



Panel Session II: On a different note – copyright and music

Although music is traditionally the subject matter of copyright, the business opportunities (and legal challenges) relating to music have been increasing over the last few decades with the development of new media and technologies.

The various mechanisms for licensing music aim to strike a balance between the interests of music authors, performers, recording studios, and broadcasters. That balance has served well in some instances, and less well in others. The introduction of digital music has further complicated this balance, triggering dramatic changes to the industry business model in both positive (easy access to markets) and negative (rampant illegal copying) ways. Arguably, music is the most protected, licensed and breached of all forms of copyrighted works.

New media offers to authors unprecedented opportunities for self-producing and self-promoting their works, and the chance to experiment with innovative forms of expression. For recorded music today based on previously created works that have been re-sampled, remixed or re-mastered, it may be difficult to tell whether they qualify as derivative or original works.

This panel session will offer an overview of the current hot topics in music copyright, including recent case law and legislative developments.