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Studio Sweet Spot: Sundlaugin * Mosfellsbaer, Iceland

September 8, 2010 by [David Weiss](#)

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Facility Name: [Sundlaugin Studio](#)



Sundlaugin's famed swimming pool-cum-live room

Website: www.sundlaugin.com

Location: [Mosfellsbaer, Iceland](#)

How to Get Here from NYC: JFK to [Keflavik Airport](#), then 40 minutes drive towards [Reykjavik](#).

Where You Can Stay Once You Get Here: [Hotel Laxnes](#), five minute walk from the studio. Or any hotel in downtown Reykjavik which is a 15-minute drive from the studio.

Neighborhood Advantages: Sundlaugin is literally one of the last houses before you hit the countryside. Quiet and green area with beautiful walks all around. A river runs three meters from the sweet spot in the control room. Outside, though.

Date of Birth: 2000

Facility Focus: Very well suited for live tracking as we have a fairly big main recording room with high ceilings and four other rooms/booths, as well as a great collection of microphones. Great for mixing also; Neve desk, nice outboard and loads of plug-ins.

Clients/Credits: [Sigur Rós](#), [Jónsi](#), [Damien Rice](#), [the Album Leaf](#), [amiina](#), [Mugison](#), [Seabear](#), [múm](#), [Ólöf Arnalds](#), [Skúli Sverris](#), [Pétur Ben](#) and many other foreign as well as Icelandic bands.

Key Personnel: [Birgir Jon Birgisson](#), engineer/manager/owner; [Kjartan Sveinsson](#), producer/owner



Ice cool control for local outfit Ensimi

System Highlights: [Neve](#) V0 desk; [ProTools HD2](#); [Otari](#) MTR90 mkII w/[Dolby](#) SR; [Manley](#), Neve, [Empirical Labs](#), [Lexicon](#), AMS, [Alan Smart](#), [Shadow Hills](#) outboard; [Neumann](#), [RCA](#), [AEA](#), [AKG](#), [Coles](#), [Sennheiser](#), [Melodium](#) mics

Distinguishing Characteristics: Loads of natural light, especially in the control rooms which is a rare treat in a studio — makes it a lot easier to spend long hours working. Five separate rooms to record in, four of which you'd fit in a full drum kit. Each with different characteristics.

The building is on fire, you only have time to grab ONE thing to save, what is it? [Neumann U47](#) valve microphone

Rave Reviews: The vibes in and around the studio; we have a pond and a river just outside the control room with a view of a field and even a small forest which is a rare sight in our fair country.

Having such a nice environment makes everyone feel at ease which makes the process so much more enjoyable. Drummers also love the main room.

Most Memorable Session Ever: [Super Mama Djombo](#); a 14-piece band from [Guinea-Bissau](#). They taught me it's not the gear you use but how you use what you have.



Sundlaugin, Icelandic for 'swimming pool,' has a pond and a river just outside the control room.

Session You'd Like to Forget: That one involves bad notes and [Melodyne](#) for six days straight.

Dream Session: The band would be [Tom Waits](#), [Dolly Parton](#), [Bonnie “Prince” Billy](#), [Dave Grohl](#) and [Davíð Þór Jónsson](#).

– *Biggir Jon Birgisson, Engineer/Manager, Sundlaugin*

Tags: [AEA](#), [AKG](#), [Alan Smart](#), [amiina](#), [AMS](#), [Birgir Jon Birgisson](#), [Bonnie “Prince” Billy](#), [Coles](#), [Damien Rice](#), [Dave Grohl](#), [Davíð Þór Jónsson](#), [Dolby SR](#), [Dolly Parton](#), [Empirical Labs](#), [Guinea-Bissau](#), [Hotel Laxnes](#), [Iceland](#), [JFK](#), [Jónsi](#), [Keflavik Airport](#), [Kjartan Sveinsson](#), [Lexicon](#), [Manley](#), [Melodium](#), [Melodyne](#), [Mosfellsbaer](#), [Mugison](#), [múm](#), [Neumann](#), [Neumann U47](#), [Neve](#), [Neve V0 desk](#), [ProTools HD2](#), [Otari MTR90 mkII](#), [Ólöf Arnalds](#), [Pétur Ben](#), [RCA](#), [Reykjavik](#), [Seabear](#), [Sennheiser](#), [Shadow Hills](#), [Sigur Rós](#), [Skúli Sverris](#), [Sundlaugin Studio](#), [Super Mama Djombo](#), [the Album Leaf](#), [Tom Waits](#)

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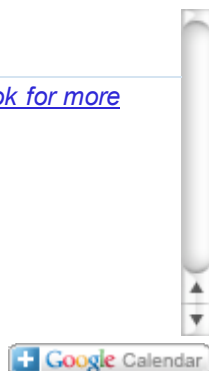
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