

**Submission
No 759**

SYDNEY'S NIGHT TIME ECONOMY

Organisation: The Phonographic Performance Company of Australia Ltd

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Committee Manager
Joint Select Committee
Parliament House, Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

By email: NightTimeEconomy@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Committee Manager

Inquiry into Sydney's Night-Time Economy

Phonographic Performance Company of Australia Ltd (**PPCA**) would like to thank the Joint Select Committee for the opportunity to make a submission to the Inquiry into Sydney's Night-Time Economy (the **Inquiry**).

PPCA is a national non-government, non-profit Australian copyright collecting society which was established in 1969. PPCA operates on a non-exclusive basis and grants licences for the broadcast, communication or public playing of recorded music and music videos. PPCA represents the interests of recorded music copyright owners, recording artists and record labels. PPCA distributes the licence fees that it collects from the provision of such licences to the record labels and Australian recording artists that are registered with PPCA.

PPCA represents the interests of over 2,500 licensors and 4,000 registered Australian recording artists. PPCA's registered artists and record labels range from small independent artists and labels to world renowned artists and major label record companies.

Having reviewed the submission made to this Inquiry by the Australian Recording Industry Association (**ARIA**), PPCA would like to confirm its strong support of the points made in the ARIA submission.

The health of Sydney's night-time economy is an important issue to PPCA licensors and registered artists. Live music performances often take place in the night-time economy hours and the availability of live music venues catering to a range of audience sizes is critical. In what has been a tumultuous era for the recorded music industry, live music venues play an important role in providing a platform for record labels and artists to find new fans, develop as performers and make a living. Although recent years has seen a gradual recovery, in 2018 revenues for the recorded music industry were still 40% lower than they were 2003. With declining sales from recorded music, PPCA licensors and registered artists, the majority of whom are small businesses, have become increasingly reliant on earning income from an increasingly diverse range of sources, with performances at live music venues (and licence fees from such performances) providing an additional source of revenue.

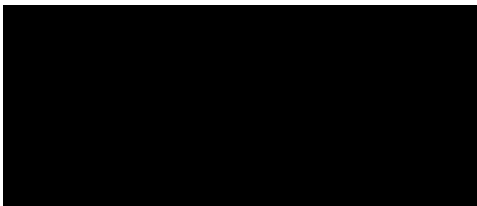
For local labels and artists, the existence of a strong, vibrant live music scene is an important contributor to their long-term viability as an artist. Live music venues, particularly smaller venues, also provide emerging artists with the opportunity to hone their skills. In considering any policies and regulations, it is imperative that the revitalisation of the local live music scene is a key focus for the Inquiry.

The benefits of the live music industry extend beyond record labels and artists to the wider economy in Sydney and NSW. According to Live Performance Australia, in 2017, NSW had the largest share of Australia's contemporary music activity generating the highest share of contemporary music revenue at over \$270 million (32.7% of national market share) and attendance at 2.76 million (32.6% of national market share).¹ Live music has proven benefits and value for the community beyond economic indicators, promoting health and wellbeing and a sense of unity and cultural identity. It forms part of the cultural fabric of our society and is how we present our unique identity to visitors from interstate and abroad.

In light of the importance of the night-time economy to the Australian music industry and its economic and cultural contribution to Sydney and NSW, we encourage the NSW Government to continue to engage in thorough, ongoing consultation with various stakeholders to ensure that Sydney develops a vibrant and fully functioning night-time economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this important Inquiry. PPCA would be pleased to provide any additional information that may be of benefit to the Joint Select Committee.

Yours sincerely,



Lynne Small
General Manager

¹ 'LPA Ticket Attendance and Revenue Survey 2017, Live Performance Australia, <<https://reports.liveperformance.com.au/ticket-survey-2017>>.