

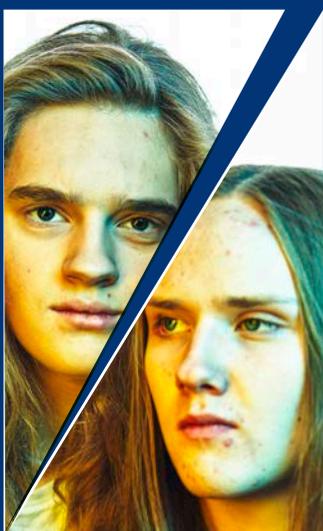


REYKJAVÍK GRAPPEVINE

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2019 TVAJÓÐS SÁVAWAVIV QNV7A11

NEW



FACES

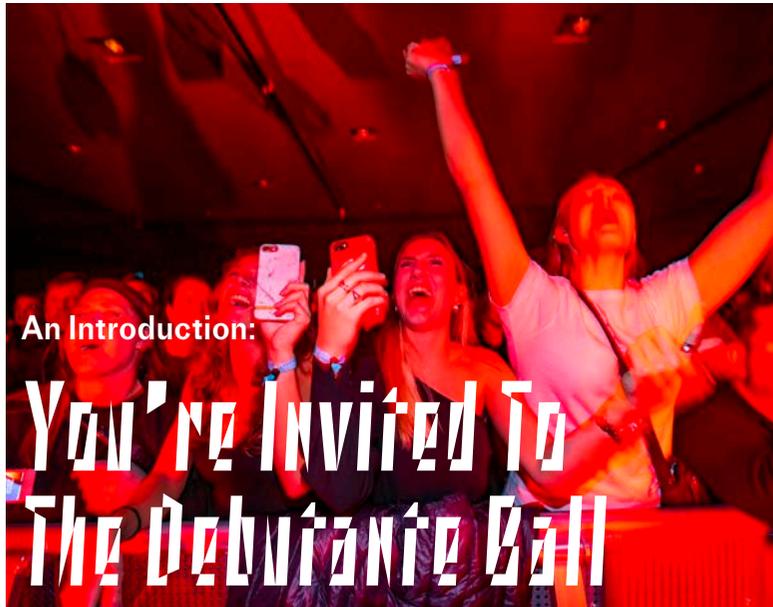


ICELAND AIRWAVES



OF





When the Grapevine began covering **Iceland Airwaves** back in 2005, our goal was to give every single artist on the roster a professional music review. From famous headliners to unknown garage bands, we sent a representative—often well-known international music critics—to all shows. In our mind, every artist deserved the opportunity to shine, regardless of their current popularity.

At that time, we put out daily paper reviews, which eventually morphed into these special edition Airwaves issues. While the medium of our coverage has changed, the goal of it has always remained the same, which is why we continue to dedicate the cover of the Airwaves issue to those playing the festival for the first time—the newbies, the unknowns—or as we call them, the **Airwaves Debutantes**.

You can read about each debutante from **P.18** to **P.22**. We also have in-depth interviews with a few of our favourite newcomers this year, R&B chanteuse **una schram** (**P.25**) and the ethereal supergroup **Hrím** (**P.16**). Check out grapevine.is/airwaves to read everything we've written about the Airwaves Debutantes in the past

and in the leadup to the festival. From the heavy metal teens of **Blóðmör** to the dreamy lo-fi of **Hipsumhaps**, the Grapevine has something for everyone.

But enough about us, let's talk about Airwaves. The festival is, without hyperbole, the backbone of the Icelandic music scene. A joyful Mecca for music-nerds and the Iceland-curious alike, it's a week-long cultural celebration that lights up an otherwise dark, autumnal Reykjavík.

So whether you're a grizzled veteran or an Airwaves virgin, we hope that this magazine gives you some stellar Airwaves-advice, from survival tips (**P.4**), to those much-needed hangover cures (**P.30**), to the best swimming pools to soak your worn-out feet (**P.28**). Be sure to grab a copy of our sister magazine **The Reykjavík Grapevine**, and download our **AppyHour** app, which will help you get drunk on the cheap. Also, remember to hashtag your tweets and Instagrams #GrapeWaves to win cool **Grapevine x Einstök goodie bags**.

So have fun, be safe, hit up every concert than you can, and make some new buddies. We'll see you there.

Hannah Jane Cohen, Issue Editor

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The Reykjavík Grapevine

Special Issue: Iceland Airwaves 2019

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2019



2018



2017



2016



2015



2014



Off Venue tónleikar Landsbankans

Stúdentakjallarinn - Fim. 7. nóv.

16.30 Tómas Welding

17.00 ROKKY

17.30 Vök

Landsbankinn Austurstræti - Lau. 9. nóv.

15.30 Krassasig

16.00 Una Schram

16.30 Auður

Frá árinu 2014 hefur Landsbankinn gert um 30 tónlistarmyndbönd með ungu og uppnennandi tónlistarfólki. Sjáðu þau öll á landsbankinn.is/icelandairwaves.



THE DEFINITIVE ICELAND AIRWAVES SURVIVAL GUIDE

Words: **Andie Fontaine** Photo: **Art Bicnick**

So you've arrived in Iceland, fresh faced, brimming with anticipation to dive headfirst into Iceland Airwaves, see your favourite bands, and show off your best Hatari cosplay. But hold up, champ and heed the sage advice from those who've been attending the event since 2005. And by that I mean us, the Reykjavik Grapevine.

Clothing

You, dear foreigner, might associate November with hayrides, cider, and fluffy woolen scarves, but in Iceland, we associate it with bitter cold, stinging gusts

of wind, and rain. At the same time, the interior of a packed club is going to be warmer than Mallorca in the summer. What to do? The smart strategy is more lighter layers, preferably with a water-proof outer layer, rather than one huge coat.

Our advice: Inside, disrobe said layers to show off your fashionable Geysir duds.

Arrive early

Count on the queues for major acts to be ridiculously long if you arrive too late, which can be roughly half an hour before the

show begins. There's no harm in arriving early. Not only will you avoid a tedious queue; you can secure a really great spot for catching the action.

Our advice: Stuck at the back of the venue? Pretend to be pregnant and push your way through. No one will bother you.

Drinking

Many rumours about Iceland are untrue, but the one about drinks costing a small fortune is not one of them. The key is to be buzzed before you even leave your hotel. Stock up at the duty free at Keflavik International Airport when you land or, barring that, pay a visit to any of Iceland's state-owned alcohol stores. Remember: they don't sell booze in grocery or convenience shops

“Pretend to be pregnant and push your way through.”

here, so that “beer” you see on the shelves of 10-11 is really just carbonated barley water.

Our advice: Be nice to bartenders and they'll be nice to you.

Food

It's certainly tempting, when you're half-blotto downtown, to grab a greasy kebab or a slice to soak up the poison in your stomach, but that doesn't have to be the only way you eat. Save yourself a whole lot of money and do a little grocery shopping—preferably at the discount supermarkets Bónus and Krónan. Half the fun of being in a foreign country is buying things with names that you do not understand at all. Is that tuna salad? Is it foie gras? Who knows!

Our advice: Whatever you do, DO NOT BUY BOTTLED WATER. It's a literal scam, containing the exact same water that comes out of the taps.

Hooking up

You may have one or more dating apps running on your phone when you land in Iceland. That's fortunate because there will be thousands of other people with those same apps. At the same time, play it safe: keep an eye on your drink at all times, and if you witness someone doing something sketchy, do not be shy about alerting security.

Our advice: Reykjavik is the Chlamydia capital of the world. Invest in some Durex.

