

## Some Reflections on Jack Kernochan

by Bernard Korman\*

Joie de vivre. Love of Adelaide, music, teaching, food, friends, the French and good company. Responsibility to students. Caring concern for composers. Personal warmth. Scholarship. Always busy and always ready to contribute to authors' causes.

These are some of the thoughts and phrases that came quickly to mind when I was asked to write a few lines about Jack Kernochan for the *Journal of Law & the Arts*. I don't remember precisely when I first met him. It was many years ago, probably in Herman Finkelstein's office at ASCAP in connection with some problem faced by the "serious" music publisher members of ASCAP. For many years Jack ran a music publishing company he inherited from his father.

It has been my very good fortune to spend time with Jack in a number of foreign places. In Vienna, Sydney, Corfu, Jerusalem, Perugia, Warsaw, Xtapa and Amsterdam, we served as members of the Legal and Legislative Committee of CISAC, the International Conference of Authors' Societies. On all of these occasions he invariably raised the level of debate among international law specialists. Once, responding generously as always to a request, he delivered a major paper on United States performing rights organizations to a CISAC Biennial Congress. It was a masterpiece of its kind, as one would expect, and has frequently been referred to in international circles in the years that followed.

Most copyright lawyers I know grind their own axes on behalf of their clients and seem to have neither time nor inclination to serve larger causes consistently. The many teachers of copyright law I have come to know over the years—largely due to ASCAP's Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition—often display enthusiasm for copyright law that grows rather than wanes with the passage of time. But I know of none who has taken up the author's case the way Jack Kernochan has throughout his career. Jack is the best example I know of a teacher whose enthusiasm for teaching and for authors seems boundless. He does grumble, it is true, about the burden of grading papers. But I believe that is because he probably deals with that task, as he deals with all tasks, more conscientiously than most.

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Jack Kernochan is a much admired, much respected leader in the field of authors' rights. I have known him as an ASCAP member, a colleague in a variety of professional activities, a traveling companion who spreads light and brings pleasure wherever he goes and a thoughtful friend. I am very pleased, honored really, to have been asked to write a few words about him. All authors, all students of copyright law and all copyright lawyers are beneficiaries of Jack Kernochan's industry and insights over some four decades—so far. His industry will, I am sure, produce many more insights in the years to come.