

Dissent**Swap Meets Seers**

★★★★

**Bay-Area crew does it deep . .
. 10 deep**

[Wide Hive] File Dissent under uncategorical. The 10-piece Bay Area band synthesizes strings, chords, horns, drums, keys and just about every other sound known to man (and woman) into a sonically layered melt whose artistry is as stupefying as it is enjoyable. Dissent plays like jazz for the electronica generation, and their third outing, *Swap Meets Seers*, is arguably their most organically driven album to date. The opener, "Time Trekker," boldly goes into territory rarely charted by live acts, harboring a bassline that's as brawny as they come. French-Canadian vocalist Nathalie Sanchez blesses four tracks with elegance, including two ("Je Me Souviens" and "L'ame Celeste") in her native tongue, though "Where Lost Is Found" may qualify as her highlight. With a distinctive and crisp sound that drifts mostly through down-tempo soundscapes, Dissent will aptly bridge the gap between Zero 7 and DJ Cam in any worthy set list. **Kevin Polowy**