Some of us live here

Not every face downtown is that of another visiting festival-goer. Keep that in mind as you stumble drunkenly through residential areas late at night eager to show off your Orville Peck impersonation. In Iceland, we love a good party, but please treat service workers with respect, don't litter, and don't throw glasses. Capiche?

Our advice: Don't be an asshole.



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FÁKAFEN 9 **OUTLET** · KÓPAVOGUR SMÁRALIND · AKUREYRI HAFNARSTRÆTI 106 · VÍKÍMYRDAL AUSTURVEGUR 20
VESTMANNAEYJAR BÁASKERSBRYGGJU 2

www.icewear.is

Insider Knowledge

Airwaves tips from those who know

Words: **Hannah Jane Cohen**

Photos: **Art Bicnick, Timothée Lambrecq & Subjects' Own**

MSEA

Canadian-born Reykjavík-transplant MSEA is known for her intriguing, textural electronica-and-voice music. In her short time in Iceland, she has become not only a well known artists, but also a celebrated tastemaker with her “can’t think just feel” music series at Loft.

Kælan Mikla

I have seen Kælan Mikla a handful of times and never does their performance feel the same. These ladies are fire-bearing as individuals, so you can imagine what happens when they come together. I find their music completely magnetising and am spellbound by the slow pulse of darkness and body sways. There



is power and sensuality. The three divine move together and the audience looks as though they are part of the incantation. I mean, the Cure know whats up; Robert Smith is a known champion of the trio. I’m bewitched.

Snapped Ankles

Starting off as a performance art piece, London’s Snapped Ankles dressed up as trees and used their home-made synth rigs to recreate the Forest. Not only did the tree costumes stay, but they evolved into ghillie suits and the members identities are apparently unknown. The music is a little bit heavy, a little bit punk, a little bit avant garde, a little bit for everyone. I am very excited to see these shrubs live.

Sturle Dagsland

I saw Sturle Dagsland by complete accident last year at Dillon’s Off Venue and it is still one of the most memorable performances I have seen. Ethereal yet beastly. Otherworldly yet earthly. Ferocious and yet delicate. The vitality and intensity of Sturle’s vocals are incomprehensible. Perhaps their music is not something you will hear at a coffee shop, but please, accept the challenge of something indescribable and be prepared for anything.

Free Love

Glasgow’s Free Love was once called “Happy Meals.” They bring a feeling of all of these words: freedom, happiness, love... and, er... meals (Which is really just a combination of all the previous isn’t it?). The duo is made up of Lewis Cook and Suzi Rodden, who bathe the listeners in their self-created luxury. Perhaps their Airwaves debut won’t be a 12-hour “Bring your own plant” adventure, but I’m sure plants and shoulder pumps are welcome.

Pink Milk

Pink Milk is a duo from Swe-

den that does the perfect job of “throwback” without being too obvious about it. Their music is reverb-drenched synth wave, cold wave, dark wave, shoegaze bliss. Bringing up visions of Twin Peaks’ bar scenes and dense fog drives. A tad gloomy and melancholic, their album ‘Purple’ is a great soundtrack for the winter transition.

María Rut Reynisdóttir

María Rut Reynisdóttir is the project manager of Reykjavík Music City, which seeks to promote the city’s music scene and Icelandic music abroad. She’s also a former program manager for Airwaves.

Alyona Alyona

I bet that this is the first time that an artist from Ukraine performs at Iceland Airwaves. Alyona Alyona recently won the Anchor award at the Reeperbahn Festival International Music Awards, as decided by a jury comprised of artists like Peaches and Kate Nash. With her looks and attitude she defies stereotypes and even though you don’t understand a word of what she’s saying, you instantly get carried away by her fire. It really makes me happy when atypical artists that sing in their mother tongue manage to break across borders. I’d love to see a collab between her and Reykjavíkurdætur.

GDRN

GDRN brought something fresh and new when she exploded onto the Icelandic music scene in 2018. Her beautiful jazzy and thick voice instantly caught my attention. I had been anticipating real sensual Icelandic R&B pop for a while, then all of a sudden we had both Auður and GDRN. GDRN won four awards at the Icelandic Music Awards 2018 for her debut album ‘Hvað ef’ (‘What If’) and quickly established herself as one of the most talented emerging artists in Iceland. Simultaneously she played a leading role in changing the boys club that had defined the rap and hip hop scene in Iceland for years, collaborating with many of the boys that had been leading that scene. GDRN is a grounded, ambitious and professional young artist.

Auður

Auður’s last album, ‘Afsakanir’ was my favourite Icelandic album of 2018. Auður is extremely talented, ambitious and creative and he strikes me as an artist who goes to great lengths to give his fans the best experience possible at his live shows. To no



surprise, he and GDRN are collaborators and together the two have been at the forefront of the new Icelandic R&B scene, managing to melt cold hearts with their intimate lyrics and late-night sounds.

Ólöf Arnalds

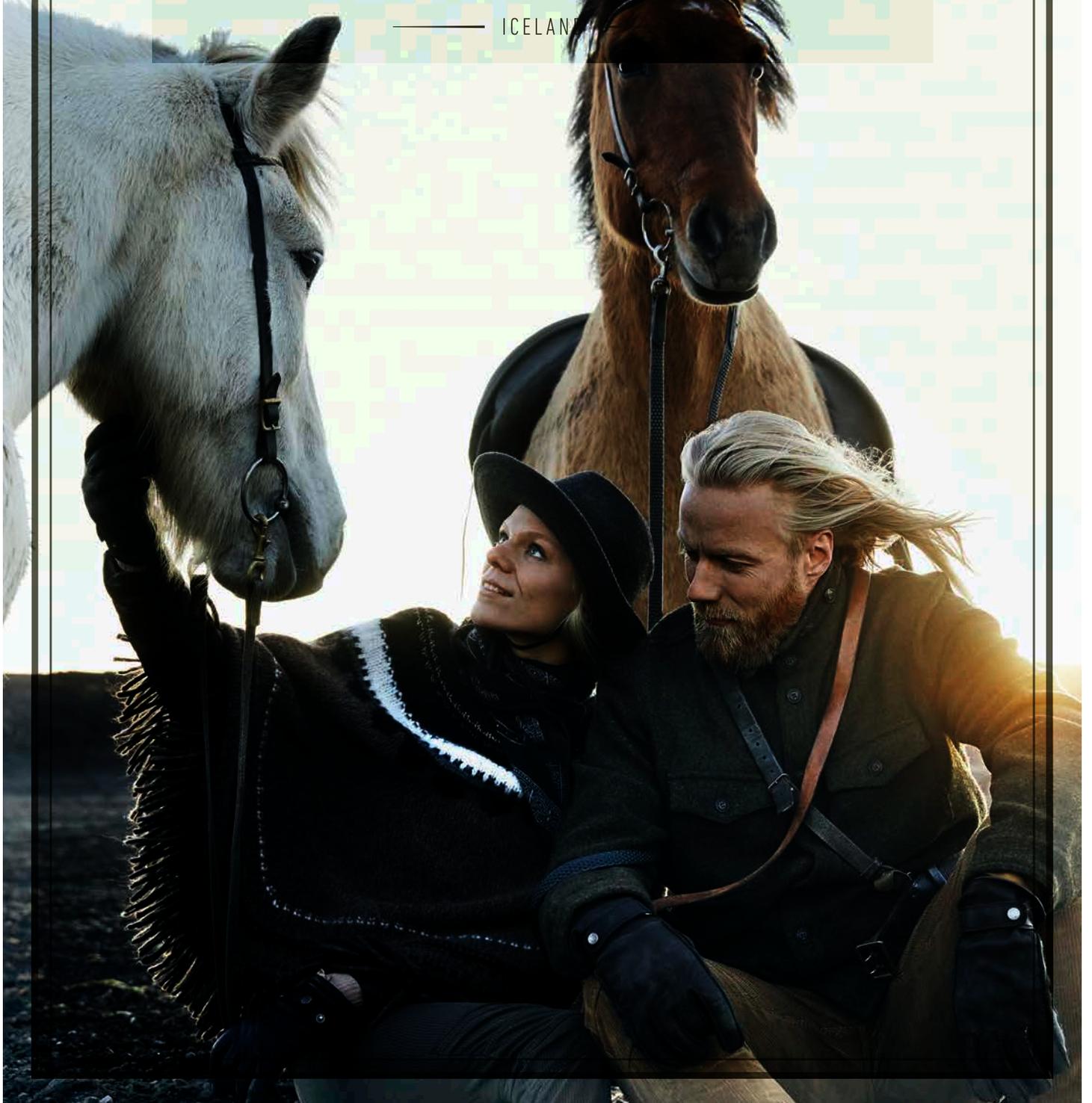
I have been a fan of Ólöf Arnalds since she released her debut album ‘Við og við’ (‘Now and Then’) back in 2007 and I remember seeing her playing an Airwaves off-venue show then and being totally captured by her songs, the beautiful lyrics and unique voice. About two years ago, I saw her playing at the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles along with a band comprised of Skúli Sverrisson, Ólafur Björn Ólafsson, Gyða Valtýsdóttir and more and the audience was totally enthralled, thanking her with a standing ovation. It was one of the nicest concert experiences I’ve ever had and obviously I’m really excited to see what she does at Iceland Airwaves this year.

