INQUIRY INTO THE MUSIC AND ARTS ECONOMY IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 25 February 2018



I am a Sydney-based performer, composer, bandleader and educator, mainly in the area of contemporary jazz and other related, improvisation and groove-focused styles. I am also a woman, and therefore a bit of a minority in my "scene."

I believe that here in Sydney there is a vast amount of talent, ingenuity and originality that is largely unappreciated. In my opinion, and this is based on observation of other cities, and social trends here, our culture overlooks the arts in general, and a night out for most young people is focused around drinking and sports.

There are many venues in Sydney which showcase live bands, but the outer suburbs of Sydney are lacking in these. We need to find ways to encourage more people in wider Sydney to attend music venues and events, make them more accessible to locals, and encourage diverse musicians to perform at these places. This will require funding for advertising, and also funding for venues, as licensing and good equipment to attract quality bands can be expensive, and cheap, or free, attendance will attract larger audiences. Helping venues with the cost of putting on live music will also allow them to pay bands better, therefore attracting good quality bands in greater numbers.

Also, laws which protect live music venues need to be stronger. There have been many cases where local residents' complaints have caused music venues to be shut down. Laws should be implemented requiring that locals sign agreements of acceptance of local noise levels in accordance with venues hours of operation, or something along similar lines.