

## STUDY GROUP ON MUSIC AND DANCE OF OCEANIA

Newsletter, September 2017

### *From the Chair...*

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the latest newsletter of the ICTM Study Group on Music and Dance of Oceania. There is much to report on and celebrate in this issue: our participation in the recent World Conference, the publication and launch of *A Distinctive Voice in the Antipodes: Essays in Honour of Stephen A. Wild*, the announcement of the *Music and Dance of Oceania Travel Award*, a reflection on where we have come after forty years, as well as news and publications from members. I want to sincerely thank all members who contributed to the newsletter with articles, reports, information, and photographs.

This newsletter also marks the last of my term as chair. I very much enjoyed the past two years in guiding the Study Group, in learning more about ICTM, and in participating more fully in its activities. In reflecting on this two-year period, I note the success of our 9<sup>th</sup> symposium in 2016, our participation in the 44<sup>th</sup> World Conference this year, and all of the various activities and successes by members in research and publication, awards, and other news. Our Study Group continues to be a significant voice in understanding and advocating for music and dance in the region, and I want to thank all members for the support and assistance over this period. *Wesewesen kinissou chapur!*

Sincerely,

Brian Diettrich

## Study Group Activities

### 44<sup>th</sup> ICTM World Conference

by Brian Diettrich

Members of the Oceania Study Group participated in the 44<sup>th</sup> ICTM World Conference, held at the Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick, from 13-19 July 2017. The Study Group and the music and dance of Oceania were well represented throughout the conference. Below is a summary of the conference papers that focused on music and dance of Oceania for each day of the meeting.

#### Thursday, 13 July

- Choi, Heeyoung. Multi-Cultural Settings in Hawai'i: An Analysis of the Balboa Day Festival.
- Waseda, Minako. The Japanese-American Lineage of the 'Ukulele: Ethnic Others as a Changing Force for a Hawaiian Musical Instrument,
- Niles, Don. Prosperity through 'Cultural Terrorism'? Changing Official Attitudes Towards Tradition and Diversity in Papua New Guinea.

#### Friday, 14 July

- Sullivan, Kirk. Diverse Representational Choices of "Culture" at the 2016 Festival of Pacific Arts.
- Panel: Legacies of the Hawaiian Plantation; Layers of History and Agency (Ted Solís).
- Solís, Ted. Form as Iconic Performance in a Fading Hawai'i Puerto Rican Sung Poetry Tradition.
  - Trimillos Ricardo. The State and Multicultural Hawai'i: Constructing a Legacy.
  - Yano, Christine R. Building Legacies Off-Shore: Hawaiian 'Ukulele in Japan.
- Assembly of Study Group Chairs: Brian Diettrich took part on behalf of the Study Group.

#### Saturday, 15 July

General Assembly: Two Study Group Announcements:

- Brian Diettrich announced the establishment of the SGMDO *Music and Dance of Oceania Travel Award*.
- Don Niles announced the publication of: *A Distinctive Voice in the Antipodes: Essays in Honour of Stephen A. Wild* (edited by Kirsty Gillespie, Sally Treloyn, and Don Niles). Study Group members joined Don in making the announcement, followed by comments from Stephen.

Business Meeting: The Study Group held a business meeting following the GA (see separate minutes).

#### Monday, 17 July

- Fellezs, Kevin. My Island of Golden Dreams: Japanese American Performing Hawaiian Music in Japan.
- Magowen, Fiona. Understanding the Social Justice Mechanisms of Sound, Music and Narrative for Aboriginal Australia and Northern Ireland.

#### Tuesday, 18 July

- Brown, Reuben. Different Modes of Exchange: the Mamurrng Ceremony of Western Arnhem Land.

- Diettrich, Brian. Music and the Ocean Environment: Legacies of Sound, Spirits, and Survival in Maritime Micronesia.
- Szego, Kati. Singing Hawai‘i through the Prism of Alliance Studies.
- Clement, Michael R. Music is Mathematics made Audible: Cross-Modal CNSM Applications in Music Appreciation and Ethnomusicology.
- Colson, Geoffrey. Legacy and Global Sustainability: A Creative Interdisciplinary Approach.
- Toner, Peter. Legacies of “The Old People”: Pasts, Presents, and Futures in Yolngu Ritual Music.