Mac DeMarco

His laid back, slow rock music with vintage but still somehow progressive feel to it, makes

Farmers Market

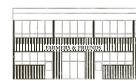
— ICELAND —



OUR STORES IN REYKJAVÍK: FARMERS & FRIENDS



Laugavegur 37



Hólmaslóð 2 / Grandi

WWW.FARMERSMARKET.IS

Mac DeMarco the perfect opposite of over-the-top commercial pop that we are flooded with in mainstream media today. I enjoy his simplicity, low fidelity and wacky humour that is greatly depicted in his insane videos.

Logi Pedro

Logi Pedro Stefánsson has created, produced, or championed many of the biggest acts in Icelandic hip hop, co-founded label Les Frères Stefson, created the 101derland studio, and, oh wait, did we forget Retro Stefson?

GDRN

GDRN is a huge talent. She's been recording her newest album here in 101derland and it's really good. The thing about GDRN is she's doing exactly what she wants to do and isn't just chasing what's hot right now. Everything she does is completely GDRN.



una schram

una schram is another huge talent. She was in a program called SNÆLDA that Unnsteinn, JFDR, a girl called Valdís, and I did together. It was a masterclass for women in music between 16 and 20, where we taught them the ropes of producing and song-writing and more. She's very cool and I really like what she's putting out.

Loah

Loah is an Irish singer/songwriter that I met in Sierra Leone. We were there together to work



on some music with a bunch of British, Irish, Icelandic, and Sierra Leonean artists. She's a solo pop artist that is, once again, a great talent.

SIGGY

SIGGY is a half-Icelandic singer/songwriter that lives in LA. She actually recorded a lot of songs in the 101derland. She makes futuristic R&B that is great.

Tim Pogo

Tim Pogo is has been kicking around Airwaves pretty much since its inception. This will be his 20th Airwaves, the first being in 2000, and he's been covering the festival for various American media outlets and radio stations ever since.

Seabear

While the very idea behind Airwaves is to showcase new and up-and-coming talent from Iceland and around the globe, I'd be lying if I didn't say that old favourite Seabear is who I'm most excited to see. This band has always embodied a quintessential Icelandic sound. Bright, catchy and melodic indie pop, I can't get enough. Having gone their separate ways eight years ago, the band is back together and say their Airwaves set will include mostly old favourites from their two previous releases, as well as a few new tracks from the album that they are currently recording...which makes me elated.

Orville Peck

There's a pattern I seem to notice each year at Airwaves, and that's the inclusion of an international band/artist that I'd gotten into at some point during the year and am excited to see in the intimate Airwaves setting. This year, that artist is Orville Peck. Part cowboy, part Johnny Cash, part Roy Orbison, the Canadian

artist made his debut just this year and has already attracted a whirlwind of attention thanks to his anonymity, mysterious alter ego, soaring melodies, and hypnotising ballads. From behind a mask—which is like a glamorous Lone Ranger—his baritone pipes croon over a hollow-bodied guitar sound that's synonymous with classic country music.

Between Mountains

Perhaps my favourite part of Airwaves is discovering something new, which typically comes in one of two forms: the first is being tipped off to a new artist or collaboration which has come to fruition since the previous Airwaves festival. The other is coming across an act that played the previous year, but that I had missed for one reason or another—nobody can get around to seeing everything! This is a case of the latter, a duo was not on my radar screen in 2017, and in 2018 I happened to walk into Gamla Bió during their last song. This time, I will make no mistake and will catch Between Mountains' entire set.

Warmland

One of my favourite releases out of Iceland so far this year has been 'Unison Love' from Warmland. I did mentioned that I'm old school, right? Or, maybe more accurately, I'm one of the Airwaves regulars who is decidedly old. But I've been a fan of Arnar Guðjónsson and Hrafn Thoroddsen, since they were in Leaves and Emsími, respectively. As a team, they've compiled a solid set of synth pop gems and I can't wait to hear them played live.

Lord Pusswhip

The works of Lord Pusswhip are best described as unpredictable. Over the years, his sound has me-

andered all over the spectrum—from laid back vapourwave to post-emo weirdo hip hop punk. He also was a Grapevine intern.

una schram: Lawful Good

Since Aron Can, Flóni and Birnir blessed us with some fresh new waves a couple years back, I've not really heard a lot of R&B that has managed to touch the strings of my heart—that is to say until I heard una schram's stuff. It's really vibes-ey and feels quite effortless. R&B requires a certain sweet spot that not everyone can manage to hit. Maybe you'll go to this show, sip some rosé and meet your future lover or some shit!

Krabba Mane: Chaotic Good

Starting off as a druggy punky kid hustling his beat cds around the city, this kid went from posting up with his desktop computer at the local vinyl store to make beats all day, to becoming one of the greatest rappers to ever do it in the country. Real frenetic energy and sick breath control coming from some wheezy pipes. Real heads will relate to this one.

Auður: Neutral Good

The man's talent is undeniable and he's a total virtuoso. Auður is the Prince-esque level mad genius Iceland has been waiting for and he has really come into his own in the past couple of years, making moves abroad as well as in Iceland. A thousand Pusswhip dollars to whoever can rip his shirt off at the climax of his show. I bet he'll enjoy that... or not, depending on who's doing the ripping. 🍆



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- everyone



FRAKKASTÍGUR 16, MELHAGI 22, FÁKAFEN 11, AKRABRAUT 1 & HLEMMUR MATHÖLL



1 Dillon
Laugavegur 30



First floor: Whiskey bar. Second floor: Reykjavik's most intimate rock venue. Grab a finger and get ready to get loud. Warning: For popular bands, this place can get pretty crowded. For earlier gigs, it's rather cosy.

Capacity: TBA
Accessibility: Limited. Stairs to main entrance.

2 Frikirkjan
Frikirkjuvegur 5



This beautiful, traditional wooden church has some of the best acoustics in the city. It's particularly lovely for a classical show. There's no bar though. Thanks, Jesus.

Capacity: 500
Accessibility: Limited. Steps to entrances.

3 Camla Bió
Ingólfsstræti 2a



This cinema-cum-theatre-cum-Airwaves-venue plays host to some of the fanciest rock and rap shows you'll ever see. Under the high, ornate ceilings is a large standing area for rowdy folk, with comfy balcony seating for you old people.

