## MEDIA RELEASE



## AUSTRALIA / MUSIC WORLD PREMIERE



## DIOMIRA - AUSTRALIAN ART ORCHESTRA

One of Australia's leading contemporary music ensembles will give the world premiere performance of **Diomira**, a new work created by composer and Artistic Director of **Australian Art Orchestra**, **Peter Knight**.

Sparked off by one of the imaginary lands in Italo Calvino's novella *Invisible Cities*, Australian Art Orchestra's **Diomira** is an expedition forging a path between the observable and the unreal.

Chamber jazz orchestra expands with the additions of turntables, reel-to-reel tape machines and live signal processing, while the sounds of acoustic instruments and voices are interwoven with vinyl-cut field recordings, toying with perceptions of what is heard and what has only been imagined. Time folds into itself, leaving the residue of moments half-remembered.

Exploring the spaces between the avant-garde and the traditional, art and popular music since 1994, Australian Art Orchestra is fired by the same spirit of

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restlessness that drove the earliest pioneers of jazz to produce music that is utterly of the now.

Premiering as a concert length piece with multi screen installation by video artist Scott Morrison (Tate Modern/MONA FOMA/Liquid Architecture/Opia Sim Gallery/64° South Heller Gallery), Morrison creates uncanny effects tracking the entropic processes woven into the structure of the music, as mechanisation disintegrates and gives way to expressive gesture.

Joining Peter Knight, composer, artistic director, trumpet/electronics is Andrea Keller (keyboard and piano); Tristram Williams, trumpet; Gian Slater, vocals; Erkki Veltheim, violin; Steve Raegele, guitar; Mary Rapp, cello; Vanessa Tomlinson, percussion; Tony Hicks, clarinet/saxophone; Adrian Sherriff, bass trombone/electronics; Samuel Pankhurst, bass; Joe Talia, drums/Revox reel-to-reel, and Nicole Lizée, turntables.

Founded by Paul Grabowsky in 1994 the AAO is one of Australia's leading contemporary ensembles. Now led by daring composer/trumpeter/sound artist Peter Knight, its work constantly seeks to stretch genres and break down the barriers separating disciplines, forms and cultures. It explores the interstices between the avant-garde and the traditional, between art and popular music, between electronic and acoustic approaches, and creates music that traverses the continuum between improvised and notated forms.

"Thrilling and daunting in equal measure...the AAO's boldness of vision remains intact as it heads into its third decade." The Age

The Substation Sat 7 Oct 8pm 1 hr, no interval \$49 / \$ 39 Under 30s \$30

www.festival.melbourne
The Substation 03 9391 1110
#melbfest

Presented with THE SUBSTATION

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