

### **Invenio (217 words)**

Invenio is an innovative large ensemble of improvising and contemporary singers, experimenting with the typical vocal group/choral form through conceptual composition, extended vocal technique, fluid improvising, choreographed movement and inventive performance.

Singer/composer Gian Slater formed Invenio in March 2010 to perform her large-work commission piece, *Gone without saying* for the Melbourne Jazz Fringe Festival. The performance received rave reviews and a standing ovation and from this auspicious beginning, Invenio was born.

Invenio has since performed another 4 new works by Slater including *Us and Others* (2011) for Invenio and Speak Percussion; *Self/Echo* (2012) for 5 voices; *Clarion/Whisper* (2012) for 16 voices and *Luminesce* (2013) for 7 voices and video artist, Robert Jarvis.

They have performed at the Sydney Opera House Studio, Dancehouse Theatre, La Mama Musica, Canberra Street Theatre, Colbourne Avenue (Sydney), The Malthouse Theatre, Northcote Town Hall, Myer Music Bowl, Wangaratta Jazz Festival, Stonnington Jazz Festival, Northcote Uniting Church, Guild Theatre, Apra Music Awards and the Melbourne International Arts Festival's Foxtel Hub.

Invenio's collaborations have included their work with esteemed NY Pianist/Composer, Barney McAll's *Graft* project and with treasured singer/songwriter, Lior.

Invenio released their debut album, *Gone, without saying*, on the Listen/Hear Collective Label in late 2011, are featured on Barney McAll's Jazzhead release, *Graft* and will be releasing their second album *Clarion/Whisper* in early 2014.

### **Invenio (437 words)**

Invenio is an innovative large ensemble of improvising and contemporary singers, experimenting with the typical vocal group/choral form through conceptual composition, extended vocal technique, fluid improvising, choreographed movement and inventive performance. The singers of Invenio are selected from a pool of exciting contemporary singers who are all active performers, teachers and composers on the Melbourne scene.

Singer/composer Gian Slater formed Invenio in March 2010 to perform her large-work commission piece, *Gone without saying* for the Melbourne Jazz Fringe Festival. The performance received rave reviews and a standing ovation and from this auspicious beginning, Invenio was born. Since then, Invenio has performed *Gone without saying* at the Sydney Opera House Studio, Dancehouse Theatre, La Mama Musica, Canberra Street Theatre and Colbourne Avenue (Sydney).

Invenio premiered Slater's second large work, *Us and others*, in 2011. The piece, composed for 18 singers and 4 percussionists from SPEAK Percussion was performed at Melbourne's Malthouse Theatre to sell-out audiences.

Slater then composed two new works for Invenio's 2012 sell-out performances at The Northcote Town Hall. *Self/Echo*, composed for five voices and *Clarion/Whisper* for the full 17-voice ensemble received a 5 star review in *The Age*. Invenio performed *Clarion/Whisper* at the Northcote Uniting Church, Guild Theatre and recently at the Melbourne International Arts Festival.

In July 2013, they premiered another new work *Luminesce* in collaboration with video artist, Robert Jarvis featuring 7 female voices and voice activated light projection.

Slater's longstanding alliance with esteemed NY Pianist/Composer, Barney McAll led to Invenio's feature on McAll's project, *Graft*, which premiered at The Wangaratta Jazz Festival in 2011 and was performed again at Stonnington Jazz Festival in 2012.

Invenio's collaborations with treasured singer/songwriter Lior began when they featured in his *Speigeltent* season over three sold-out nights in 2011 and went on to perform at the Melbourne Zoo Twilight concerts in 2012. In March 2013, they performed with Lior as part of the *Speigeltent* season once again over 4 sold out nights, although this time they were his complete accompaniment for the whole show. They performed alongside Lior at the 2013 Apra Music Awards, closing the night with a tribute to 'The Seekers'.

Invenio also featured in the Melbourne Arts Festival's *Notes from the Hard and Beyond* at Sidney Myer Music Bowl, with the Black Arm Band, Ricki Lee Jones, Mavis Staples, Archie Roach and Joss Stone and supported pop band *Husky* for their Melbourne Arts Festival show at Foxtel Festival Hub.

Invenio released their debut album, *Gone, without saying*, on the Listen/Hear Collective Label in late 2011, are featured on Barney McAll's Jazzhead release, *Graft* and will be releasing their second album *Clarion/Whisper* in early 2014.