



# Media Release

# OVERGROUND

## THE MASSIVE 'FESTIVAL WITHIN A FESTIVAL' UNVEILED AS A RESOUNDING FINALE TO *SUPERSENSE: FESTIVAL OF THE ECSTATIC* IN 2017

*"It was possible for listeners to experience a mind-altering array of sonic extremes in a single hour" - The Age*

**MELBOURNE, FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Supersense is proud to present the return of **Overground**, a 'festival-within-a-festival' of exploratory improvised music featuring a truly stupefying line-up of the creme of Australia's contemporary music scene in world-first collaborations with leading international forces of sound experimentation. Overground will take place on Sunday August 20 2017 within the labyrinth of Arts Centre Melbourne's foyers and venues.

Originally created for the Melbourne International Jazz Festival in 2010, Overground was a virtual survey of Australia's underground music cultures, a collaborative experiment bringing together musicians and artists performing in first time ensembles, operating across the lines of free improvisation, classicism, performance art, transgression, noise, poetry, comedy, conceptualism, despair and joy. The Overground events in 2010 and 2011 were legendary for their boldness, experimentation and huge crowds flocking to the Melbourne Town Hall.

In 2017, Overground returns, presented in collaboration with venerated Australian arts organisations **Liquid Architecture** and Sydney's **the NOW now**, in a blindingly impactful and resounding conclusion to the Supersense weekend.

Supersense, a contemporary performing arts festival exploring ecstatic experience, returns to Arts Centre Melbourne from 18 – 20 August 2017. Created in 2015 by Arts Centre Melbourne with Melbourne and New York-based inter-disciplinary performer and curator Sophia Brous, the festival brings together a program of internationally revered artists and performers exploring contemporary and traditional perspectives on ecstatic experience across music, dance, film, visual art and design. The inaugural 2015 festival was an enormous success with over 8,000 attendees accessing world first collaborations and commissions.

Overground collaboration highlights include:

**Zeena Parkins (harp) & Oren Ambarchi (guitar)**

Two internationally celebrated luminaries of improvisation and sound disruption come together to explore thresholds of dynamic, density and spectral beauty.

**JG Thirlwell (laptop), Lucy Cliche (drum machines) and Jonnine Standish (voice, electronics)**, Three unique voices in the world of visceral, heady electronic music. The trio will navigate the overwhelming possibilities and construct a deeply complex, immersive experience spanning the musicality of 40 years or so of electronic invention.

**Jon Hunter (guitar), Kusum Normoyle (voice), Makoto Kawabata (voice and guitar) & Rohan Rebeiro (drums)**

A quartet that combines ecstatic vocals, free noise and a visceral, broken rhythmic backbone. Anticipate the apocalypse.

**Oliver Coates (cello), Sophia Brous (voice), Zeena Parkins (harp) & Clayton Thomas (double bass)**

The resonant vibrations of diversely played strings and voice interweave within sublime matrimony in this quartet of internationally lauded creative musicians, each restless explorers of their instrument, working across musical discipline and genre.



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## **Ande Somby (voice), Carolyn Connors (voice) and Golden Fur (piano, clarinet and cello)**

A diaphanous curtain of sonorities will unfold as a truly exceptional ensemble forms featuring the gifts of Australian-via-USA trio Golden Fur (James Rushford/Judith Hamman/Samuel Dunscombe), alongside the fiercely contrasting but similarly arresting incantations of Norwegian Sami master yoiker Ande Somby and virtuosic experimental vocalist Carolyn Connors.

## **Felicia Atkinson (electronics and poetry), Autumn Royal (poetry and voice), Lisa Lerkenfeldt (electronics)**

Experimental meeting of three brilliant and perfectly matched artists operating at the intersection of poetry, voice and electronic sound. Atkinson, an acclaimed and multi-talented French artist, recently released the rapturously received album, *Hand in Hand*, through her Shelter Press imprint. Royal, a Melbourne based poet, performer, and researcher, examines feminist elegiac expression. Artist, musician and DJ Lerkenfeldt works with tapes, electronics, voice, percussion and field recordings to create ambient, minimal noise equal parts beauty and cruelty.

## **Additional collaborations and performances include:**

Acid Mothers Temple x Scott McConnachie x Jeremy Gustin x Dave Harrington  
Laurence Pike x Marcus Whale x Ying-Li Hooi x Kane Ikin  
The Band Presents  
Robbie Avenaim  
Clayton Thomas x Hani Abdile  
Fujui Wang x Jannah Quill  
Sage Pbbbt x Andrew Harper  
Cleek Schrey x Matthias Schack Arnott x Deborah Kayser x Peter Knight  
Dylan Martorell x Laura Altman x Freya Schack Arnott x Nick Tsiavos  
Tarquin Manek x Rainbow Chan x David Chesworth  
Jim Denley x Maria Moles x James Rushford  
Michael McNab x Jostyn Myburgh (aka Tchake)  
Arrington de Dionyso x Erkki Veltheim x Clayton Thomas

Joel Stern, Artistic Director of Liquid Architecture says of the program, "Overground has been an opportunity to extend an invitation to artists whose works operate at the threshold of what is and isn't (experimental) music, who disturb the conventions, even of a practice that understands itself as essentially unconventional. We hold this maxim to be true: Truly experimental music should be performed *against* itself."

The 2017 Supersense festival will be presented over three-days of immersive, revelatory performance throughout the Arts Centre Melbourne's labyrinth of underground walkways, venues and performance spaces, with back-to-back performances from some of the world's most visionary artistic pioneers forging new perspectives on ritual and transformation. Ticketing options include whole festival passes, day passes or single performance tickets for headline acts. For the full program, visit [www.artscentremelbourne.com.au/supersense](http://www.artscentremelbourne.com.au/supersense).

**Presented by Arts Centre Melbourne and Bank of Melbourne, in association with curator Sophia Brous**

**Overground: A Festival within a Festival**

**Supersense - Festival of the Ecstatic**

**Arts Centre Melbourne**

**Sunday August 20, 2017**

**2pm - 6pm**

**Book at <http://www.artscentremelbourne.com.au/supersense>**

**#supersense**

For more information about Arts Centre Melbourne visit [artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://artscentremelbourne.com.au) or phone 1300 182 183. Become a fan of Arts Centre Melbourne on [Facebook](#) or follow [@artscentremelb](#) on Twitter or [@artscentremelbourne](#) on Instagram.

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