

• MEDIA RELEASE •

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VISIBLE CONCERT AND CD LAUNCH PARTY

As part of the 2007 MIX IT UP season the Arts Centre and Multicultural Arts Victoria present **Visible**, a free concert at the **Arts Centre, Hamer Hall on Sunday July 20** from **5pm** featuring **Grrilla Step, Public Opinion Afro Orchestra** and **Diafrix** in collaboration with some of the most exciting emerging talents from Melbourne's Indigenous, African and Pacific Islander musical communities.

Visible is an innovative arts mentorship program which has given a kick start to many newly arrived African and Indigenous musicians by bringing them together with established musicians for mentorship and creative development. The fruitful collaborations from this year's Visible program have resulted in a 6-track CD which documents the explosion of truly original, contemporary and cutting edge urban music coming out of Melbourne's new cross-cultural underground.

Come early for the Visible CD launch party from 2pm, featuring The Black Jesus Experience, the Afro Habesha Band, hip hop and West Papuan dance workshops, Samoan body percussion, craft and face painting demonstrations, film screenings, community stalls and an Ethiopian coffee ceremony.

Diafrix kick off The Visible concert at 5pm, bringing their 100% original funk, soul and reggae-infused hip hop. Diafrix represent the motherland of Africa and refugees from all corners of the globe. Diafrix represent what they see with their own eyes. Fronted by African-born MCs Azmarino and Momo, Diafrix will team up with indigenous MCs Yung Warriors and Alter Egoz as well as Little G for a vibrant cross-cultural set which speaks of the differences and commonalities between Indigenous and African youth culture.

Grrilla Step is a 15 piece multifaceted performance troupe which combines traditional Polynesian and African percussion, Pacific-infused krump from underground, contemporary krump crew the Royal Fam, plus Dexter (The Avalanches) producing and spinning. The combination of Dexter's jaw-dropping turntablist skills, the young Pacific Islanders' radical approach to krumping and high energy drumming served up by members of Drum Drum and Future Roots is a dynamic party celebration which will be nothing short of electric.

Public Opinion Afro Orchestra is a hot new mammoth ensemble of 15 musicians hand-picked from Melbourne's African, jazz & hip-hop scenes. Inspired by the infectious afro-beat music of Nigeria and its neighbours, The Public Opinion Afro Orchestra delivers a contemporary blend of hip hop and African funk to the dancefloor. The all-star lineup features past and present members of Musiki Manjaro, LABJACD, Illzilla, Mista Savona, Diafrix, Blue King Brown, 1200 Techniques and Grilla Step, and sound of this mighty band is a force to be reckoned with.

The Visible concert is part of the Arts Centre's **MIX IT UP** program which celebrates the cultural diversity of Victoria through music, dance, art and theatre from around the world. This year's program is all about music.

For more information please visit theartscentre.com.au

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