

# Preface

**Ruth Towse**

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This book derives from the international conference 'Copyright in the Cultural Industries' held in September 2000 at Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands, organized by Ruth Towse from the Department for the Study of the Arts and Culture (KCW) and Roger van den Bergh, Professor of Law and Economics in the Faculty of Law, Erasmus University Rotterdam, in conjunction with the Association for Cultural Economics International (ACEI). Professor David Throsby from the Department of Economics, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia assisted with the initial selection of papers. Financial assistance was provided by the ACEI, the Erasmus Research Centre for the Arts and Culture at KCW (ECKCW) and the Faculty of Law of Erasmus University Rotterdam. This project was also supported by the Foundation Vereiniging Trustfonds Erasmus Univeriteit Rotterdam in the Netherlands.

Many people were involved in making the conference a success: the conference administrator Theresa Oostvogels and her assistant, Miro de Ruiters; the session chairmen, Roger van den Bergh, Rudi Holzhauser, Hector MacQueen, Michael Rushton and Paul Rutten. Jules Theeuwes was chairman of the panel discussion on the problems of administering copyright in the digital era; members of the panel were Gerri Hevel (SENA, the Dutch Neighbouring Rights Society), Darrell Panethiere (Warner Music, UK), Shinji Matsumoto (GEIDANKYO, which administers performers' rights in Japan) and Michael Einhorn (formerly of BMI in the USA), these latter two participants have also contributed chapters to this book. We are very grateful to all the people and organizations involved.

All the authors have revised their papers for inclusion in this book and have commented on each others' papers. Edwin Thus, a student at KCW, undertook the considerable task of organizing revisions and preparing the manuscript. I am grateful for his meticulous work.