

Future *Landscapes*

PRESS RELEASE, February 27, 2023, Prague, Reykjavík

Future Landscapes: “The sound of burning coal is the sound of politics.” A new podcast series listens to places that tell the story of humanity’s future in the face of climate change.

Future Landscapes turns to sound in the exploration of possible new narratives and future scenarios in areas that pose a complex set of problems to humanity in the context of climate change: food and energy production and emission management.

This eight-part documentary series follows a sonic expedition led by philosopher Lukáš Likavčan and field recordists Sara Pinheiro and Magnús Bergsson, whose special microphones are able to capture the innermost technological processes and natural phenomena that our ears can’t hear. Their attentive listening builds the ground for an exciting journey of thought on the human capacity to come up with solutions, as well as the critical power of sound itself.

Each episode of Future Landscapes is devoted to one location in the Czech Republic and Iceland, countries that seemingly represent two very different approaches to tackling climate change — from a traditional coal-fired power plant and the futuristic underground storage of CO2 to one of Iceland’s hottest tourist spots, a lagoon formed by a melting glacier. What emerges is a mosaic of the hidden sounds of our civilization that may hold the key to dealing with the most imminent climate threats.

The first two episodes of the podcast, which is presented by Era Productions, are now available on [Apple](#), [Spotify](#), [Google](#), [YouTube](#) or [Soundcloud](#). More information is available in the attached press release and at www.futurelandscapes.cz.

List of episodes

- 1 ~ Fossil Injustice. Tušimice coal power plant, Czech Republic.
- 2 ~ Management of a Gift. Hellisheiði geothermal power plant and CO2 storage, Iceland.
- 3 ~ Food Not Soil. Kaly aquaponic farm, Czech Republic.
- 4 ~ Artificial Nature or Natural Artificiality. Milovice grazing reserve, Czech Republic.
- 5 ~ Between Two Worlds. Búðarháls hydropower dam, Iceland.
- 6 ~ Holy Liquid. Žarošice oil well, Czech Republic.
- 7 ~ No Ice, Just Land. Fjallsárlón glacier lagoon, Iceland.
- 8 ~ More Than You Can Handle. Fagradalsfjall volcano, Iceland.

[Press Kit download](#)

The podcast series is part of the Future Landscapes interdisciplinary project, which also features field notes by philosopher Lukáš Likavčan, a music album by Václav Havelka, Pan Thorarensen and Kryštof Kříček aka *fyield*, a sound archive created by field recordists Sara Pinheiro and Magnus Bergsson, and the documentary film *Invisible Landscapes*.

Protagonists

Lukáš Likavčan is a philosopher focusing on ecology, technology and visual cultures. Currently a Global Perspective on Society Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for AI & Culture at NYU Shanghai. Previously, Likavčan studied philosophy at Masaryk University, where he also obtained his PhD in environmental studies. He also held visiting research positions at Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien and Hong Kong Polytechnic University; faculty positions at the Strelka Institute for Media, Architecture and Design as well as the Center for Audiovisual Studies at FAMU in Prague; and fellowships at the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava and BAK, basis voor actuele kunst, Utrecht. He is the author of *Introduction to Comparative Planetology* (Strelka Press, 2019), which analyzes the representation of the Earth from the perspective of climate change geopolitics.

Sara Pinheiro is a sound-maker, who carries out sound recording, editing, foley and mixing for film and video art. In her solo practice, she makes acousmatic pieces, usually for multichannel performances, radio broadcasts or installations. She is a member of the live-coding group K-o-l-e-k-t-i-v and collaborates with Bystrouška Sound Studios in Prague. She is a lecturer at the Center for Audiovisual Studies at FAMU in Prague and a guest lecturer at the Institute of Sonology in the Hague.

Magnús Bergsson is a field recordist and sound enthusiast who since the 1970s has been recording sounds of both the natural environment and city life while publishing them in a vast online archive titled Hljóðmynd (Soundimage). In his work, Magnus is interested in recording places that are under great pressure due to global warming and where biological diversity is expected to change in the coming years. As a member of the music collective called Minningar, he is dedicated to documenting the tragic beauty of the Icelandic glaciers as they disappear due to human indifference. As a solo artist, he has recorded ambient sounds (ambiances) for several films and worked with various composers who have used field recordings in their music creation.

Credits

Written and directed by: Ivo Bystřičan

Field recordists: Magnús Bergsson, Sara Pinheiro

Sound recordist: Jan Kalužný

Sound design and mix: Marie Čtveráčková

Narrated by: Skyland Václav Kobylak

Editor: Iveta Černá

Protagonists: Lukáš Likavčan, Václav Havelka, Pan Thorarensen

Studio: Mr. Wombat

Producer: Tereza Swadoschová

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Recording Equipment

Sara Pinheiro

Recorder

~ Sound Devices MixPre-10T

Microphones

~ Sennheiser Ambeo VR Mic

~ DPA SMK-SC4060

~ AKG C411

~ Aquarian H2a

~ Elektroucho Pro

~ Geofón

Magnús Bergsson

Recorder

~ Sound Devices MixPre-6

Microphones

~ Sennheiser MKH30/40 (MS)

~ Sennheiser MKH8020/MKH8040 (AB40)

~ DIY stereo mic. w. Primo EM172 capsules (Baffled - Binaural)

~ Benthowave BII-7121 & Aquarian H2a XLR Hydrophones

~ LOM geophones

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Liechtenstein
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