

# Learning through making music

## Male Voices

*Stories of boys learning through making music*

Editor Scott D Harrison

ACER Press 2009

**Male Voices** is filled with stories of boys and men participating in the creation of music. It brings together leading thinkers and practitioners in the field of music from the conductor of the award-winning, mould-breaking Birralee Blokes, Paul Holley, who comments on the phenomenal success of his choir, through to internationally recognised scholars, Dr Scott Harrison and Dr Bob Smith, who bring research into adolescent participation and indigenous music-making respectively. This book offers a variety of viewpoints. Academics help to position the study of male engagement in music throughout the life cycle, while teachers in private and state schools across the country offer their views alongside those of professional musicians.

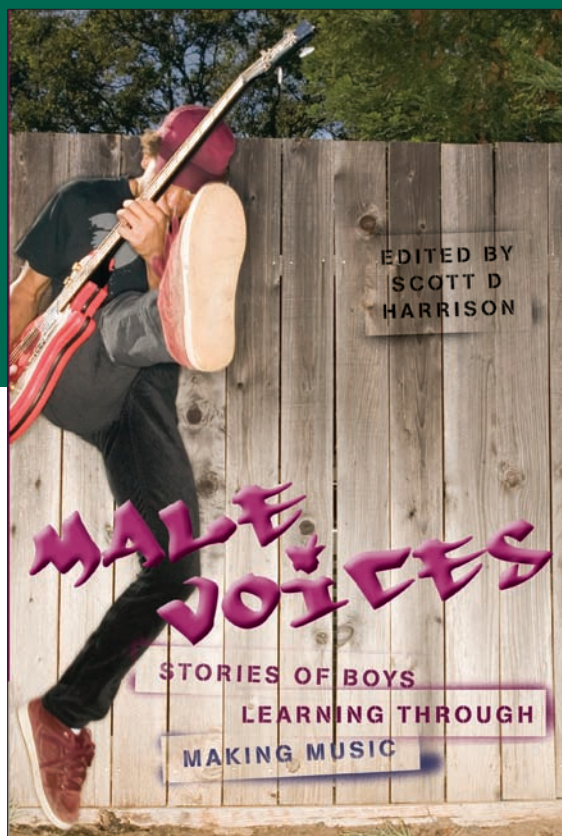
The book also focuses on the interface of technology and music, instrumental music, and how music contributes to academic skills, social interaction and life skills. From the banks of the Yarra to remote communities of the Far North, **Male Voices** presents a diverse range of experiences, with parents, teachers, musicians, men and boys offering perspectives on their experience of music, for the benefit and understanding of others.

*"From the earliest time I can remember, singing has been second nature to me, like breathing. I will be forever grateful to my teachers, mentors and fellow artists, (who) showed me through their passion and love of music that it could be the most honourable and fulfilling way to not only make a living, but also make a contribution to the world we live in. Music has given me the opportunity to leave a legacy, which I know this book will also serve, for many years to come."*

Jonathon Welch

Australian of the Year – Local Hero 2008

Founding Music Director, Choir of Hard Knocks



### Chapters include:

- 1 Aussie blokes and music
- 2 'Without music I'd just be another kid': Boys and the choral experience
- 3 A boys' music ecosystem
- 4 Music making in adolescence and beyond
- 5 The singing classroom: Singing in classroom music and its potential to transform school culture
- 6 Sharing music with Indigenous Australian boys
- 7 'Girls and boys come out to play': My journey, gender and education
- 8 Talking technology: Boys engaging in music in single-sex and co-educational environments Scott
- 9 Boys in a small rural school: Developing a culture of confidence and success
- 10 Singing throughout life at Melbourne High School
- 11 The Birralee blokes
- 12 The Ten Tenors: Mateship through music

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