

## MPA MEDIATION SERVICE



## MEDIATOR: DENNIS MUIRHEAD

Accredited Mediator trained by ADR Chambers

*"Dennis mediated a dispute for me that was blurred by the emotional interests of the other party. His ability to clarify and rationalise the situation meant he could diffuse these emotions and ultimately succeed in identifying a commercially viable resolution for both parties."* **Music Industry Investor**

**Dennis Muirhead** has been an accredited Mediator trained by ADR Chambers experienced in music industry and general commercial matters since 2002. He read law at the University of Adelaide and practised in South Australia for three years

You may know him as the co-founder of the law firm **Simons Muirhead & Burton**, established in London in 1972. There he practised criminal law as an advocate specialising in drugs law and capital offences, also in defamation, immigration and the music industry.

From 1977-1979 he was **Counsel assisting the South Australian Royal Commission into the non-medical use of Drugs**

Dennis has chaired two leading drugs charities (**City Roads Crisis Intervention** and **ISDD now Drugscope**), also the Fulham Legal Advice Centre and the Metropolitan Police Juvenile Mediation Scheme Islington Steering Committee 1972-1998.

In 1982, Dennis established **Muirhead Management** and **Muirhead Music** to manage record producers, engineers, artists and in music publishing. He was probably the first person globally to manage record producers, in particular four times Grammy Award winning producer **Hugh Padgham**, (XTC, Peter Gabriel, Split Enz, The Police, Sting, Phil Collins, Genesis, Julia Fordham, Paul McCarthy, Melissa Etheridge), **Eddy Offord** (Yes, ELP, John Lennon and Lindisfarne), **Robin Millar** (Sade, Patricia Kass) and **Nick Patrick** (Russell Watson) amongst many others. Dennis is a frequent visitor to **Nashville TN** where he works with singer songwriter **Billy Swan** (**I Can Help in THOR** and other movies) and producer **RS "Bobby" Field** (Steve Earle, Sonny Landreth, Allison Moorer, Justin Townes Earle, Mates of Mine), artists **Elena Roger** (**Olivier Award for Piaf, Olivier nominations for Evita and Passion**), **Roosevelt Bandwagon** and other artists and producers

He's a member of the **Americana Music Association** in Nashville and the **Country Music Association UK Advisory Group**

In 1992, Dennis co-founded and was the founding chairman of the **Music Managers Forum (MMF)**. Dennis is now an Emeritus member of the MMF Advisory Board and was Inducted into the **British Music Roll of Honour in 2008**

**Dennis** is an appointed **Business Ambassador for the State South Australia** and President of the **South Australian Universities Alumni Europe**. He is also a Trustee of the **Australian Music Foundation** and a member of the **Royal Institution of Great Britain**

With a keen interest in motor sport, he worked part time for **Richard Lloyd Racing** (Porsche 962) in Group C Prototype Sports Cars (Le Mans) in Europe and Japan 1987 – 1992.

Dennis is an international music and new media conference moderator, panellist and mentor.

In addition, Dennis works in business and legal affairs for **Rightster Limited**, an online video distribution network

As well as being a **music industry mediator**, Dennis has also been engaged several times as an **expert witness** in music industry cases

His other interests include the family, music and the arts, motor racing, cricket, footy (Australian Rules - he played for Adelaide University - and football), reading, cooking and trying to keep fit.

## **Recommendations**

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"Dennis has extensive experience in the (music) industry and I recommend him as a robust and skilled tactician, business manager and consultant." **Alexander Ross – Lawyer**

"Strong music industry experience and established entrepreneur and founder" **Alexander Apponyi – Banker**

"I have worked with Dennis for over twenty years and highly commend him as one of those rare individuals who has the practical experience and skills drawn from different perspectives of his work. Whether as legal adviser, manager or entrepreneur, his judgment is exemplary" **Jonathan Caplan QC**

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To use the MPA mediation service please contact Sarah Cooke ([scooke@mpaonline.org.uk](mailto:scooke@mpaonline.org.uk)) at the MPA office.