*Images from the Conference*



Study Group members at the business meeting. Back row (L-R): Geoffrey Colson, Kirk Sullivan, Raymond Ammann, Jane Moulin, Ric Trimillos, Don Niles, Masaya Shishikura, Brian Diettrich; Front row (L-R): Andrew Gumataotao, Stephen Wild, Michael Clement, Adrienne Kaepler (photo by Kim Cannady).



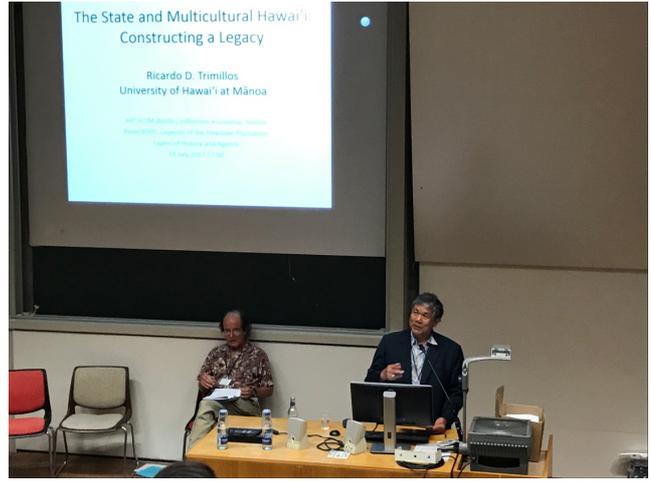
(L-R): Stephen Wild, Jane Moulin, Michael Clement, Rosemary Clement, Brian Diettrich, Don Niles.



Presentation by Don Niles (photo, B Diettrich)



Presentation by Kirk Sullivan (photo, B Diettrich)



Presentation by Ric Trimillos; Ted Solís in background (photo, B Diettrich)



Presentation by Christine Yano (photo, B Diettrich)



Presentation by Kati Szego (photo, Kirk Sullivan)



Presentation by Brian Diettrich (photo, Jane Moulin)



ICTM Celebratory Roundtable (L-R): Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco, Stephen Wild, Adrienne Kaepler, Krister Malm, Anthony Seeger, Svanibor Pettan.



Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick (photo, B Diettrich).



University of Limerick (photo, B Diettrich).

