

INTERVIEW WITH MAIREID SULLIVAN NOV. 20, 2012 AQUARIUS & BEYOND PROJECT

Location: Lismore University campus – conducted via telecommunication

Interviewees : Jessica Schultz and Jasmine Lucas

Duration: 1:19:48 {second half only} starting at 00:40:00

00:40:00	Halfway mark	Keywords:
00:42:12	Advocate of land value tax. Public action is much quicker today than was possible in previous years.	Keywords: land tax
00:44:08	Boom bust cycles, due to speculation. Music and self-help books carried people through these cycles, but now we have an independent way to communicate.	Keywords: communication
00:45:46	Feels that Aquarius was a movement about being responsible and informed for things like the impact that we have on the environment.	Keywords: Aquarius, environment
00:47:23	People used to jam at the festival rather than reading notes and improvising. Thus Aquarius helped people interact through music.	Keywords: music
00:48:39	Music as collaboration during Aquarius. Gough Whitlam had just opened up multiculturalism. Festival was more of a reflection of the music scene rather than an emphasis on music per se. The emphasis was the ideas.	Keywords: multiculturalism
00:49:32	Donna Brand and the Bauls of Bengal were the highlight of the artists at Aquarius. Maireid toured with the Bauls of Bengal for a while as an opening act - solo singer.	Keywords: Donna Brand, Bauls of Bengal
00:50:12	Fond memory of being in a 400-500 seat hall, her daughter was backstage sleeping, but woke up and came running onstage while Maireid was performing, so she sang her daughter a lullaby and put her back to sleep as part of the show.	Keywords:
00:51:06	A band member from the Bauls of Bengal got held up at the airport for having Marijuana, so Johnny Allen had to go to airport and smooth things over.	Keywords: Johnny Allen, Bauls of Bengal
00:51:49	Everyone began hugging in Nimbin, every hello and good bye everyone hugged.	Keywords: Johnny Allen, hugging
00:53:40	The cultural movement of going back to nature had already been going on in Melbourne. Went to a speech on communal living in Melbourne, where they all had to get into the water naked and learn to become comfortable with their bodies	Keywords: nudity, communal living
00:54:23	There were lots of people taking mushrooms and smoking marijuana during the festival, so their inhibitions were down. Nimbin locals were not necessarily used to it, but it was mostly in the camping grounds and waterholes, not in the streets.	Keywords: mushrooms, marijuana
00:56:29	Remembers Bob Marsh as being really nice. Itinerants were the one causing trouble in the streets, not the festival goers.	Keywords: Bob Marsh, itinerants

	Everyone was really lovely, not the heavy drug users that came in later.	
00:57:59	People came on the weekends prior to the festival to get it organized. There were about 50 people who formed a community to build and facilitate the festival.	Keywords: festival
00:59:54	Many great people came to the festival and ended up staying on communities after. Talks about personal wellbeing in terms of diet and lifestyle.	Keywords: festival
01:02:35	Aquarius acted to publicize ideas that disrupted the consumerist norms of society. The festival acted to start conversations, which in turned help change and inform residents in the Northern rivers region (and beyond).	Keywords: Aquarius, Richmond river council
01:04:17	Liberal conservative values as a political history of Australia. Discusses the ways in which Aquarius acted to start conversations that included the values and ideas that had been pigeonholed during the political formation of Australia.	Keywords: politics, conversations, Aquarius
01:05:38	People (old settlers) could tell the difference between the itinerants in Nimbin, and the people who just wanted to live in peace and start communities etc.	Keywords: David Miller, Tunttable, Nepal
01:07:17	Local people were happy with the people that were genuinely there for the festival and the ideas espoused by the festival. However, the itinerants caused a culture clash.	Keywords: Sam McKay, Ruth Miller
01:09:01	Discussion about the gap in time from when Maireid left Nimbin, to when she return years later.	Keywords: Nimbin, itinerants
01:11:26	Stayed 1.5 years after the festival. Became a political researcher in Ireland for a year, and came back to Nimbin an unhappy person.	Keywords: Fred Cohen
01:12:41	When she returned to Nimbin, people were trying to make the Nimbin primary school more progressive, but without success. Moved back to Melbourne because she could get the lifestyle that she wanted for her and her daughter in Nimbin (1976-7).	Keywords: primary school
01:17:40	Discussion about mother dying and personal projects such as global arts collective etc.	Keywords: global arts collective, land value tax
01:19:48	Conclusions	Keywords: