FACULTY OF ARTS

Adelaide Summer Research Scholarship 2019-2020

Archiving the Legacy of the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM)

Supervisor: Professor Aaron Corn

Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM)
School of Elder Conservatorium of Music

Founded in 1972, the Centre for Aboriginal Studies in Music (CASM) at the University of Adelaide is the world's only dedicated university centre for Australian Indigenous music studies. Led by ethnomusicologist, Catherine Ellis, and Ngarrindjeri poet, Leila Rankine, CASM’s early programs focused on cultural exchanges with the Anangu community at Iwantja, and led to the formation of seminal Aboriginal bands including No Fixed Address, Us Mob, Coloured Stone and Kuckles. This project involves detailed research into rare and original primary-source materials, including papers, photographs, videos and sound-recordings, that have been made and collected since the formation of CASM, and are now being accessioned into the University of Adelaide Archives. It asks how the rich and detailed history of CASM, as represented through these materials, communicates Indigenous identities, knowledges, perspectives and values, and how this collection might be broadly useful do different kinds of end-users in the future.

The project will result in;

- Collating background information for a competitive grant application
- Proposed conference presentation for the 2020 Symposium on Indigenous Music and Dance
- Develop high-level research skills, both discipline-specific and generic;
  - Musicological and Ethnomusicological Research
  - Audiovisual and Indigenous Archiving