### **New Study Group Publication in Honour of Stephen Wild**

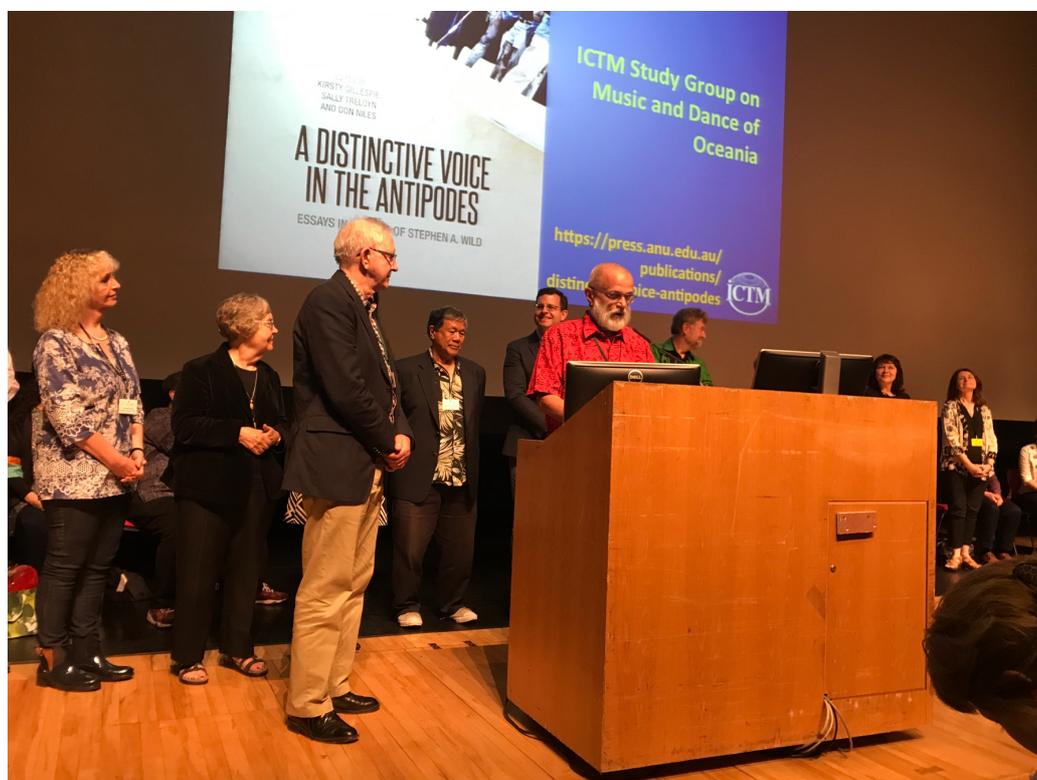
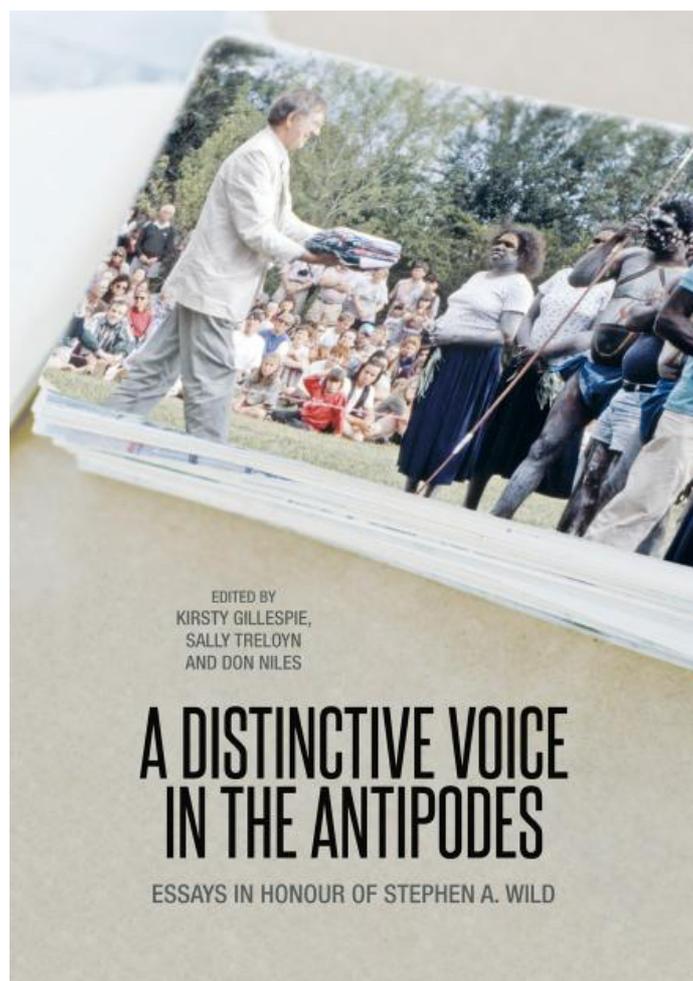
by Kirsty Gillespie, Sally Treloyn, and Don Niles

A major Study Group project that has been almost three years in the making has resulted in a book publication in honour of one of our most illustrious members, Dr Stephen Wild. Featuring more than twenty contributors, the festschrift *A Distinctive Voice in the Antipodes: Essays in Honour of Stephen A. Wild* was published by ANU Press (the publishing arm of the Australian National University) in July 2017. Focusing on the music of Aboriginal Australia and the Pacific Islands, and the concerns of archiving and academia, the festschrift essays are authored by Stephen's peers, colleagues, and former students. Introductory and concluding essays also celebrate his life, ongoing and varied contributions to ethnomusicology and ICTM, and publications.

