



SAMuRA Rights & Licensing Overview

South African Music Research Archive (SAMuRA) Version 1.0 — March 2026

1. Purpose of This Document

The Rights & Licensing Overview explains how SAMuRA handles copyright, licensing, permissions, and usage of materials submitted by artists, estates, rights-holders, and institutions. It ensures:

- Legal clarity
- Ethical handling of materials
- Respect for ownership
- Transparent archival practice

This document accompanies the **Permission Letter** and the **Metadata Sheet**.

2. Ownership of Materials

SAMuRA does **not** claim ownership of any submitted materials.

All rights remain with:

- The artist
- The estate
- The rights-holder
- The institution

SAMuRA's role is custodial, not proprietary.

3. What SAMuRA Is Licensed To Do

By submitting materials and signing the Permission Letter, contributors grant SAMuRA a **non-exclusive, revocable licence** to:

- Digitise materials
- Catalogue and preserve them
- Store digital masters
- Display selected items on the SAMuRA website
- Use materials for educational, cultural, and research purposes
- Share materials with accredited researchers (where permitted)

This licence ensures national preservation while respecting ownership.

4. What SAMuRA Will *Not* Do

SAMuRA will **never**:

- Sell submitted materials
- Transfer rights to third parties
- Commercialise materials without explicit written permission
- Alter materials in ways that distort meaning or context
- Publish restricted or sensitive items without consent

SAMuRA is a cultural custodian, not a commercial entity.

5. Credit & Attribution

SAMuRA is committed to accurate and respectful crediting.

All published materials will include:

- Artist name
- Title
- Year (if known)
- Rights-holder information
- Any additional credit requested by the contributor

If attribution is unclear, SAMuRA will consult the contributor before publication.

6. Sensitive, Sacred, or Restricted Materials

SAMuRA honours cultural protocols and community-based knowledge systems.

Contributors may request:

- Restricted access
- Cultural consultation
- Embargo periods
- Non-public classification

These requests are respected in accordance with SAMuRA's Constitution and ethical guidelines.

7. Revoking Permission

Contributors may revoke SAMuRA's licence at any time, except where:

- Materials have already been published
- Materials form part of a public exhibition
- Materials have been used in research outputs
- Legal obligations require retention

SAMuRA will work with contributors to ensure a fair and respectful process.

8. Third-Party Rights

If materials include:

- Collaborators
- Co-writers
- Producers
- Photographers
- Labels
- Publishers

...it is the contributor's responsibility to ensure that all relevant rights-holders are informed and, where necessary, have granted permission.

SAMuRA may request additional documentation.

9. Use of Materials in SAMuRA Publications

Materials may be used in:

- Online exhibitions
- Educational resources
- Research outputs
- Public programmes
- Cultural heritage initiatives

Always with attribution and within the scope of the granted licence.

10. Contact

For questions regarding rights, licensing, or permissions:

Email: info@samura.org.za

Website: <https://www.samura.org.za>