Capacity: 800
Accessibility: Good. Balcony with elevator.

Meet The Venues

Words: Hannah Jane Cohen Photos: Art Bicnick

The venues of Iceland Airwaves shift like the seasons. Places appear, disappear, and subsequently reappear years later only to disappear again. This year's iteration is no different, with some venues lost (RIP Harpa), some venues gained (the sports arena...yeah...), and a few strong newcomers making the list (hey, Miami). So here you go, this year's 12 official and on-venue venues (i.e. the ones you will need wristbands for):

4 Gaukurinn
Tryggvagata 22



The unofficial capital of Reykjavík's queer and alt-scene, Gaukurinn is a grungy, dark venue with sticky floors and a legendary smoking area. There are also gender neutral bathrooms, free tampons, and—during the day—a fantastic vegan café.

Capacity: 350

Accessibility: Limited. Stairs to 2nd floor.

5 Hard Rock Café
Lækjargata 2a



Don't judge. While the upstairs might be filled with greasy sliders and a framed case containing Lemmy's favourite toothpick, the basement is actually a fantastic venue with a big stage and great light show.

Capacity: 350

Accessibility: Good

6 Valshöllin
Hlíðarendi



Ah, the sports arena. It's back. Not the most charming locale, but certainly the biggest. The venue will only be open on Saturday, and probably ridiculously crowded for the Of Monsters And Men show. Arrive early and wear comfortable shoes.

Capacity: 3250

Accessibility: Good

7 Hressingarskálinn
(Hressó) Austurstræti 20



This old school normcore institution recently underwent a massive renovation and re-branding. This'll be their first Airwaves as a hip young spot and we're anxious to see how it goes. Don't miss their massive smoking area—it's fucking heated.

Capacity: 200

Accessibility: Good

8 Iðnó
Vonarstræti 3



In the last few years, IÐNÓ has been reborn as ground zero for Reykjavík's arts community. It's got great acoustics, a substantial stage, fashionable people, and ample room to dance. The bar can get rather crowded, though.

Capacity: 350

Accessibility: Good

9 KEX Hostel
Skúlagata 28



KEX Hostel has always had a prolific "off-venue" program, but this year, they're official. Come for an excellent beer-selection and intimate concert area. For popular acts, expect it to be standing room only.

Capacity: 300

Accessibility: Limited

10 Kornhlaðan
Bankastræti 2



Technically a banquet hall, Kornhlaðan is a new addition to this year's venue roster. The old-school wooden attic doesn't usually host concerts, but it's a charming locale, reminiscent of the Reykjavík of old.

Capacity: TBA

Accessibility: Good

11 Miami Bar
Hverfisgata 33



Miami is another new addition to the venue list. If you're looking to feel like an extra in 'Scarface'—minus the cocaine—this would be the place to do it. They haven't built their reputation on putting on shows, so this'll be their chance to prove themselves.

Capacity: TBA

Accessibility: Good

12 Reykjavík Art Museum
Tryggvagata 17



This beloved venue's architecture walks the line between prison-block and aesthetic masterpiece. They've got fantastic acoustics, super fancy bathrooms, and a high-class aura that'll make you feel like a true music connoisseur. Queue up early.

Capacity: 1000

Accessibility: Good. Balcony on 2nd floor with elevator. ♿





Boiling Over

Of Monsters and Men are back with their enigmatic, ethereal effort 'Fever Dream'

Words: **Hannah Jane Cohen** Photos: **Rut Sigurðardóttir**

"We've never been as excited to share something with people," says Ragnar Þórhallsson, smiling broadly as he sips his coffee. Ragnar—better known as Raggi—is referring to 'Fever Dream,' the newest album from Of Monsters and Men, the band in which he sings and plays guitar.

The band's other singer and guitarist, Nanna Bryndís Hilmarsdóttir, is no less enthused. "Fever dream," she states simply. "That's what these two or three years have been while writing the album. That's what

the process was like." She pauses. "For us, it's a fever dream."

The dream team

The two burst out laughing at the cheesiness of using the album's title in such a lofty statement. It's just the way Raggi and Nanna interact. They talk with a familiarity more common among siblings, finishing each other's sentences, peppering their thoughts with inside jokes, and ripping on each other in the way only those who've spent too much time together can.

It's easy to imagine why. Over the past ten years, the two, along with their three bandmates, have achieved something most can only dream of. They've travelled the world, had a number one single, and made a name for themselves internationally as one of the foremost bands in their genre. With an uncanny ability to mix the Icelandic krútt sensibility with earworm melodies, Of Monsters and Men found a niche that has captivated listeners around the world.

Now, after a three year writing period, they're entering the next stage of their takeover.

No limits

'Fever Dream' is a coalescence of everything the band learned from their first two efforts. It continues the electronic progression started on 'Beneath the Skin' whilst returning to the fun and whimsical feeling of 'My Head Is an Animal.' A whirlwind of ethereal electron-

ica mixed with stadium rock, with nods to their more acoustic roots, it's a new angle for the group. It's Of Monsters and Men at their most weird, but also at their most alluring.

"It's playful," grins Nanna. She attributes this to how they wrote and recorded the album, which was a drastic departure from their first two. "We got rid of how we've always done things, and our roles within the band. How we wrote the first two albums was writing something on an acoustic guitar and then bringing it into the space, and moulding it together. Going into the third, I thought 'I can't do this again.' It didn't feel inspiring."

"You limit yourself," Raggi adds. "It limits you to the guitar you have in your hand. For the two of us, we're not amazing instrumentalists," he laughs. "We need more time. So for this, we wrote more on our laptops."

Nanna nods. "Instead of just having a piano or guitar, you

“A fever dream—that’s what these two or three years have been.”

can say, ‘I am going to make this rhythm, or loop this thing, or chop up this vocal,’” she says. “It gives you a new way to find that ‘Oh, that’s interesting!’ feeling.”

“We opened up the process,” Raggi concludes. “It opened up a whole new world for us.”

Shining stars

Writing separately using computer software allowed for the creation of more varied songs, and freed the band up to play with structure and tone. “There are songs with no guitar in them, because that’s what the song was meant to be,” Nanna explains. “If we’d recorded together in person, we’d say, ‘Oh, but I’m a guitar player, the piece has to have guitar.’ So it’s things like that which changed it.”

Changing up their writing process also allowed the band to progress lyrically. “We separated a bit,” Raggi adds. “We’ve done a lot of the lyrics together, which is fun, but it does limit you in how deep you go personally.”

“We let each other have our own space,” Nanna agrees. “Before, I think we were always trying to fit each other into the song.” She pauses, looking to Raggi for an explanation. “It’s something that we changed,” he adds. “We’ve always believed that everyone has to be involved in everything, everyone has to have a voice.” Nanna smiles. “We’re super democratic.”

Jettisoning the idea of pleasing everyone at all times turned out to be useful. “Sometimes when you do that, everything mushes into something that’s in the middle,” says Raggi. “But on ‘Fever Dream’ there are more moments when people shine by themselves.”

A proper rock anthem

The first single from the album, “Alligator,” is a case in point. The song puts Nanna’s voice front and centre in a haze of guitars, thumping drums, and fierce, gasping vocals. To put it

bluntly: It’s a proper rock anthem. With such a desperate, clawing feel, it’s hard to believe this is the same band propelled to fame by “Little Talks.”

The video is just as intense. Featuring the band in person—an unusual departure for the group, who usually animate their videos—the video features Nanna’s dismembered head growing alligator-like tendrils, while the rest of the band resides in creepy masks. Is this really the same band who used to sing about forests?

We’re actors now?

“At the beginning, we were horrible at being in videos,” Raggi admits. “We’re musicians and all of a sudden, we’re supposed to be actors as well?”