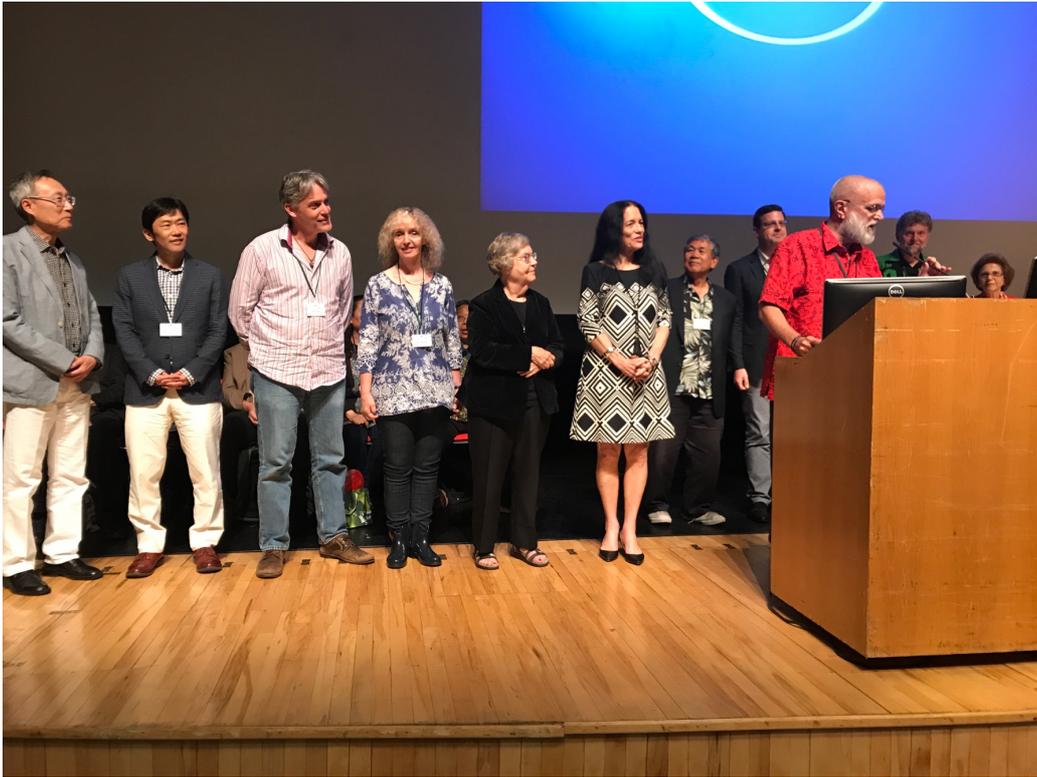
The book was launched on 15 July 2017, during the General Assembly of the International Council for Traditional Music at the recent World Conference in Limerick, Ireland, to a very surprised Stephen, from whom the whole project had been kept a secret.

Copies of the book can be ordered, or downloaded for free, from the ANU Press website:  
<https://press.anu.edu.au/publications/distinctive-voice-antipodes>

Congratulations, Stephen, and congratulations to all the contributors!



Don Niles (and Study Group contributors) presenting to Stephen Wild: *A Distinctive Voice in the Antipodes: Essays in Honour of Stephen A. Wild* at the ICTM General Assembly (photo by Raymond Ammann).



Don Niles (and Study Group and book contributors) launching *A Distinctive Voice in the Antipodes: Essays in Honour of Stephen A. Wild* at the ICTM General Assembly (photo by Raymond Ammann).



Don Niles (and Study Group and book contributors) launching *A Distinctive Voice in the Antipodes: Essays in Honour of Stephen A. Wild* at the ICTM General Assembly (photo by Kim Cannady).



Stephen Wild offering comments and thanks at the launch of *A Distinctive Voice in the Antipodes: Essays in Honour of Stephen A. Wild* at the ICTM General Assembly (photo by Kim Cannady).

