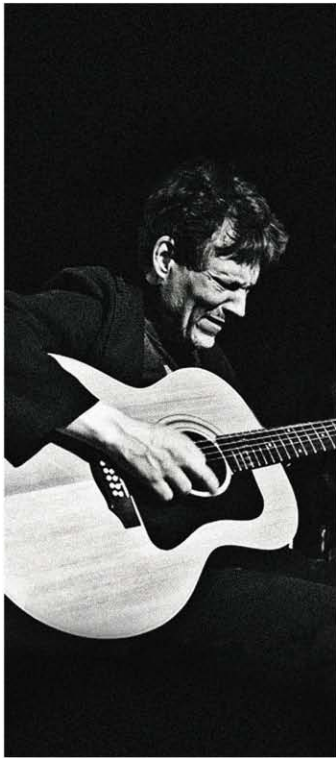


ACOUSTIC SENSE



ACOUSTIC SENSE has thrilled many audiences far and wide with their atmospheric and colourful music - and the orchestra is appearing just as colourful with its line-up, consisting of a world/jazz guitarist, a classical cellist (who is a strong improviser), a jazz bassist and an African percussionist.

Acoustic Sense was formed in 2001 by guitarist John Sund together with cellist John Ehde, bassist Morten Lundsby and percussionist Ayi Solomon. Their debut CD "New Gems" arrived in 2003. It was well received and was nominated by Danish World Awards in the "Best CD of the year" category, 2004.

Acoustic Sense has been working with different guest musicians and on "New Gems" they had a rewarding cooperation with the Serbian accordionist, Lelo Nika - whereas their second and latest released "Absorption" (2010) solely is featuring the actual quartet.

On the musical journey, the orchestra leads its audience on, one will experience everything from beautiful Nordic tones, to a strong rhythmic drive - from simple, soulful melody-lines to energetic power. Even if the music occasionally skips "into the wilderness" - the musicians are always capable of demanding the attention of its audience, due to their genuine stage presence.

"This formation that John Sund has come up with in Acoustic Sense is just as rich an facets as the music itself..."

Ulrike Kress - www.jazzdimensions.de

"Jazz/world music is a great idea and Acoustic Sense is one of the best of the genre that I can think of."

Steve Fergenbaum - Wayside Music - USA

The music of Acoustic Sense isn't so easy to put a label on, but to categorize it as World/Jazz, would probably be the closest one gets, although it might be best off described as original music, with its very own personal and unique style.

The members have worked with some of the finest musicians on the Danish and international jazz and world music scene, including Marilyn Mazur, Palle Mikkelborg, Thomas Clausen, Danish Radio Big Band, Moussa Diallo, Pierre Dørge's New Jungle Orchestra, Jakob Davidsen, Bo Stief, Randy Brecker, Shashank Subramanyam, and many more...

Individually and together, they have toured world wide, and recently Acoustic Sense played at the Beijing International Jazz Festival, where they ended up becoming the main attraction of the festival - and in 2010 they were one of the Danish representatives at the World EXPO in Shanghai.

"...always with that special touch and awe-inspiring runs across the finger board. That man can play guitar like few..."

Torben Holleufer - GAFFA

"From the very first musical note, one was aware of something extraordinary..." (Concert review - Underværket Randers, 2010)

Jan Sisseck - Randers news paper

"When at its best, it was like magic."
(Concert review - Copenhagen 2011)

Henrik Palle - Politiken

BIOGRAPHIES

John Sund (6 & 12 string guitar)

Debuting at the age of 18, he was commissioned as a soloist together with the *Danish Radio Big Band*, led by *Palle Mikkelborg*, in a work written by pianist *Thomas Clausen*. John was one of the first “jazz” artists to receive the prestigious Jacob Gade’s Grant in 1977, (this grant is primarily reserved for classical artists) and Danish jazz-reviewer Boris Rabinowitsch called him “a discovery of a Niels Henning Ørsted Pedersen’s dimension”. He has worked and recorded with numerous of groups and artists including *Creme Fraiche Big Band*, *D.R. Workshop-group/Palle Mikkelborg*, *Thomas Clausen*, *Debbie Cameron*, *Ben Besiakov*, *Bo Stief*, South Indian violinists *Ganesh & Kumaresh*, South Indian flautists *Shashank Subramanyam*, Serbian accordion virtuoso *Lelo Nika*, and Somalian “Real World” recording artist *Mariam Mursal*.