“I did act in the video though, I knocked on a door,” he continues. “What you don’t know is that in every scene in every movie, there’s like 50 people staring at the actor. Is the light good? Is his makeup good? He’s just there knocking on a door.” Raggi shakes his head. “How do they do that?”

For Nanna, the video was an equally intense and hilarious experience. “I had to crawl on the floor,” she adds, a small

smile lighting up her face. “When you’re crawling on the floor in front of a camera, it’s a lot.”

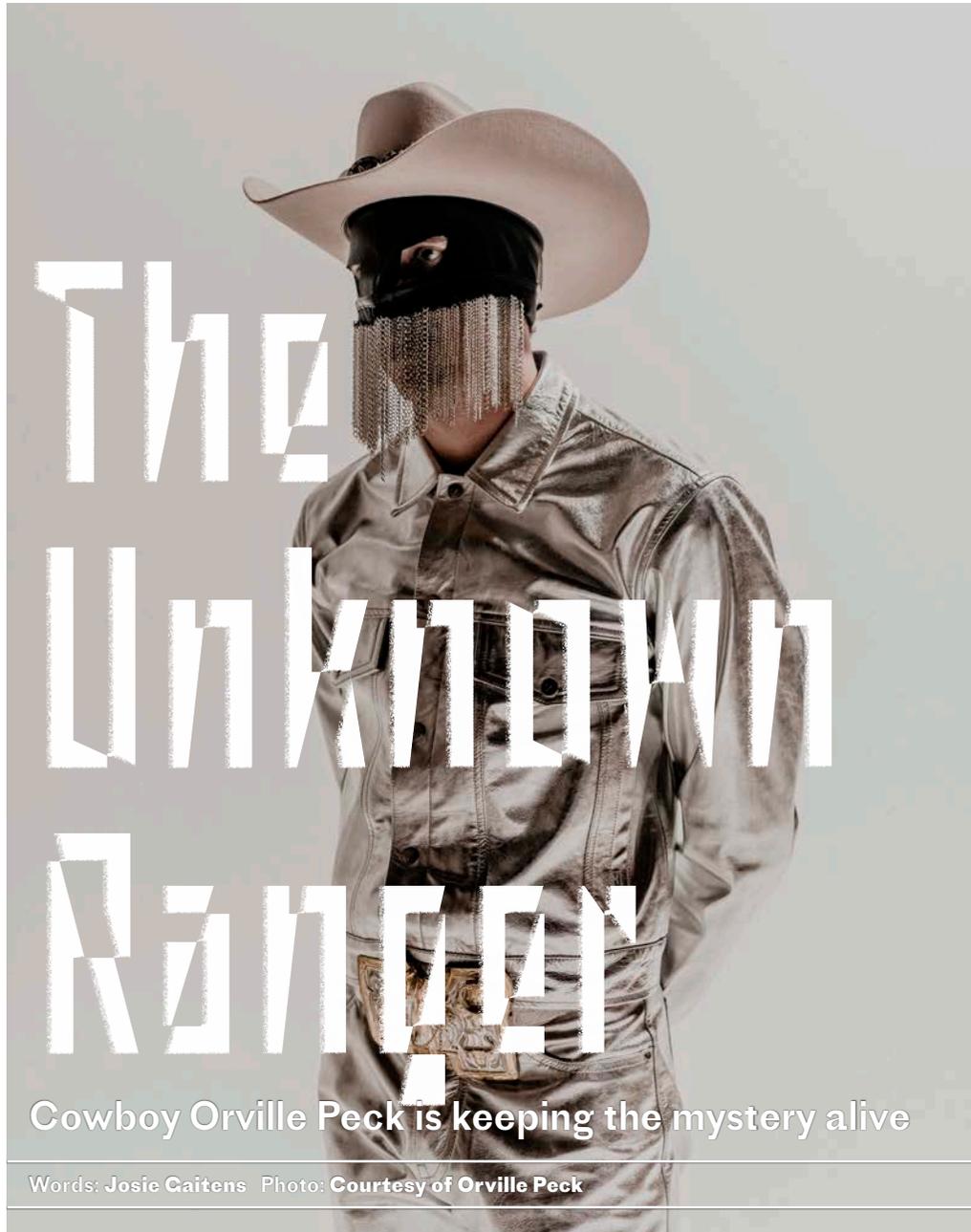
Waiting with bated breath

But making the video was only one step toward what they are really excited for, their current world tour, which will feature a homecoming show at Airwaves. “We haven’t played in three years,” Nanna says, incredulous. “This album was such a process to make. It’s taken a long time. We wanted to get it really right, but it feels good to finally be at this point.”

“We’re just waiting to play it live,” Raggi adds. The two look at each other fondly—the familial bond they share resurfacing as they look together towards their future. “We’ve been rehearsing.” He pauses, a mischievous look painting his face. In typical Raggi and Nanna fashion, he can’t help but end with a joke. “We’ve been playing our old songs, and we still remember them,” he grins. “So that’s a great start.”

Of Monsters and Men
SAT 8th, 23:45, Valshöllin





Cowboy Orville Peck is keeping the mystery alive

Words: **Josie Caitens** Photo: **Courtesy of Orville Peck**

Orville Peck has a lot of thoughts about identity, which you might

“[Country music] takes on those kinds of things which are hugely millennial dilemmas.”

consider odd coming from a masked, pseudonym-adopting country musician, who never plans on revealing his. The masks—somewhere between Zorro and The Lone Ranger with a significant hint of BDSM and long, colourful fringing—are handmade by Orville himself. In addition to the ubiquitous mask, the musician is always carefully turned out in a variety of cowboy motifs; light wash denim jeans,

calf-skin waistcoats, intricately-decorated suits in bright, jew-

el colours. And of course a wide-brimmed stetson, under which Orville's piercing blue eyes, the only really identifiable part of his person, peer out.

It's not hard to see why many people have described his look, name, and overall act as a stage 'persona'. But this idea is one that Orville strongly rejects:

“I don't really think of it as a persona because the music is all personal and all sincere,” He says.

“Everything I sing about is based on my past or things I've experienced or things I go through.”

The unavoidable loneliness of living

The music behind the man is just as important in drawing in fans and is as rich in intrigue and imagery as his visual presentation. Orville's voice is deep and mellifluous. Such is the timbre and resonance of his singing style, it has been compared to that of the iconic Elvis Presley on numerous occasions. But it's the artist's songwriting and lyrical prowess that seem to be the most addicting to his fans. Orville's songs are vulnerable, full of longing, hope and hopelessness, love lost and never gained in the first place. The universal theme of the unavoidable loneliness of living is

one that speaks to a huge number of people who find themselves touched by Orville's music.

Camp technicolour glory

Orville Peck has only very recently burst onto the scene in all his technicolour, camp, glory. His debut album, *Pony*, released in January, has already garnered him a huge following, with Orville being able to count Iggy Pop, k.d. lang, Paris Hilton and Trixie Mattel as part of his diverse and rapidly expanding fan base. Along with this explosive success has come bookings for many major festivals, including Iceland's own Airwaves festival held in November this year. Already this year, Orville has performed at the Calgary Stampede, had a feature in *Vogue* magazine and played to thousands of (self-named) 'Peck Heads' at sold out shows across the US and Canada.

Music for the lost generation

It doesn't come as a surprise to Orville Peck that country music is making a sudden comeback. Alongside his recent popularity there has been the success of 'Old Town Road' by Lil Nas X, which, at time of writing, has held the number one position in the American charts for a consecutive 14 weeks. For Orville, there is a clear reason why the music that many previous generations of young people had deemed passé is finding a somewhat spiritual revival in the current day and age.

