



Sydney Intermedia Network Inc (SIN)

in association with AGNSW

Australian Perspecta 1997: Between Art and Nature

a sound art performance of sublime nuance by

# SOCIAL INTERIORS

in collaboration with video artist Peter Oldham

# Spatial Circumference

plus solo performances by the group members

**Rik Rue, Shane Fahey and Julian Knowles**

**Sunday 24 August 1997  
2.30pm, \$12/\$8**

**Domain Theatre, level 1  
The Art Gallery of  
New South Wales**

Sydney Intermedia Network is pleased to present this rare public performance by **SOCIAL INTERIORS**, one of Australia's most distinctive and internationally acclaimed sound art ensembles.

Spatial Circumference is an experimental audiovisual collaboration between **SOCIAL INTERIORS** and video artist Peter Oldham, which explores a series of concentrated habitats within and around rainforest regions in New South Wales.

SIN: tel 02 9264 7225 fax 02 9264 5823 email [sinsite@ozemail.com.au](mailto:sinsite@ozemail.com.au) web <http://www.ozemail.com.au/~sinsite>



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Sydney Intermedia Network

in association with

The Art Gallery of New South Wales and  
Australian Perspecta 1997:  
Between Art and Nature

## Social Interiors *Spatial Circumference* premiere performance

**Social Interiors** has aimed to accurately map the organic aural characteristics of outdoor environments. The recordings are treated and mixed with other acoustic and electronic extrusions to evoke darkly beguiling micro worlds of subtle dynamics and complex aural displacements. The video work for *Spatial Circumference* has a similar conceptual approach, and aims at a heightened abstraction through super close perspectives and distortions of natural habitats shot with macro lenses.

plus premieres of solo works by  
Social Interiors group members

### *Silent Latitudes*

**Julian Knowles** multitrack tape recorders, sampling, digital imaging

A piece constructed from digital recordings of Alan Lamb's environmentally activated wire installations at Baldivis WA. The visual images are processed with multiple layers of wave generators in such a way as to mirror the acoustic deformations and modulations of the singing wires as they are acted upon by wildlife and environmental forces.

### *Things Change, Things Remain The Same*

**Rik Rue** digital and analogue tape manipulations

Dedicated to the Australian outback and inspired by Brion Gysin, this piece concerns itself with a negotiation between sound and space.

### *Mounds of Mounds*

**Shane Fahey** analogue tape manipulations  
video produced by Shane Fahey and David Haines

Myths are constantly renewing people; the sources are, as always, 'nature'. This piece explores the architectural forms in the forces of our local landscape. The image and sound act upon each other like an etching covering and uncovering some of the shapes that entwine nature and supernature.

**SOCIAL INTERIORS** was formed in 1984 by Shane Fahey and Rik Rue primarily as a studio and recording project. The group is dedicated to uncovering some of the unique character inherent in Australia's aural landscape. Meticulous editing and treatment form the basis of their sound compositions. The works are essentially about blurring the distinctions between sound and sight/site via careful manipulation of sonic materials to create phantom—and perhaps impossible—acoustic spaces. **Social Interiors** has released numerous cassette recordings on the Pedestrian Tapes label and two CDs on the Extreme label, *The World Behind You* (XCD029) and *Traces of Mercury* (XCD040).

**RIK RUE** is an internationally renowned improviser and manipulator of analogue and digital tape who has been composing with found sounds since the early 1980s. He transforms recordings from bushland environments and sonically congested urban zones into radiophonic soundscapes, sound installations, discrete compositions and collaborative works for live performance in dance and theatre, film and video soundtracks, and cross media productions. He is a member of such legendary groups as Mind/Body/Split and Machine for Making Sense. Many of Rik's works have been featured on *The Listening Room*, ABC Classic FM. He has collaborated with Sidetrack performance ensemble, Butoh performer Tess de Quincey, dance/performance group Gravity Feed, visual artist Joan Grounds, and musicians Jon Rose and Ikue Mori, among many others.

**SHANE FAHEY** is a musician, acoustician and sound engineer. He was a founder member of the experimental music group The Makers of the Dead Travel Fast (1979–1982) and has since collaborated with a range of artists including musicians Stevie Wishart, Tenebrae and Crow, and performance artists Barbara Campbell, Anna Sabiel and Sarah Waterson. Shane recently designed the soundscape for filmmaker Virginia Hilyard's *Places of Memory*, an audiovisual exhibition currently installed at the Museum of Sydney.

**JULIAN KNOWLES** is a composer/performer and sound designer who utilises new technologies. He has worked in a variety of contexts such as performance, intermedia collaborations, film and television, including projects with Machine For Making Sense and the group's members Rik Rue, Stevie Wishart and Amanda Stewart; Latin American dancer Rafael Gonzalez; performance artist Tess de Quincey; vocalist Jo Truman; visual artist George Gittoes; film music for *Swerve* (Marcus Gale, 1995), and music/sound design for *Revisionism* (Rachel Landers, 1997). Julian has performed to critical acclaim throughout Australia, UK, USA and Latin America in solo and group settings.

**PETER OLDHAM** is a video artist who has documented theatre and dance performances for Gravity Feed, The Seymour Group, The One Extra Company and Deborah Pollard, among others. He has also worked on a CD ROM production for Open City, and an interactive touch screen display for the Australia Council's Art Market.

## Social Interiors *Spatial Circumference*

is a project of  
Sydney Intermedia Network Inc (SIN)  
First floor, 168 Day Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
tel: 02 9264 7225  
fax: 02 9264 5823  
email: sinsite@ozemail.com.au  
http://www.ozemail.com.au/~sinsite

director: Alessio Cavallaro  
resource manager: Sarah Waterson

graphic design: Sarah Waterson  
cover images: manipulated video stills  
from raw footage by Peter Oldham

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SIN encourages the  
development of innovative film,  
video and digital media in  
Australia, and exhibits this  
work to a broad range of  
audiences

## SOON from SIN

**transvideo: new video  
art & documentary from  
South America** curated  
by Janet Merewether  
(coinciding with Carnivale 97)  
WED 17 SEPTEMBER  
6.30pm Chauvel Cinema,  
Paddington

**ART RAGe: artworks for  
television** curated by  
Kim Machan, 'big screen'  
premiere of works  
originally designed for  
broadcast on ABC TV's  
*Rage*. Short videos by  
leading Australian visual  
artists including Linda  
Dement, John Gillies,  
Fiona Hall, Maria Kozic,  
Jon McCormack, Susan  
Norrie, Bill Seaman,  
and many more...  
SAT 4 OCTOBER 2pm  
Domain Theatre AGNSW

**Metallux** curated by  
Jo Law, experimental  
'scratch/hand-made' films  
and videos produced by  
Western Australian artists  
SAT 1 NOVEMBER 2pm  
Domain Theatre AGNSW