

# The Intimacy of Distance

Original Music Work

Melissa Forbes and Bianca Obino

**[Original Work Submission Year: 2014]**



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***The Intimacy of Distance*** is a collection of original compositions by Melissa Forbes and Bianca Obino and arrangements of popular songs for guitar and voice. The collection was recorded at the University of Southern Queensland in February 2014. In addition to a live performance to launch the collection at *The Grid*, Toowoomba, Melissa and Bianca recorded a series of live performances in the UniSQ television studio, and discussed their artistic intentions behind the collection. These videos are archived on [youtube](#).

**Artists:** Melissa Forbes (voice) and Bianca Obino (guitars)

**Engineer:** Mark Scholtes



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## **RESEARCH STATEMENT – The Intimacy of Distance [a music collection]**

### **Background**

Advances in audio recording technology have arguably rendered the traditional recording studio obsolete. The pre-production of this music recording was done over the internet but the final product was recorded in the studio, with both musicians present. The research question to be answered was 'Did the pre-production via distance adversely impact on the chemistry of the artists in the studio?' The title of the recording—'The Intimacy of Distance'—answers this question.

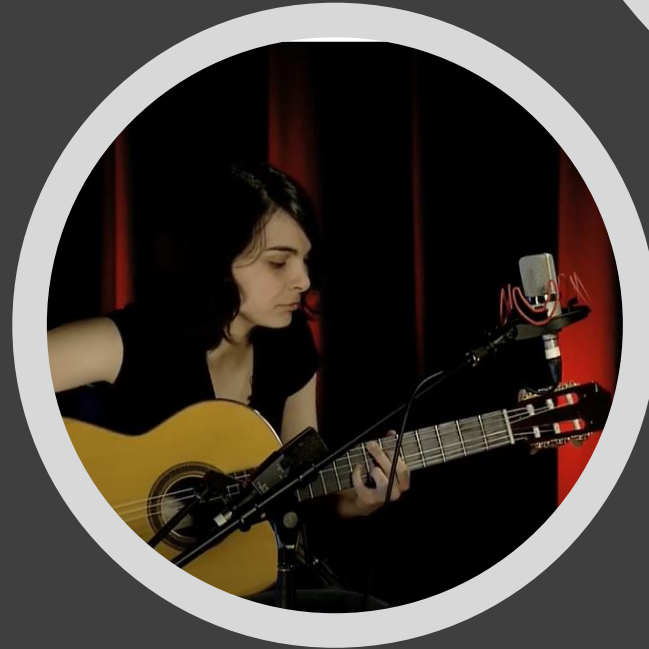
### **Research contribution**

As collaborative music creation via distance becomes commonplace, musicians must consider the impact this estrangement has the final product, in terms of the ability of each collaborator to make meaningful connections with the other/s. This recording demonstrates a blended model of creation, using both synchronous and asynchronous methods to overcome the isolation of the artists in the distance model.

### **Research significance**

The significance of this research is that it proposes that a blended model of music creation is one way to combat the physical estrangement of collaborators. The recording has been digitally distributed globally and to date (2022) has been streamed over 3,000 times.

- Stills from live YouTube performances and discussion of songs from *The Intimacy of Distance* in the UniSQ television studios, February 2014



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