“I think [country music is] taking things like loneliness or anxiety or feeling unsettled or not really having a purpose where you are—I think it's taking on those kinds of things which are hugely millennial dilemmas, you know what I mean? Our generation goes through those questions all the time but it's kind of taking those and flipping it and finding the adventure and the freedom in it. I just think it's exciting. It's kind of like reclaiming the power within that.”

Orville Peck
WED 6th 22:10, Reykjavík Art Museum

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Flow State

Hrím is ready to thrill at Iceland Airwaves.

Words: Josie Gaitens

Photo: Provided by Hrím



“For a long time, this project has been extremely self-indulgent,” admits Ösp Eldjárn, somewhat bashfully. The project in question is Hrím, a collaboration between herself and fellow musicians Anil Sebastian and Cherif Hashizume. Musically, they bring together a variety of different styles, creating a unique sound that matches traditional Icelandic poetry with electronic soundscapes and orchestral swoops.

The band performed a small run of gigs in 2016, but have since appeared to be dormant to outside eyes. The announcement that Hrím will play their

“We’re not going to go back to just being nerdy in a basement making weird noises.”

first Icelandic gig as part of this year’s Iceland Airwaves festival (coupled with the release of a handful of new singles), has thrust them back into public awareness. Despite the apparent stasis, Ösp reassures that plenty has been going on below the surface. “We’ve been creating music in this kind of flow

state, just improvising and doing a jam session, basically,” she explains. “We reflect on it and take pieces that were good and somehow we create songs.”

Diverse backgrounds

Despite their limited output, Hrím have managed to craft a

distinctive sound, one that cohesively reflects the individual influences and backgrounds of each band member. Ösp, who is originally from Svarfaðardalur, grew up surrounded by folk and traditional music and poetry, before going on to study both classical and jazz singing.

While completing her studies in London, she met the leader of London Contemporary Voices, Anil Sebastian. “We had the same approach to singing and we just felt like we needed to work together,” she says. Cherif, an electronic artist and producer, joined later. “He came in kind of as the third element and he brought in the soundscape thing which is another layer of our sound.” Cherif is a long-time collaborator of Jon Hopkins, co-producing his hit single ‘Emerald Rush’ that was released last year.

Making time

In fact, all three artists have a sparkling roster of former collaborators, albeit from quite different musical circles. Ösp predominantly performs her own acoustic folk compositions, but she was previously a member of Icelandic bluegrass group Brother Grass. Anil, on the other hand, has worked with the likes of Guy Sigsworth, Imogen Heap and Manu Delago.

Ösp recognises that their busy work schedules and other projects have held them back from investing more time in Hrím. However, the opportunity to play at Airwaves has been the push they have been looking for to commit to launching the group as a fully-fledged act. “We have more music that we have been writing as well, so we just want this set to be out and then we can continue,” she says. “We’re not going to go back to just being nerdy in a basement somewhere making weird noises.” 🍷

Hrím
WED 6th 20:20, Gaukurinn
THU 7th 20:50, Frikkirkjan

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Airwaves Debutantes

What's new and who's who at Airwaves 2019

Words: **Valur Grettisson, Lea Müller, Hannah Jane Cohen & Sam O'Donnell**
Photos: **Hörður Sveinsson**

Iceland Airwaves built its reputation as a destination festival not by booking loads of big names, but because it's the single best place to see the freshest faces on the Icelandic music scene. This year, 32 bands will play Airwaves for the very first time—here's our guide to what's new and who's who amongst this year's festival debutantes.

Ásta

Now, this is one to look out for. Ásta (Kristín Þjetursdóttir) is a young folk music artist with a unique voice akin to Joni Mitchell or Joan Baez. She competed in the legendary music competition Músiktilraunir earlier this year and got all the way to the finals. There, she was awarded especially for her lyrics, which are all in Icelandic. We can



vouch for them, though—they are pretty good. “Sykurbad” is a particular favourite. Ásta has also performed as a soloist with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra on the viola. If that doesn't give you an edge, nothing will. **VG**

Blóðmör

A heavy, distorted guitar riff. Subtle but pervasive bass. Drums that keep a strict beat. A lyrical phrase repeated in rough vocals. This is the formula Blóðmör—Icelandic for “blood pudding”—uses to craft their music, and it is delicious. Each of their songs still sound unique, though, and despite the skeleton on their cover art that indicates heavy metal, Blóðmör defies the genre. They are most definitely heavy metal, but while many artists go for an evil sound, Blóðmör embodies mischief. The winners of Músiktilraunir, Iceland's Battle of the Bands competition, the band brings this mischief to their live act. No wonder they won. **SPO**

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Frid



name of Tumi Hrannar Pálmasson, a multi-instrumentalist from Akureyri. He recently put together a band with Guðjón Andri Jónsson on the keys, Hafsteinn Davíðsson on the drums, and Jóhannes Stefánsson on electric guitar. They just released a new song, “Smooth Talking Fiber,” which utilises blues and jazz scales to make something that sounds like old rock and roll. It’s catchy. It’s fun. It’s not to be missed. **SPO**

Flekar

You owe it to yourself to check out this lo-fi indie pop group. Characterised by deep, smooth vocals and dark lyrics, Flekar writes music perfect for daydreaming. The clean guitar picks out a harmonic melody to accompany the vocals, which is backed up by a keyboard, drums, and bass. There is also a tambourine. What’s not to love? **SPO**

Frid

Self-produced musician Frid has a sombre pop sound. Her enchanting voice echoes through her tracks, which are punctuated by a heavy beat and invigorated by wavy synths. A relative new-

comer, she broke into the music scene in 2018 with her single, “I Know,” which was accompanied by a mesmerising music video. She also released two new singles this year, with “Touch” dropping first in March, and “I Won’t” in September. **SPO**

Elín Sif

Elín is perhaps best known for her brilliant performance in the Icelandic movie ‘Lof mér að falla’ (‘Let Me Fall’), in which she played the drug addict Magnea. Besides being a promising actress, she is also a very talented singer and songwriter. After being the youngest participant in Söngvakeppnin, she produced several singles with the band Náttól and is about to release her debut solo album this fall. Her songs are the kind of feel-good indie-pop that instantly lifts your spirit, like the title of her popular tune, “Make You Feel Better,” suggests. She usually keeps things simple—her soft but memorable voice accompanied by guitar, without many frills. Get ready to daydream. **LM**

Hrím

The music of Hrím is deeply at-

mospheric, with soaring vocals and edgy builds that are darkly satisfying. The group is a collaboration between singer Ösp Eldjárn. Anil Sebastian and Cherif Hashizume. Musically, they bring together a variety of different styles, creating a unique sound that matches traditional Icelandic poetry with electronic soundscapes and orchestral swoops. Marrying traditional folk singing with electronic beats and synthy goodness is a tried and tested recipe. They’re definitely not to be missed at Airwaves this year. **JG**

Konfekt

This is a newcomer to watch. The indie band Konfekt only formed in 2018 and consists of three gifted young women from Selt-

tious glamour standards of the music industry. **LM**

Krabba Mane

Don’t be fooled by the adorable baby staring back at you from Krabba Mane’s album cover. If you find yourself in a passive-aggressive mood most of your waking hours, Krabba Mane’s rap will certainly resonate with you. The artist likes to perform shirtless and show off his tattoos, so if you dig bare skin and the Icelandic-Underground-Rap, don’t miss out on his performance. **LM**

