Inquiry into the Australian music industry Submission 12

LEGALITY OF SAMPLING OF PRE-RECORDED MUSIC

For Inquiry into the Australian Music Industry

I am a music producer who enjoys making music with samples, however I am barred from doing by the incomprehensible and difficult task of ensuring the legality and ethics of such music, should it be released. The Australian music industry would be immensely helped by a clarification of the legal status of 'sampling' of prerecorded music by a music artist (i.e. the use of such pre-recorded material in an original work). Sampling is at the core of music composition production today, as seen in the popularity of music which includes samples – such songs as 'No Church in the Wild' by Kanye West and Jay Z, 'Cudi Montage' by KIDS SEE GHOSTS and 'Mask Off' by Future, as well as the discographies of artists such as Madlib (specifically 'All Caps') and Moby ('Natural Blues') and many others, which have been built off sampling. Thus, a clarification of the legality of sampling of another artist's work and a standard arrangement for distribution of royalties to writers of sampled material would be very useful to members of the music industry, specifically writers, producers and composers who wish to incorporate sampled material into their work.

Thank you for your consideration