

Media Release: for immediate

New streams of sound by celebrated Australian composer



Multi-award winning pianist and composer Matt McMahon will present *Paths and Streams II* as part of the Sydney Improvised Music Association's *Freedman New Jazz Series* at Paddington Uniting, Eastside Arts space on Saturday 17 October at 7pm.

This much anticipated new work is the follow up project to McMahon's critically acclaimed *Paths and Streams* which won him the prestigious Freedman Jazz Fellowship in 2005.

To perform this work, McMahon has gathered an ensemble of Australia's most in-demand jazz musicians.

The line-up includes companion Freedman Fellows **Phil Slater** (trumpet) and **James Muller** (guitar) as well as **Paul Cutlan** (reeds), **Michele O'Young** (strings), **Brendan Clarke** (bass) and **Simon Barker** (percussion).

In contrast to *Paths and Streams*, in which McMahon arranged a collection of works penned by family and friends, *Paths and Streams II* features a program comprised entirely of McMahon's own compositions.

Musical influences as broad as Peggy Granville-Hicks to Cold Chisel has inspired this work. McMahon has also drawn on Australian indigenous music as well as Arabic music, jazz and traditional music from his own Irish heritage.

In March this year, McMahon released his first solo piano improvisations album *The Voyage of Mary and William* to wide-spread critical and audience acclaim. The recording was reflective of McMahon's musical history, a theme that has been continued in this latest project, each piece drawing together various strands of Matt's musical life.

On this topic McMahon says, "I've done thousands of performances and about eighty albums, all which have left their mark on my conception. I've been involved with a diverse range of Australian artists from Joseph Tawadros to Peter Sculthorpe, and Jackie Orszacksy. I've also had the opportunity to play or record with international artists such as Christian McBride, Joe Lovano and Mike Stern", he goes on to say, "all of these musicians have challenged my ideas and furthered my growth. So when I play, I feel like these musicians are there with me. Not to mention those I have studied such as Mozart, the Beatles and Herbie Hancock".

McMahon will take us on personal tour of his musical life when he presents *Paths and Streams II* at Paddington Uniting, Eastside Arts.

Presented by SIMA, as part of the Freedman New Jazz Series and supported by the Freedman Foundation and the Music Trust.

Paths and Streams II will take place at 7pm on Saturday 17 October at Paddington Uniting Eastside Arts, located at 345 Oxford St, Paddington.

Tickets: \$40/\$30/\$20

Bookings and information: www.sima.org.au or for more information 02 9036 6292

Media enquiries: Amy Curl (0413 237 119) or amy@sima.org.au



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