



JAPAN // MUSIC
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

100 KEYBOARDS

ASUNA

The music of multi-instrumental sound artist **Asuna** has reshaped multiple facets of the experimental music scene of Japan, from ambient and drone to improvisation.

Asuna's landmark work **100 Keyboards** is a site-specific listening experience in which one hundred cheap plastic keyboards play the same key, generating an undulating sonic harmony both mesmerising and mysterious. The crowd of sounds takes on its own kind of mass, while subtle acoustic variations emerge, hover and retreat.

Since the late 90s, Asuna has created experimental sound works that vault genre divides, crossing from hip hop to hardcore punk to freak folk noise and low-fi pop. Performances might feature sound sources as diverse as popping candy, wind-up toys and kazoos, but the playfulness of the compositions belie the profound sensibilities of a true avant-garde artist.

In 1999, Japanese production house Asuna began producing this installation and live performance piece which features complex interference sounds and resonances that are heard in the exhibition space as different sounds and loops of undulation for each keyboard position is born.

Melbourne Festival Artistic Director Jonathan Holloway said: 'One of two major Japanese artists in this year's Festival, Asuna's playful and exploratory music is just a cathedral of sound. What better place to have that amount of thrumming musical energy than Melbourne's own Substation in Newport.'

Presented by The Substation and Melbourne Festival. *100 Keyboards* is supported by Asialink.

'Asuna's live performances are an experience; textured soundscapes that blur the lines between art and music.' - Tokyo Art Beat.

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The Substation, Newport

Wed 10 – Sat 13 Oct

8pm

\$29 - \$39

festival.melbourne

Arts Centre Melbourne 1300 182 183

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