Krassasig

One half of art-pop duo Munster, Kristinn Arnar Sigurðsson’s solo project, Krassasig, creates bright, breezy and amiable pop

tunes. With a clattering rhythm, bassy pulses, chill guitar strums, and catchy vocals, it’s the kind of music that’ll bring you back to the sunshine of summer. Check out his debut hit “Brjóta Heilann” for reference. He doesn’t have anything else currently released, but we’re waiting with bated breath. **JR/HJC**



jarnarnes, whose voices complement each other beautifully. The lead singer, Anna Ingibjörg Þorgeirsdóttir, also plays the piano and is accompanied by Stefanía Helga Sigurðardóttir on the guitar. The drums, played by Eva Kolbrún Kolbeins, are especially prominent throughout their songs. They all seem refreshingly down-to-earth and have shot a hilarious cover in their rain gear that looks like they’re on a school trip, ignoring all preten-

cent musical output caters first and foremost to the dark souls among us. Don’t be too quick to judge, though, as his music is anything but one-dimensional. Yes, many of his songs involve heavy screaming, but you shouldn’t dismiss him for it. His 22 (!!!) minute long English/Icelandic song “Celestia” starts on a soft note, including a piano, a guitar solo and his 5-year old daughter singing along in the melancholic chorus. And then

Ragnar Zolberg (ex Sign)

Ragnar’s re-

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**JOE & THE JUICE / ICELAND
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Krassasig



there are his acoustic versions, which are surprisingly heartfelt and touching. Give this man a chance. His set will surely be a bag of surprises. **LM**

Hípsumhaps

Hípsumhaps—the duo of Jökull Breki Arnarson and Fannar Ingi Friðþjófsson—burst onto the scene only months ago with a slew of popular singles, including “Lífið sem mig langar í” and “Honný,” which preceded the release of their first album, ‘Best Gleymdu Leyndarmálin’ (‘Best Forgotten Secrets’) on September 22nd. Their mix of dreamy, lo-fi indie laced guitar-driven pop is irresistibly catchy. ‘Best Gleymdu Leyndarmálin’ is the perfect album to play whether you’re at a chill party or driving down Sæbraut

Tómas Welding



at 21:00 in the evening in an intense downpour. **SR**

ROKKY

ROKKY is a multicultural

house-monster with roots in Iceland. Like all creatures of the night, she is Icelandic, was raised in England, and is also a resident of France and Germany—everyone knows real vampires live in Berlin. It’s not hard to find the European house influences in her music: it’s a playful combination of electronic, pop and those rough Berlin club techno vibes. All of this, combined with a golden glittery dress, and you’ve got a delicious cold climate sound with a hot beat. The songstress has also been making an international splash—Esprit used one of her songs in their autumn line advertisement last year. So dress nicely, but according to the weather. **VG**

SIGGY

Icelandic-born SIGGY relocated to L.A. and is definitely on her way up. She is already collaborating with the likes of Printz Board, who formerly worked with The Black Eyed Peas. In her

Friðjóns has got you covered. The songs on her new album ‘Enclose’ are beautifully otherworldly and almost spine-chilling. It’s hard to put her music in a genre, but we’d perhaps best describe it as experimental classic. **LM**

Tómas Welding

Are you optimistic by nature? In love? Do you believe in unicorns? Boy, do we have the pop act for you. Tómas Welding is what we’d imagine would be produced if chocolate cake had offspring with a lollipop: sugary, sweet and slick as hell. But rest assured, he has a great voice and solid EDM composition. His upcoming album is a collaboration between Tómas and his producer, Pálmi from Rok Records—the one that brought you brilliant pop acts like Glowie and Briet. So saddle up that unicorn and ride into the sugary sunset with your anime sparkling eyes. Doesn’t that feel good? **VG**

Flekar



una schram

In the sea of Reykjavík rap and indie, una schram has brought something new to the table: pop R&B. Her works pin powerful, rife-with-riffs vocals in the vein of Ariana Grande over lush, smooth, contemporary beats, ultimately creating a delicious melange of old and new. Her tracks are the type it’s almost impossible not to sway to. Don’t believe us? Check out her debut EP ‘energy’—the five songs will get you higher than Nocco, we promise. **HJC**

Valborg Ólafs

debut single “Never Did I,” the singer songwriter brings back the long-lost quality R&B vibe you thought had died. Trust us, see her now. You might have to pay a lot of money if you wait too long. **LM**

After her breakthrough with the band My Lovely Lion in 2012, Valborg Ólafs is now back with her solo debut. Her songs are strongly inspired by the south coast of Iceland and the forces of nature surrounding her home there. Her voice is mature and very comforting, so if you’re feeling homesick and seeking comfort, this is the artist to see. **LM** 🍷

Sunna Friðjóns

If you’re fantasizing about living in a Lord-of-the-Rings-like world full of elves, trolls and other magical creatures, Sunna



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**“In the
midst of
a nuclear
winter, it’s
easy to
think about
nothing”**

It’s JóiPé’s 19th birthday. Or at least, it will be in 24 hours, the young artist—real name Jóhannes Damian Patreksson—explains quietly. Next to him, restlessly shaking his leg, sits his musical partner Króli—real name Kristinn Óli Haraldsson. Exactly a month after Jói’s birthday, Kristinn will turn 20.

No egos

“But I don’t like birthdays,” Kristinn interjects, shaking his head. “I’ve never actually held a birthday party. It’s egocentric.” Jói nods. “It’s stressful,” he adds in his trademark baritone, his gaze averted.

It’s a surprising statement from the two, who are, unequivocally, Iceland’s biggest pop culture icons of the past years. From their star-making hit “B.O.B.A.” to their best-selling album, ‘Afsakið Hlé,’ the duo of JóiPé & Króli have become synonymous with Icelandic hip-hop and pop. Now, the two are preparing to drop their third album ‘Í miðjum kjarnorkuvetri’ (‘In The Middle Of A Nuclear Winter’).

Expect nothing

It’s a bleak title, and one that seems impossible to disentangle from the current climate of the world. That said, both musicians emphasise that the battle with this release is an internal one. “It’s been a tough album,” Jói says, while Kristinn is a bit more poetic with his take. “In the midst of a nuclear winter, it’s easy to think about nothing,” he states simply.

It’s certainly a dark ideology, but, as Kristinn acknowledges, the album contains darkness. “Your own nuclear winter is only the biggest nuclear winter you’re ever going to go through because



**JóiPé & Króli survived their prolific rise,
now they’ll tackle nuclear winter**

Words: **Hannah Jane Cohen** Photo: **Einar Snorri**

you don’t see the clouds over anyone else’s head, just the clouds over your own,” he says. “Aren’t we all going through something? Some hide it better than others, cope with it or work through it, but we’re all just trying to do our best, even when we’re having mental issues or going through a rough patch.”

For Kristinn, all listeners can do is to tune in. “I think it’s best—not just for an album, but for anything in life—to expect nothing,” he says. “Then you’re never disappointed, and if it’s good you are surprised in a good way.”

The flute prodigy

The album doesn’t have an official release date, but will drop whenever they feel like the time

is right. In the meantime, Jói is fully focused on finishing school. “I’m studying fine art, finishing in the end of October. I paint,” he explains.

Kristinn smirks. “He also plays the pan-flute. He’s quite amazing.” Jói’s face remains deadpan—a harsh contrast to the big grin on Kristinn’s face.

“No, I don’t,” Jói states softly.

Free-falling

It’s at moments like this that the brotherly bond between the two musicians shines. What’s on the horizon, though, is unclear.

“When he’s out of school and the album we’ve been making for a year and a half is out, we’re kind of in a free-falling mood. It’s like letting a baby go,” Kristinn says. “So maybe, we’ll do

some old people stuff once our baby is grown up. We’ll play golf for three weeks straight. Read.”

Two years longer

He smiles, but there’s an edge to his voice that betrays some sincerity. Straddling the cusp of adulthood, both artists are talented and famous. Now it’s up to them to consider what they’ll do next, together and separately.

