

Future *Landscapes*

PRESS RELEASE, June 27, 2022, Prague, Reykjavík

Music of the climate drama. Music project **fyield** premieres single from upcoming album.

What does climate collapse sound like? The brand new music project called **fyield** that brings together Czech and Icelandic musicians comes up with the premiere single **Candy** from their forthcoming album. **fyield** takes listeners to industrial sites that are key to the functioning of our civilization and invites nature and technologies to become their full-fledged bandmates. The music video for the single will be premiered online on [Albumm - Íslensk tónlist](#) website and its social networks on Monday, June 27 2022 at noon.

How can something as dramatic as climate change sound so peaceful? Is this the sound of the Earth deflating literally like an inflatable ball? These were the first impressions that struck singer-songwriter Václav Havelka and filmmaker Ivo Bystřičan when they arrived at the Hellisheiði geothermal power plant in Iceland where they spent one day, listening and recording in the company of the legendary Icelandic field recordist Magnús Bergsson. Sounds of shafts, hot air rushing through pipes and steam coming out from the Earth. As a result they produced a fierce breakbeat track called **Candy** that is topped off with a lyrical guitar passage accompanied by the gurgling of water and the sound of a running engine. The natural meets the industrial without being able to distinguish one from the other.

Candy heralds **fyield**'s upcoming music album, at the same time being a crucial part of the interdisciplinary project **Future Landscapes**, which will combine music with documentary film, podcasts and a series of lectures with environmental themes. The band itself brings together leading figures from the Czech and Icelandic indie music scene. On the Czech side are Václav Havelka and Kryštof Kříček from the band **Please The Trees**, and they are joined by Pan Thorarensen of the Icelandic ambient trio **Stereo Hypnosis**, who is also the founder of the experimental music festival **Extreme Chill**, which he has been organizing in Reykjavik since 2010.

Together they are finishing an album that fuses music composed of sounds from selected natural and industrial locations in the Czech and Icelandic landscapes with electronics, beats and music instruments. The music of **fyield** takes the listener to places that are crucial to the functioning of contemporary civilization and yet they are rather remote and make the visitors feel not welcome. The filming took place in eight environmentally, socially, economically and culturally void and depleted areas in Iceland and the Czech Republic. The recordings were made using improvisation, field research and field recording methods. Listening to their tracks, we find ourselves near or in the bowels of a geothermal, hydroelectric or thermal power plant, an aquaponic farm, a lagoon created by the melting of a glacier, a volcano, CO2 underground depository or an oil extraction site – **fyield** translates

More info: Vaclav Havelka, +420 721 729 718, vaclavhavelka@gmail.com

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the factors and consequences of how human actions affect climate change into a unique and captivating sound form.

“We left it to experts and politicians to deal with the changes of our planet. But this left no space for imagination that could build social demand and creative solutions,” says documentary filmmaker Ivo Bystřičan on why he decided to embark on a work in which sound plays a major role, and why he approached Václav Havelka to become the music director. During the creative process Havelka, Thoraransen and Kříček approached the composition with the sensitivity of songwriters, but also with respect to the need to take nature and technologies as equal bandmates and give them space to be heard. While Thoraransen has used sounds of nature in his work before, this was a new experience for Havelka and Kříček. Together, however, they faced a different challenge. *“Climate change is something we are already experiencing. It’s a statement,”* Havelka sums up. *“These are the sounds of a catastrophe, and we found it important to capture the urgency of the situation and think about it, rather than make it sound attractive.”*

The project also includes field notes by philosopher Lukáš Likavčan and a sound archive, which are available on the project website www.futurelandscapes.cz and on the Soundcloud profile https://soundcloud.com/future_landscapes. The release of the music album and the premiere of the documentary film are scheduled for fall 2022.

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Locations

Czech Republic

Planned underground CO2 storage, Žarošice

Aquaponic farm, Kaly

Nature reserve, Milovice

Coal-fired power plant, Tušimice

Iceland

Hydroelectric power plant Búðarháls

Active volcano Fagradalsfjall

Glacial lagoon Fjallsárlón

Hellisheiði geothermal power plant with CarbFix underground carbon dioxide storage technology

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Václav Havelka

Musician, singer, composer, manager and producer. He started his musical career in the late 1990s. In 2006, alongside his solo work, he founded the band Please The Trees, for which he composes all lyrics and music, and works as a manager and booking agent. The group has played dozens of shows around the world since its foundation. The band's discography includes five albums awarded with the annual Anděl Music Award and the Apollo Music Critics Award. Three of these were recorded in the United States. Since 2005 VH has been working as a promoter, manager, booking agent (for Scrape Sound Inc., Nora Production, Nomads of Prague and Bumbum Satori). He has composed music for several performances at the Stavovské and Dejvice Theatres, ABC Theatre and others and has written music for several films. He works as a producer for Colours of Ostrava, Metronome Prague, Summer Film School and other festivals. Currently, he is in charge of the music programme at MeetFactory, Prague's centre for contemporary art.

Pan Thorarensen

Musician, composer, event and festival organizer. He has composed music for short films and documentaries, and has released a number of albums. He works under many different artistic pseudonyms. For example, he collaborates with his father Óskar Thorarensen and composer Þorkell Atlason under the name of the electronic-ambient trio Stereo Hypnosis. In 2010 he founded the electronic music festival Extreme Chill, which every year attracts local and international fans of electronic music and Icelandic nature.

Kryštof Kříček

Member of the art collectives Verify Yr Age and Sing Sing Soundsystem, and is active in the group Please The Trees. He has been making his own electronic releases, most recently under the pseudonym Haru. He produced Amelia Siba's new album. His debut called Test Pressing offers a seductive combination of broken beats, distorted vocals and surprisingly catchy melodies. Through his own diligence, he has gradually worked his way up from guitar to electronic music, recording and production. A turning point in his career was attending a Please The Trees concert at the age of 16, which opened the doors for him to the cultural scene.

Ivo Bystřičan

Documentary director, dramaturg, screenwriter and producer. His work focuses on social and environmental themes with a sociological accent. His feature film *Byway* (2014), capturing a social conflict on the backdrop of the construction of the D8 motorway, sparked the interest of a large audience. In addition to independent documentaries, his focus is on bringing environmental and economic issues to TV audiences, for example in the Ekostory project or the Industria series. In addition to the interdisciplinary project

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Future Landscapes, he is currently working on the original documentary project Klimageddon. He is also involved in the dramaturgy and production of documentary podcasts, and works as a lecturer in film studies. He collaborates with Czech Television and the Czech Academy of Sciences.

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Promo materials fyield

~ Promo kit: <https://tinyurl.com/5hz4wjme>

Additional project materials:

~ Photo gallery from expeditions: <https://tinyurl.com/y98s6597>

~ Teaser: <https://tinyurl.com/yh5tnn9y>

Social media fyield

~ FB: www.facebook.com/fyield

~ Insta: www.instagram.com/fyield_music

Social media Future Landscapes

~ Web: www.futurelandscapes.cz

~ FB: www.facebook.com/futuresoundscapes

~ Insta: www.instagram.com/futurelandscapes.cz/

~ YT: www.youtube.com/channel/UCmOHMwO8F--caPtZ8zFBfqA

~ Soundcloud: www.soundcloud.com/future_landscapes

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