

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 3 NOVEMBER 2011

# Photography & Culture

**Special Issue:  
Celebrity and Photography**

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Cover image: Photograph by Faye Claridge from the series *Descendants of the Unfamiliar* (2010).

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williamjoseph.co.uk

Photograph by Faye Claridge from the series *Descendants of the Unfamiliar* (2010).

*Descendants of the Unfamiliar*, a series from UK based photographer Faye Claridge, who creates portraits with her sitters in scenes with specially painted backdrops. Morris Dancers are photographed in their traditional costumes, some with blackened faces for disguise. By picturing this social group on the peripheries of mainstream culture, Claridge takes a closer look at the role of 'tradition' in modern life, and asks how our current identity is shaped by our relationship to the past. The series has humour and a celebratory aspect as the spirit of the dancers is strangely fascinating, equally this enduring social phenomenon deserving closer attention.

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