

YCAM PRESS RELEASE



Time: **July 2 (Saturday), 2005 20:00-**

**July 3 (Sunday), 2005 14:00-**

Venue: **Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media / Studio A**

Admission: **3500yen (“any” member 3000yen)**

Artists:

**Kazuhisa Uchihashi / guitar, daxophone, electronics and musical direction**

**UA / voice**

**Takayuki Kinsei Fujimoto / lighting and space design and programming (Dumb Type)**

**Masahiko Furukata / image and animation design and programming (dag - IAMAS)**

**Daito Manabe / interaction design and programming**

Organized by **Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural Promotion**

Co-organized by **Yamaguchi City, the Board of Education of Yamaguchi City**

Sponsorship: **Roland Corporation, Audio Processing Technology**

Equipment Cooperation: **Color Kinetics Japan Incorporated, Vstone Corporation**

Technical Cooperation: **Tama Tech Lab.Co., Ltd.**

Producer: **Kazunao Abe (YCAM)**

Production: **YCAM InterLab**

Produced by **Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media (YCAM)**

## **“path” installative concert / new stage-production for YCAM**

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media (YCAM) presents a new stage-production entitled "path." This is a new type of concert, with Kazuhisa Uchihashi for sound performance, and UA, a female singer, for voice performance, in which sound and vision are interlocked realtime with informational media technologies. Image and light respond realtime to the sound of performance and voice, and it leads to interactions as if the whole space were playing musical instruments. Here, an unprecedented collaboration among musicians, artists, and programmers has been realized.

This is an experimental concert to test how music affects the whole space of sonic and visual expressions. Sound performance and vocal performance on the stage are informationalised and data-processed, affecting realtime visual expressions (image, color, brightness, etc.) within the parameters of the space, so that a perfect interactive stage is created. An installation (the stage is under a big screen ceiling, and the audience sit around the stage) is set up in the middle of the performance space, and 23-channel speakers are placed at various places in the space. The musicians can make sound arrangements and designs in the space (area, movement, speeds and direction) as they like, while performing the maximum 6-track sound data at the same time through the originally developed interface by YCAM InterLab. In accordance with linking up these sound arrangements in the space with the design of frequencies and dynamics in terms of informationalisation of live sound, media outputs such as image projection, lighting and LED lighting respond interactively, so that two performers can improvise a feast of space and sound. Through this system in which the whole space functions as a musical instrument, the musician's thought and performance of the sound can be visually expressed.

Note: This is an original work of YCAM made on the artist-in-residence program. YCAM InterLab is involved not only in the development of the system, program, and interface with sound position moving system, but also the overall production including concept planning, in collaboration with the invited artists.

## **Profiles of Artists**

**Kazuhisa Uchihashi;**

Guitar and daxophone player and composer. Born in Osaka. He has been exploring to develop the potentialities of musical instruments and sound improvisation freely using different kinds of effects. With his unique style to pioneer new sound of the next generation going beyond the musical categories, he is actively performing in Europe and America in recent years. Of late, he is involved not only in performing but also projects focusing on the space of expression. Nearly twenty years, he has been working with "Ishin-ha," a troupe he works for as music director. The unit companies that he is currently working together include "Altered State," with which he will have worked for sixteen years up to this year, and "Mutant." His collaborations with a singer with strong personality such as UA are attracting attention. He is also known as the only player in Japan of "daxophone," a bowed wood instrument invented by guitarist Hans Reichel.

**UA:**

She made her debut with "HORIZON" on Victor Speedstar records in 1995. Since then, she has attracted a great deal of attention with her impressive voice and looks of strong personality. Her single "Jonetsu (Passion)" released in 1996 and album "11" released in the same year won the highest praise. She was in charge of music in a movie "Sharasoju" (an official entry for the 56<sup>th</sup> Cannes Film Festival competition category) released in 2003. She is a hostess in an NHK educational program "Do-re-mi no TV" (awarded the Grand Prize of Good Design 2004) as singing lady "U-U-A." In 2004, she released her fifth album "SUN" and album as U-U-A, "U-TA-U-U-A (Singing U-U-A)," collecting twenty songs for children and favorite songs. She toured all over Japan the same year. Her thrilling and freaky live performances have won popularity, and her live album "la" is sound source-based. This year she celebrates her tenth anniversary, and has released a new album "breathe" after an interval of a year. She sings the theme song of "Kuchu Teien (A Garden in the Air)," a movie to be released this fall.

<INQUIRY>

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