

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

From Abbey Road to Brisbane: The journey of an audio engineer

With almost 40 years of experience in the audio and music industries in Australia and the UK, Adrian Carroll has seen it all whilst working as an Audio Engineer with acclaimed international voice-over actors like Jonathan Ross and Whoopi Goldberg, and artists including; Pianist David Helfgott, Lisa Gasteen, Christopher Wrench, The Skeletones, The Headstones, Splatterheads, The Moffs, Chris Morrow, Boondall Boys, The Queensland Choir, Brisbane Philharmonic Orchestra, Australian Youth Orchestra and The Royal Artillery. Now at SAE Creative Media Institute's Brisbane campus as Department Coordinator for Audio, Adrian is giving back to the industry by nurturing future talent.

"Looking at my time in the audio industry, my best work is the recording I've done with international voiceover artists like Tom Baker, Penelope Keith, Nigel Planer and Richard O'Brien," Adrian explained.

"I've also had the chance to work with artists like Voodoo Lust, Charlie Owens, Joell Ortiz, Kxng Crooked and Royce da 5'9" and producers of the calibre of Mike Hedges."

"I've always chosen the best recording studios and that's reflected well when I've dealt with artists. The members of Brisbane Band Voodoo Lust came over to England when I was there, and I was able to bring them into Abbey Road Studios where we did an overnight lock-in recording, which I later mixed and mastered at Silk Sound and the SAE campus in London."

During his varied career, Adrian has been an influential name at radio stations across Brisbane, including as Production Manager at 4BC. That time in radio has stayed with him, and continues to be an inspiration for his love of analogue technology.

"I have a Sony MCI 16-track two-inch tape machine, 44-channel Amek console and Studer A-810 stereo mastering machine. I'm not using any digital platforms to record, and the recordings go straight onto two-inch tape through the recording console, so it is very much an analogue experience with the artists I work with."

"Digital sound has been second to analogue for a long time, because of the 'level wars' where digital didn't have any dynamic range, which led to a lot of people returning to vinyl and working with tape."

"With digital music platforms evolving, they now require a dynamic range of 14dB, which is a similar level that you find on vinyl, so we are now in an age where digital is actually going to sound quite good."

"From my own personal perspective, I still like the tactile activities of loading up tape, putting a band through a mixing console, and engineering it with faders. Using tape machines is very much an experience."

The appeal of analogue audio engineering has seen a renaissance in recent years, with Adrian's students at SAE having "an unquenchable appetite" for it.

Since 1985, Adrian has had a connection with SAE. With stints as an audio lecturer in London and Australia, and has been lecturing at the Brisbane campus for the past five years.

"SAE has been very much a home for me. I'll go out into the industry and then come back and impart that knowledge I've acquired onto students."

"I enjoy setting students up for a career in the industry, and giving them the foundational skills and attitude needed to be successful."

Adrian's biggest achievements in the industry comes from the work he's done with classical music and SAE audio students.

"Part of what I do at SAE is prepare students for industry once they graduate. One of the opportunities we've had is to work with the Queensland Wind Orchestra.

"I firstly teach students how to record the orchestra in a rehearsal, and then they will record the live performance independently. I find students as a consequence of a project like that become vastly more enriched in their experience."

Once students have the ability to record an orchestra, which can be very technical, they'll have the ability to record anything big - like a motorbike rally or a choir."

Looking to the future, Adrian has a number of exciting projects in the works. "I'd like to produce more record releases using tape machines, work on completing a doctorate, and continue training students to be successful in industry."

SAE Creative Media Institute understands creators and provides students with the experience, skills and connections from teachers like Adrian to succeed in the industry. Find out more at sae.edu.au.

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Imagery - below: Adrian with Chris Brown (Radiohead, Muse and The Beatles Anthologies) at Abbey Road studios; teaching students; and in the studio



ANIMATION



AUDIO

CREATIVE
INDUSTRIESCREATIVE
TECHNOLOGIES

DESIGN



FILM



GAMES



MUSIC



About SAE

SAE Creative Media Institute is the place for creatives and innovators. Since 1976 we've been the leaders in creative media education across animation, audio, creative industries, creative technologies, design, film, games, and music. Every year, we support more than 10,000 students globally to develop the skills and experience needed to carve successful careers. Students enjoy access to the latest technology and are taught by industry-experienced faculty, while putting their skills to the test in small class environments. Our graduates become part of a highly-respected global community of creatives that's been around for over 40 years. We pride ourselves on being technically explorative, transformative and brave through our range of creative media programs, from short courses and professional training through to bachelor and postgraduate degrees. In Australia, our programs are delivered at campuses in Sydney, Brisbane, Byron Bay, Melbourne, Perth and Adelaide. SAE is a part of Navitas Pty Ltd. More information about SAE is available at sae.edu.au.

About Navitas

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