

FIRE & WATER

Friday 7 September 6pm, Salon

PRESENTED BY

Melbourne Recital Centre & OCEAN

ARTISTS

OCEAN

Iskender Ozan Toprak bağlama/vocals

Jasper Ly oboe

Laila Engle flute

Alisha Brooks soprano saxophone

Natasha Conrau violin

Phoebe Green cello

Naomi Wileman violin

Miranda Hill double bass

Murat Yucel percussion

Nihal vocals

Deniz vocals

PROGRAM

ISKENDER OZAN TOPRAK

*Kivilcim**

Ates

*Bulut**

*Simsek**

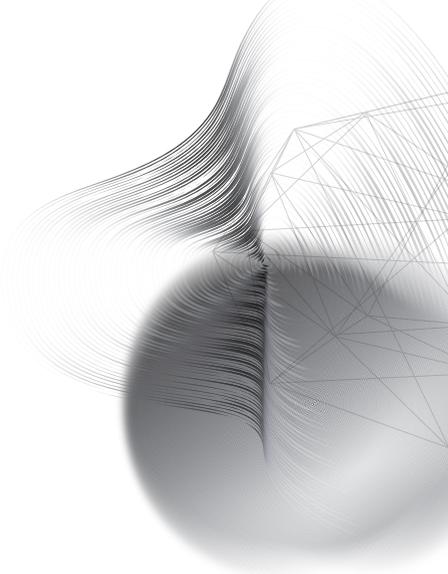
*Firtina**

*Yagmur**

*Duman**

*Rüzgar**

*world premiere



ABOUT THE ARTISTS

OCEAN is a new project by composer and musician Iskender Ozan Toprak who moved to Melbourne from London in July 2016. This unique project combines Western classical music elements with ancient traditional Eastern melodies and rhythms. **OCEAN** brings together some of Melbourne's best classical and world music performers. Consisting of bağlama, yayli tambur, kanun, bendir, vocals, oboe, flute, soprano saxophone, double bass, cello, viola and violins, its programs are essential listening for appreciators of music of all ages.

Turkish-born musician and composer **Iskender Ozan Toprak** started playing music at an early age and studied violin and piano at the University of Bolu Abant İzzet Baysal. He then specialised in Turkish music at Ege University and studied musicology in Germany. During his years in Germany he performed in many concerts and festivals throughout Europe. He worked with various theatre groups composing and performing as well as playing different styles of music with bands and artists including the 2003 Eurovision Song Contest winner, Sertap Erener. Iskender Ozan Toprak founded an ensemble of 25 musicians and performed his own compositions with this orchestra under the title *Orient meets Occident*. Iskender Ozan Toprak moved to London in 2008 where he worked with the Royal Academy of Music Symphony Orchestra directed by Tim Steiner and performed at Totally Thames Festival in 2009. He composed pieces, which create a musical synthesis of Eastern and Western cultures and performed in some large festivals in London, such as Celebrating Sanctuary 2009 and Thames Festival 2009. Besides composing music, he plays a number of different Eastern instruments such as the bağlama, yayli tanbur, mızraplı tanbur, tar, kabak kemane, azeri kemançası, rebab, oud and kaval.

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Melbourne Recital Centre acknowledges the people of the Kulin Nation on whose land this concert is being presented.



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