

Jackie Dennis biography

Jackie joined the New Zealand Society of Authors (PEN NZ Inc) as Chief Executive Officer in January 2014.

Work History

Jackie travelled to Australia in her early twenties and became a music industry identity building a career through publicity and promotions at Mushroom Records in Melbourne, then joining Mushroom Music working in copyright management and music licensing. She moved to Sydney to take up the role of Creative Manager at the multi-national publishers Chappell and Intersong, then worked in band management at GTM with Crowded House, returning to music publishing as General Manager at MMA Music in 1991.

In the late 90's Mushroom diversified into movies and Jackie was appointed General Manager at Mushroom Pictures. She was involved in the development and production of a wide range of iconic Australian film and multimedia projects.

In 2005 Jackie came home to New Zealand to open a Mushroom office in Auckland. Working concurrently on Mushroom Pictures projects and music publishing, the New Zealand office became a success with Jackie forging new relationships resulting in dramatic increases in music licensing income for their stable of writers.

Leaving Mushroom in 2009 Jackie went on to produce various film and documentary projects including NZFC funded short film *Zero*, which was selected for many A list film festivals and took her to Berlin in 2010. She was Programme Manager of the Big Screen Symposium in 2012 and 2013, contracting prestigious international speakers including internationally revered script writer Guillermo Arriaga (*21 Grams*, *Babel*), director Park Chan-Wook (*Stoker*, *OldBoy*) and writer Andrew Bovell (*A Man Most Wanted*, *Lantana*). In 2013 Jackie also facilitated Script to Screen's inaugural FilmUp mentorship programme.