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It sounds like success

A career in music technology has really taken off for Peter Moses, writes **Clive Hopkins**.

HELPING produce a string of best-selling albums is the stuff of fantasy for most young people.

For 26-year-old Peter Moses it's all in a day's work. Since gaining his qualification as a sound engineer, Moses has worked with the likes of Justin Timberlake, Will.i.am (of Black Eyed Peas fame) and on the *Madagascar 2* soundtrack and is now looking forward to further challenges.

Moses signed up for a one-year diploma in music technology with creative industry training provider SAE in Sydney. He combined his study with

trainee positions in a variety of recording studios, working on anything from music editing to making compilation albums.

So how did he end up with Timberlake?

"I was working at Rode Microphones at the time, as a product specialist. With that job, you got to go out with the equipment. [Timberlake and I] struck up a rapport and I ended up touring with the band."

On tour, Moses found himself called upon to make recordings of new material, on the fly in hotel rooms. "We got complaints from other hotel guests [about the noise] so we invited them

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Marco Bitelli

in for a drink. When they saw who it was making the noise, they didn't seem to mind."

Moses has recently started his own company, Audiowise, and is about to tour the Middle East to promote his own work. A world tour with what he describes as "a well-known band" is on the cards for 2009. Among all of this, he still finds time to be a guest lecturer where it all started, at SAE.

"Working with the big artists is a great buzz," he says.

"But being able to give it back to the students, to give them what I had, is a great buzz as well. I've made audio my life and if you do this, you'll go far. But to do it in such a short period is truly a blessing."

Marco Bitelli, the general manager of SAE for the Asia, Pacific and Middle East regions, says: "The challenges of this industry are many but so are the rewards."

Set up 32 years ago as the School of Audio Engineering, the company has retained the initials but over time has expanded its curriculum to film, multimedia and gaming.

SAE now has a network of schools all over the world.

"We pride ourselves on being the first," Bitelli says. "The audio industry is looking for people with wide range of skills... We don't get trainees to specialise in, say, just being a live-recording engineer. We teach a full range of audio techniques, including recording, mixing and post-production."

Successful trainees are highly employable over a range of creative industries, as demonstrated by Moses's work spanning both music and film. Bitelli is clearly delighted with what SAE's star pupil has achieved and relishes having him back to share his experience and inspiration with those just starting out on their careers.

Bitelli's advice to people hoping to get into the creative industries is that "technology changes very quickly, so always be at the cutting edge". SAE students practise their craft on professional quality equipment, including the Neve recording console, a product line that SAE owns. It is used to post-produce 80 per cent of Hollywood movies.

"Our students are motivated by passion," Bitelli says, "passion for music, for films, for games. Peter Moses is one of the most passionate people I've ever met."



Star pupil... sound engineer Peter Moses, trained at SAE. Photo: Fiona Morris