As a composer he has, among other things, written an extended work for the Danish Radio Big Band, which was released on Olufsen Records (John Sund & The Danish Radio Big Band: “Fusion Symphony”), where he also is featured as the main soloist. Moreover his discography includes: “Special Venture” - self titled (Intermusic 1999), “Special Venture” - Twice” (Gateway Music 2007), “John Sund & Acoustic Sense - New Gems” (Cope Records 2003), “Acoustic Sense – Absorption” (Gateway Music 2010), “John Sund – The Open Road” (Storyville/Exlibris 2011) - (*nominated by the Danish Music Awards 2013, for best cross-over CD release*) and as co-leader; “World On A String” - self titled (Cope Records 2004) “World On A String – Second Outlet” (Calibrated 2009), “Sund, Shashank, Phalgun - Here & Now” (Gateway Music - 2012).

John Ehde (cello)

John Ehde was born in Stockholm, Sweden and was educated at the music conservatory in Århus, Denmark by Professor *Asger Lund Christensen*. Throughout his long career, besides his work as a classical musician, which includes *LINensemble*, *The Wiener Philharmonic*, *Wiener State Opera* and as a soloist with *The Helsingborg Symphony Orchestra* etc., he has worked and recorded with jazz-artists such as *Palle Mikkelborg*, *Pierre Dørgé’s New Jungle Orchestra*, *Copenhagen Art Ensemble*. And more recently *Jakob Davidsen’s Mangfoldighed*, which include the British saxophonist *Ian Bellamy*. Ehde’s artistic life is marked by versatility: Solo concerts accompanied by piano or orchestra, chamber music, intensive work with contemporary music, performances as a conductor and improvised music.

Morten Lundsby (double-bass)

Morten is a versatile and sought after bassist, mainly on account of his strong intuitive rhythmic and melodic playing. He covers many various musical styles ranging from jazz to folk, from pop to world music and children’s music etc. He has played and toured with numerous artists and he performs regularly with *Stine Michel*, *Peter Bom*, *World On A String* and as bass singer with the vocal groups *Touché and Singers*. In a big band context, he has worked with *Andy Sheppard* and *Nils Landgren*. Morten is a graduate from the Rhythmic Music Academy in Copenhagen and has studied with legendary *Niels-Henning Ørsted Pedersen*, *Hugo Rasmussen* and Swedish *Anders Jormin* amongst others.

Ayi Solomon (percussion)

Ayi Solomon was born in Ghana, Africa. He came to Denmark in 1982 together with the orchestra “*Clasique Vibes*”, in connection with the early Afro-Festival in Copenhagen. By the end of the festival, *Clasique Vibes* went to Germany with a one-year contract, where they played in various German and American concert venues. The orchestra returned to Copenhagen the following year, to fulfill a Scandinavian tour, but fascinated and inspired by the new environment and its varied musical styles, Solomon decided to stay in Denmark working with Danish musicians.

He immediately caught attention with his extraordinary percussion skills and has since worked and recorded in many different constellations including *New Jungle Orchestra*, *Palle Mikkelborg*, *Match Brothers*, *Moussa Diallo Band*, *Dalia Faitelson’s Global Sound* with among others *Jerry Bergonzi*, *Randy Brecker* and *Adam Nussbaum*. Additionally, he is highly estimated as a cultural provider of African music and history, playing around one hundred school-concerts every year both in Denmark, Norway and Sweden.