

IAN MAXWELL

THE CURSE OF FANDOM

What is the study of popular music about?

What do we expect it to achieve?

Why do we do it?

How do we avoid killing it, ruining the magic of it, by studying it?

'avoid reducing our encounters to dessicated cadavers on a slab'.

we generate about it?

How does our relationship to it affect the kind of knowledge that

particular fan himself.

Maxwell's own research was on hip-hop in Sydney. He was not a

not its formal properties.

Why: he felt it could only be understood by analysing its context,

himself.

How: reading, listening, and approaching fans.

If he were a rapper, would it subvert or deepen the curse?

The curse of fandom: he is often still assumed to be a rapper