

Melbourne Conversations

Music Activism - Save Live Australian Music - where are you now?

The 2010 SLAM rally saw 20,000 marchers descend on our parliament house to demand the link between live music and violence be removed. Two years on where does live music sit now? What changes have been made? How can planning decisions assist? What more needs to be done to save live Australian music?

Hear from our panel of passionate live music advocates and have your say to progress the cause. The rally was considered as an unprecedented protest. The work with SLAM galvanised the music community protecting the right to cultural practice, it was also the catalyst for Liquor Licensing Law reform. The SLAM rally has been described as the biggest cultural rally in Australia's history, a sea change that has put the arts firmly on the political agenda for years to come.

Date: Monday 28 May 2012

Time: 7.30pm – 9pm

Venue: The Toff in Town

Panellists

Helen Marcou is the co founder of live music lobby group SLAM with Quincy McLean. Helen and Quincy McLean also own Bakehouse Studios which contributes and nurtures the careers of hundreds of local and international musicians. Bakehouse is described as a cultural hub and home of independent music in Melbourne, regularly hosting artists like Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds, Grinderman, Cut Copy, Goyte, Kimbra, Rockwiz, Spicks& Specks. Helen is also a member of key Live Music advisory committees including the Victorian State Government's roundtable, the Lords Mayor's roundtable and City of Yarra's Music Working Group and continues to advocate for reforms in the contemporary music sector.

Dr Kate Shaw is a Future Fellow at the University of Melbourne. Her research interests include urban renewal, gentrification, social equity, cultural diversity, and urban policy and planning. Her most recent book is *Whose Urban Renaissance? An international comparison of urban regeneration policies*, co-edited with Libby Porter in 2009.

James Young co-owns and books the Cherry Bar in AC/DC Lane Melbourne, co-owns Rubber Records, owns Zatzit Records, manages artists, owns and runs cultural Marketing company Cherry Rock, is the music reporter on Channel Ten's 'The Circle' and The Triple M Hot Breakfast show. He is a former presenter and Program Manager of Three Triple R and has owned an advertising agency and been a lawyer, blah blah blah...

Cr Ken Ong has been a Melbourne businessman and community volunteer for more than 20 years. Ken is Chair of the Future Melbourne Planning Committee, and Deputy Chair of Future Melbourne (People and Creative City) and (Finance and Governance) Committees. In 2007, Ken was awarded the Lord Mayor's Community Service Award. He has an engineering degree and a Master of Business Administration.

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