**New Study Group Award: *Music and Dance of Oceania Travel Award***  
by Brian Diettrich

At the General Assembly of the 44th ICTM World Conference, Brian Diettrich announced the *Music and Dance of Oceania Travel Award*. This new fund and award is to be managed by the Oceania Study Group and will provide opportunities for Pacific Islanders and Indigenous Australians to participate in future Study Group symposia, and on special occasions, a World Conference. *The Music and Dance of Oceania Travel Award* coincides with the appointment of a growing number of Liaison Officers from Oceania within the ICTM World Network, and a need to encourage more participation from as yet unrepresented areas of Oceania in ICTM activities. This Award was very generously funded by Barbara Smith, and the Study Group thanks Barbara for her generosity and vision in setting out this award. The Study Group also acknowledges Svanibor Pettan and the ICTM Board for approving this new initiative. More information about the award will be posted to the Study Group website by the end of 2017.

## **Celebrating 40 Years of the Study Group!**

by Ric Trimillos

*[To celebrate and acknowledge the original proposal for the Study Group in 1977 by Ric Trimillos, Ric kindly provided his reflections after 40 years]*

### Recalling the beginnings of the Study Group

The impetus for forming the study group occurred during the 1977 meeting of the (then) IFMC in Honolulu. The excursion to the Polynesian Cultural Center prompted discussion about commercialization of culture which led to interest in forming a study group focusing on Oceania and the circulation of sign-up sheet. With the help of Dieter Christensen and Artur Simon, I put together a report for the Executive Board concerning the interest in such a group. In response, I was appointed as acting chair to organize it; I was Executive Board Member at the time. Although our interests included both dance and music, the group's initial name was designated as Study Group: Music of Oceania. I began by sending out circulars to all IFMC/ICTM members with interest in Oceania.

However for me the "historical moment" came during the 1983 ICTM Meeting in New York City. On Wednesday evening, August 10, 1983, a gathering of colleagues working in the Pacific was hosted in Queens at the family home of the late Dorothy Lee, who had done research in Fiji and was at the Library of Congress. Those present were Dieter and Nerthus Christensen, Steve and Sherry Feld, Adrienne Kaeppler, Jacob Love, Virginia Marion, Florian Messner, Jane Mink Rossen, Artur Simon, Barbara Smith, and myself. We gathered in Dorothy's backyard for a barbecue supper. After supper—which featured palusamis—we held a discussion with Dieter, by then ICTM executive secretary, about the study group and energizing its future development. At this meeting we prevailed upon Barbara Smith to serve as chair. Under her initiative and leadership the present organization of the SGMDO took shape.

It has been gratifying to see our study group develop from a modest number of mostly US-based colleagues to its present diverse multinational membership. Although as colleagues we are more geographically separated from one another than those of other ICTM groups, we have been able to organize symposia and bring a presence to the biennial ICTM meetings. I view the increasing participation by Pacific Islanders to be a signal development for dance and music research in the Pacific, and look forward to a similar trajectory for the SMGDO. (Thanks to Adrienne Kaeppler, Jacob Love, and Barbara Smith for jogging my memory.)

## **General News from our Members**

### **Asian Pacific Dance Festival**

by Adrienne Kaeppler

The fourth Asian Pacific Dance Festival, co-produced by the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Outreach College, and East-West Center Arts Program, was held from July 25th to August 7th in Honolulu. The featured invited Pacific Island group was the Kanokupolu Dancers from Tonga, under the direction of Cotton Robusta (Kotoni) Siale. The resident featured Hawaiian halau was Ka Pa Hula o Kauanoe of Wa`ahila Dance Ensemble, under the direction of Maelia Loebenstein Carter, and the featured invited Asian group was the Korea National University of Arts (K'Arts). The Directors and dancers took part in teaching a two-week intensive "Dance in World Cultures" (Dance 255) in the Department of Theatre and Dance, two final performances, and other events. Earlier in the festival there were two concerts by local Hawaiian performers and a resident Okinawan dance group.

In addition to artistic director (Kotoni) and a wardrobe mistress, fourteen dancers and musicians were brought from Tonga, along with Her Majesty, Queen Nanasipau`u, who, along with Adrienne Kaepler, organized the group. For each of the two theater performances the Tongan group performed ma`ulu`ulu, `Otuhaka, me`etu`upaki, ula, tau`olunga, and lakalaka. For the welcoming ceremony the young men performed the me`etu`upaki. Most of the young people, chosen from the dancers of the village of Kanokupolu, had not traveled away from Tonga before, and in addition to teaching their dances to the Dance in World Cultures class, learned the intricacies of performing on a theater stage for audiences who were not familiar with Tongan dance.

