



SØRLANDETS  
KUNSTMUSEUM

## PRESSRELEASE

Kristiansand 24. August 2011



## DAVID SYLVIAN. UNCOMMON DEITIES.

**SKMU SØRLANDETS KUNSTMUSEUM, Kristiansand, Norway.**

### **DAVID SYLVIAN: UNCOMMON DEITIES:**

Audiovisual installation.

Audio: David Sylvian. Visuals by Atsushi Fukui (JP)

**Atsushi Fukui art of works also in the Paper Space on the 1st floor.**

### **EXHIBITION OPEN - Gallery 1:**

SKMU Sørlandets Kunstmuseum; Friday September 2nd – October 9th.

Tuesday – Saturday 11-17, Sunday 12-16.

## **PRESS INVITATION**

### **Thursday 1 September at 11.00**

**Director Pontus Kyander at SKMU Sørlandets Kunstmuseum presents exhibition.**

SKMU Sørlandets Kunstmuseum is continuing a good collaboration for some years with Punktfestivalen. We are looking forward to present Punkt Kunst by David Sylvian this year. UNCOMMON DEITIES, audiovisual installation is going to be a special happening both in Kristiansand and at SKMU. This year David Sylvian is the festival's Artist in Residence. SKMU Sørlandets Kunstmuseum is a young museum, still one of the largest in Norway, aiming to be a leading space for Norwegian and international art. Our programme as well as our collection has an emphasis on contemporary art. We are really pleased to present UNCOMMON DEITIES.

### **UNCOMMON DEITIES. Audiovisual installation.**

The installation includes recorded music by David Sylvian with John Butcher, Arve Henriksen, Günter Müller, Toshimaru Nakamura, Eddie Prévost, and a string sextet directed by Dai Fujikura. The installation also includes newly commissioned work by visual artist Atsushi Fukui. (b 1966, Aichi, Japan). Curator/liason: Yuka Fujii for Osmosis/Samadhisound. Artist Management: Richard Chadwick at Opium (Arts) Ltd.

**David Sylvian started this project** by experience and research into the current life and the history of the Canary Island, conceptually based on the original inhabitants of the islands, the Guanches. Little is known about the Guanches, a white race, vigorous, of high stature, fair-haired, blue-eyed, and leading mostly a pastoral life.

Sylvian was interested in the connection between the physical or scientific reality of our biological make up, the links to lineage, location and, the interior life of a community or people, and implied cultural heritage.

The piece was entitled “when we return you won’t recognize us”. Since 2010 Sylvian has made the piece in a way that may potentially be re-staged in a variety of locations, isolated or as parts of a larger work, concerning the universality of human experience and the undying spirit. At SKMU/Punkt kunst it’s presented with Atsushi Fukui’s archetypal work “The Botanist”, in which we see the fusion of the male and the female in one body, self-contained, self-sustaining, a Buddhist non-duality.

This represents the coming together of the male and female energies, as referenced in much of the world’s ancient literature, returning us once again to preoccupations with origins, evolution and the idea or ideal of pure being.

The current manifestation of the work stands alone, but is also designed to embrace interactive elements on the part of live performers. There will be different interactive events throughout the duration of the exhibition.

**David Sylvian** (b 1958, London) began his artistic career in 1970s. He is a world renowned recording artist, composer/lyricist, musician/vocalist, photographer and producer, record label director, and artist of visual art projects. Most people may know his art from a number of albums, solo-productions, and in cooperation with many other world-famous musicians.

**Atsushi Fukui** ( b 1966, Aichi, Japan) painter, completed his B.A. at the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music. A utopian world, always filled with a certain tranquility, stretches across Fukui’s works..

**THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 1st (sold out) SKMU SØRLANDETS KUNSTMUSEUM  
at 18.00 – 22.00**

**Opening evening** of David Sylvian’s audiovisual installation Uncommon Deities at the Sørlandet Art Museum.

**Live performances in installation room:** John Tilbury, Philip Jeck, Evan Parker (UK), Sidsel Endresen, Arve Henriksen, Paal-Helge Haugen, Nils Christian Moe-Repstad (N).

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 3th - SKMU SØRLANDETS KUNSTMUSEUM  
at 15.00 – 16.00**

**Afternoon session at the UNCOMMON DEITIES - installation – Gallery 1**  
Different artists live music with the recorded music of David Sylvian.

[www.davidsylvian.com](http://www.davidsylvian.com) [www.samadhisound.com](http://www.samadhisound.com) [www.tomiokoyamagallery.com](http://www.tomiokoyamagallery.com)  
[www.punktfestival.no](http://www.punktfestival.no)

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