undertaking marginal creative activities outside traditional contexts of location and the broader, mainstream, popular music industry.

2. Research Contribution

A Piss in the Ocean captures something of the history of local creative and artistic endeavours. Archival footage reveals little before seen performances while interviews with key persons reveal depth of links between Cameron, Rockhampton and other more well known musical performers.

3. Research Significance

The significance of the film is that it contributes to the knowledge base surrounding the history of punk rock music in Queensland and Australia. While much is written about such history in relation to capital cities, there is little evidence of such activities in regional centres. Audience responses at screenings to date have been more than positive. Here are a couple of examples of views on the film:

‘This film is hilarious! And proof that there's more to be mined in CQ than coal and gas - our people are interesting, creative, innovative and visionary. More please!’

‘Well where would I start.. As a PhD student doing a research in underground subcultures I got the inside information on the punk scene in Queensland. This documentary awoke my curiousness on my own research on the underground music identity, bands and the lifestyle involved in underground music scenes. Overall, this documentary was very informational with lots of facts and humour. I would like to thank Dr. Jim Douglas for preserving the punk scene of Queensland for future generation to be informed on ‘what the punk’ happened.’

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