*Images from the Festival*



Front Row (L to R): Josephine Vuylsteke, [guest], Richard Vuylsteke [EWC President], HRH Nanasipau`u Barbara Smith, Adrienne Kaepler, William Chismar [Dean, UH Outreach College] (photo by Ric Trimillos)



Ka Pā Hula o Kauanoē o Wa`ahila (photo by Ric Trimillos)



Kanokupolu Dancers of Tonga (photo by Ric Trimillos)

*Additional Images from the Asian Pacific Dance Festival (courtesy of Eric Chang)*



HRH Nanasipau'u and Adrienne Kaepler observing the dancers





## **In Memoriam: Teresia Teaiwa**

By Jennifer Shennan and Brian Diettrich

*[In March 2017 the world of Pacific Studies lost Teresia Teaiwa. She was an inspiration to many of us, and she participated with some Study Group members most recently in a session at the combined PHA and SGMDO meeting on Guam last year. Below Jennifer Shennan and Brian Diettrich reflect on her life and passing].*

*Teresia Teaiwa ... she of the beautiful smile*

*Mauri mauri, kam na mauri.*

It is a sad honour to pen some words about the late Teresia Teaiwa – gone ahead on the path, but oh too soon, far too soon. There's little point in questioning the justness, the fairness of an illness then early death of one as young, beautiful, talented, generous, committed, valued and loved as the late Teresia Teaiwa. We should repeat and continue our sympathies to her husband Sean Mallon, sons Manoa and Vaitoa -- sisters Katerina and Maria, father John and mother Joan, and wider family.

The deep sorrow following Teresia's passing should be translated into memories of every imaginable sort ... personal, professional, poetic, sculptured, painted, spoken, sung, danced. A scholarship fund in her name is being established at VUW to encourage indigenous scholars in and of the Pacific. From VUW website: *The aim of these scholarships is to provide Pasifika students with the opportunity to study Pacific Studies at Victoria University, setting them on a pathway of*

*growth and contribution to their communities. We hope to offer one undergraduate and one postgraduate (PhD) level scholarship every year into the future.*

David Hanlon's fine tribute and *vale* to Teresia in *The Journal of Pacific History*, is published online, 25 July 2017. It is a deep and comprehensive appreciation of her life and work, character and personality, achievements both academic and political, her collegiality and the generous support she offered to Pasifika students. It is highly recommended reading.

My first meeting with Teresia when she arrived in Wellington as a lecturer at *Va'aomanu Pasifika* was one of joy since I had known and worked with Banaban people for some decades, and several times visited Rabi Island where the ex-patriate population has resided since their exile from Banaba in 1945. I had passed "the Teaiwa house" on the Rabi road many times. I remember with gratitude Teresia's support of the book *One and a Half Pacific Islands: stories the Banabans tell of themselves* published by VUP in 2005. In that same year Teresia and I had met Margaret Calder, then Chief Librarian of the Alexander Turnbull Library, for Teresia to start scoping the Pacific collections there. It was a trusting and welcoming meeting where seeds were planted. Trees are still growing from those seeds. *Tekeraoi*.

*Ko a borau n rimoa nako ma uringam e aki bua mairouia kaain abam iaon Kiribati, a engae n anne, ao mwin am mwakuri a na teimotoa ni maeu inanora.*

*Gone ahead on the path surely you are well remembered from the land you originated from, Kiribati. Nonetheless your influence and legacy remain alive.*

*Jennifer Shennan (with acknowledgments to Teitirake Tekenimatang)*

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In 2009 during my first year at Victoria University I gave a public presentation on Micronesia, and in the audience during that first talk was Teresia. I met her only once before, briefly, and thinking back, I recall my nervousness in speaking in front of her. Before I came to Victoria, I knew her from the page only: "L(o)osing the Edge," "Bikinis and Other..." "On Analogies"... After my talk she stayed around and there was much to criticize, but Teresia—you, were helpful, kind, questioning, and inspiring. The day after she sent me an email, which I still have, and it said, "Brian, It was so nice just be immersed in some Micronesian content for an hour and a bit--it took me back to my UH grad school days, thanks for that!" She added, "With you, me and April, we could form a Vic branch of the UH alumni association now! :)".

In subsequent years I was so fortunate to be able to work with Teresia, co-supervising doctoral students, participating in Akamai, with PHA, and other projects. This week I reread all of our past correspondences: she forwarded me youtube clips, she noticed that I was in a Vic handbook, comments from her students in my classes, sent me articles, talked about my daughter, she sent photos she took of me—she always took photos, especially selfies!—once telling me, "this is what I do." As others have commented, she freely gave so much. In postgraduate meetings with doctoral candidates, Teresia had advice and encouragement from the smallest detail to *the world* in breath and scope, and I would often marvel at how *blessed I was* to be able to sit in those meetings and absorb what she offered. As a new staff member at Vic, she assisted me over bumps along the way. Many students have spoken about how she set them right, encouraged, and listened. As a *staff member* at Vic it was the *same* for me. Teresia was always available, someone I trusted.

In reflecting on her leadership in the Pacific, but from a Micronesian perspective—a frequent topic for us, I knew Teresia as a navigator, a wayfinder, someone who shows the way forward often across undisturbed spaces. This is not to mythologise Teresia, but rather Micronesian

wayfinders are creative and keenly in touch, grounded in their experiences, with those around them they find a way forward. I see Teresia reflected in the chant poetry from Chuuk that recounts the qualities of a navigator; someone: “fierce, a warrior, a seer, a diviner, master of lore, enemy of ghosts *but* friend of some, sees all routes, those long forgotten, those not yet discovered, the track of all stars, the secrets of depths, one who set the course and signaled departure.” And as the chants lament for those whose *waa* does not return: “you journeyed far, and walked across the sky, but you will visit us again in dreams, from the southern seas of heaven.”

*Brian Diettrich (adapted from comments delivered at a memorial to Teresia, held at Victoria University of Wellington, 10 May 2017)*

## **Recent Publications and Outputs**

### Publications

Diettrich, Brian. 2017. Instruments in Motion: Flutes, Harmonicas, and the Interplay of Sound and Silence in Colonial Micronesia. *Journal of the Polynesian Society* 126(3): 283-312.

Kaeppler, Adrienne. 2017. Two Tongan Dance Forms in Modern Contexts. In *Dance, Senses, Urban Contexts: Proceedings of the 29th Symposium of the ICTM Study Group on Ethnochoreology*, edited by Kendra Stepputat, pp. 165-172. Shaker Verlag.

Amerasia Journal has recently published a set of articles drawn from the conference/symposium session: *Afro-Diasporic Women Artists on History and Blackness in the Pacific*, held at the 9th Symposium of the Study Group (with PHA), in May 2016, on Guam. The collection of articles from the session in Amerasia is called: *Black and Blue in the Pacific: Afro-Diasporic Women Artists on History and Blackness*. They include a wonderful introduction by the late Teresia Teaiwa, and tributes to her are found throughout the issue. Among the articles are those focused on music and dance, below:

Andrews, Courtney-Savali Leiloa. 2017. “Something Within Me”: A Performative Exploration of Afro-Pacific Identity and the Refrain of Black Lives Matter. *Amerasia Journal* 43(1):163-168.

Cruz Banks, Ojeya. 2017. Tãnó: A Black Chamoru Dancing Self-Revelation. *Amerasia Journal* 43(1):147-156.

Jones, Alisha Lola. 2017. “The Women Gather”: Towards a Womanist Ethnomusicology of Afro-Diasporic Global Reunion (A Ritual). *Amerasia Journal* 43(1):179-185.

### Recent Conference Presentations:

Clement, Michael (Sr). 2017. “Following the Spirit Canoe” that Connects Chamorro, Chuukese, Yapese beliefs through Cave Art, Spirit Lamp Artifacts, Carved Images and Chant. 3rd Marianas History Conference, September 1-2 in Saipan, CNMI.