Whatever the future holds for the two—birthdays, fame, and album releases included—hopefully it won’t involve another nuclear winter. 🍷

JóiPé & Króli
THU 7th 00:10, Iðnó
SAT 9th 22:10, Hard Rock Café

“My music is happy even though I’m sometimes talking about sad things.”

sometimes finds the whole festival thing a bit stressful. “Weirdly enough, I’m not a huge festival fan,” she says. “I love playing them but it’s a bit overwhelming. There’s so much to see, so many people to meet, a lot of drinking. It gets a bit too much for me.”

Still, she’s majorly excited to see Mac DeMarco at this year’s iteration. “I love him and I have for a long time,” she laughs. “He’s very classic.”

Other than that, it’s the Icelandic artists una will be front and centre for. “Airwaves is where Icelandic artists bring their A-game,” she says, naming Matthildur as a particular favourite.

2020 energy

“I admit, I’ve been a bit of a bitch about Icelandic music,” she concedes. “I didn’t give it a chance, you know?”

“When I became an Icelandic artist, I realised so many people in the industry are doing amazing things. I was just too cool for school and didn’t open my eyes to it.” Thankfully she did, and hopes to collaborate with more artists in the future.

una will drop a new single on October 19th and then another just two weeks later—the perfect buildup for Airwaves. She also hopes to have her debut album ready in early 2020. Until then, bump her EP on Spotify for a boost of ‘energy’—the five songs will get you higher than Nocco, we promise. 🍷

What Is My Energy?

una schram brings her pop r&b to Airwaves

Words: Hannah Jane Cohen Photo: Magnús Andersen

“Energy is something I think about a lot,” chanteuse una schram—lowercase, please—says delicately over the phone. She’s currently in Bristol, starting a B.A. in music, and won’t be back in the country until just before her Airwaves debut this November. “Thinking about what type of energy someone has, what kind of energy someone is giving me, so it made sense to call the EP ‘energy.’”

And luckily for the young artist, it turned out to be a fitting title. Because if there’s anything una’s debut release has created, it’s energy—and perhaps a distaste for capital letters.

iceland’s ariana

una grew up in downtown Reykjavik and started writing songs when she was but 10 years old. That said, she only began working seriously on her own material earlier this year, which culminated in the release of the EP in mid-May.

In the sea of Reykjavik rap and indie, una brought something new to the table: pop R&B. Her works pin powerful, rife-with-riffs vocals in the vein of Ariana Grande over lush, smooth, contemporary beats, ultimately creating a delicious melange of old and new. Her

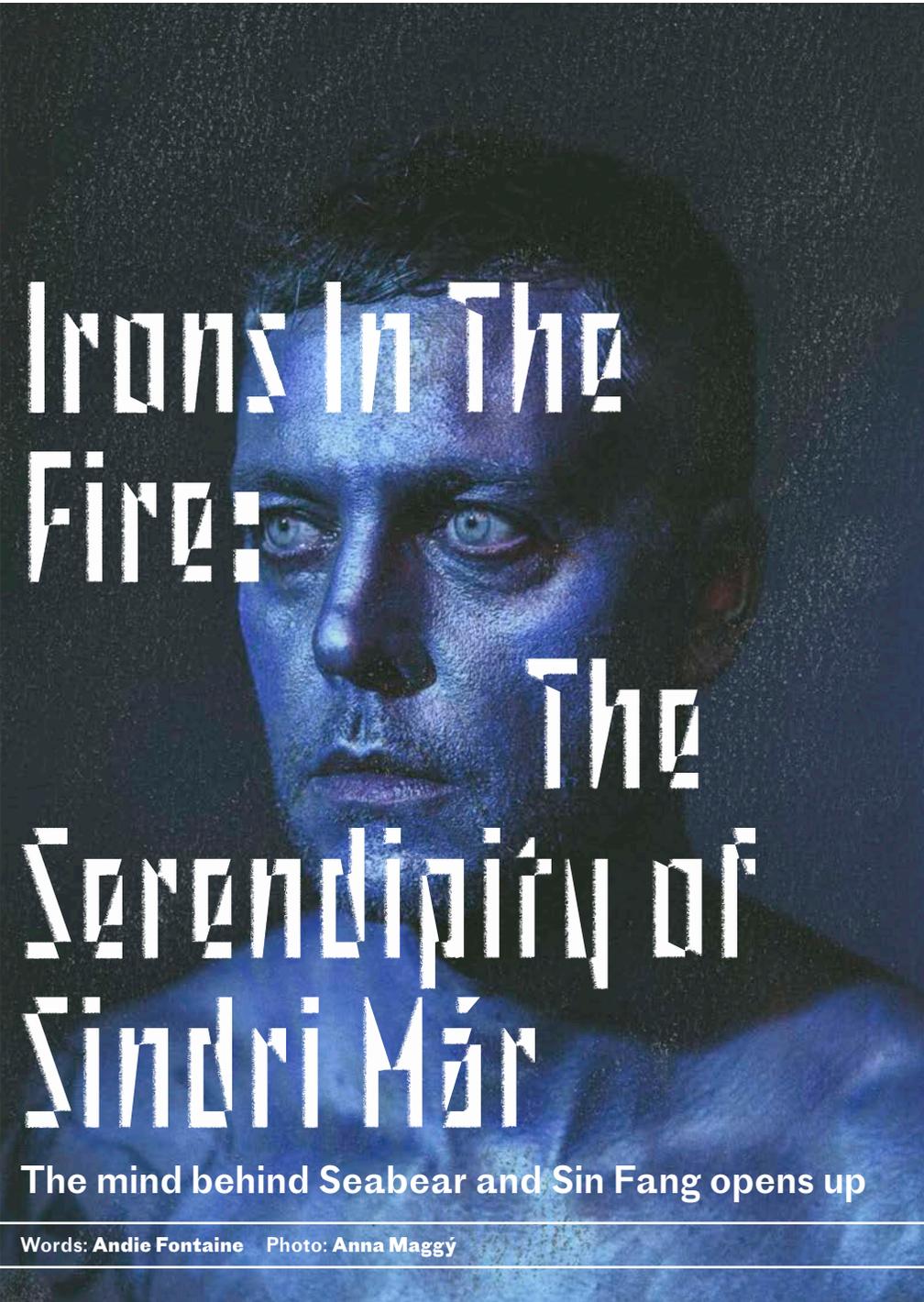
tunes are the type of tracks it’s almost impossible not to sway to.

“My music is happy, even though I’m sometimes talking about sad things,” una says. “It’s not dark, it’s light. It’s easy-going.” ‘energy’ isn’t a concept album in the traditional sense but there is a thematic thread, that of, “love, sass, and difficulties in life,” as una explains. “In most of the songs, I’m obviously singing about a love interest.”

bring your a-game

una’s excited to play her first Airwaves gig, but admits she

una schram
WED 6th 22:20, Hard Rock Café



Irons In The Fire: The Serendipity of Sindri Már

The mind behind Seabear and Sin Fang opens up

Words: Andie Fontaine Photo: Anna Maggý

In a cluttered, unassuming basement deep in the heart of West Reykjavík is the nerve centre of one of the pioneering legends of Icelandic indie music: Sindri Már Sigfússon, perhaps better known to the world as Seabear or Sin Fang. Emerging in Iceland's explosive music scene of the early 2000s, almost entirely by accident, this unassuming but uniquely talented soul got his start in the visual arts. Through a homemade EP he made more or less on a whim, he has since then been catapulted into international fame, working on everything from his own solo projects to film scores and even commercials. And he's still not finished.

Seabear, assemble!

For reasons Sindri admits he still doesn't understand, that debut EP somehow made itself into the hands of a German label called Tomlab. They released a Seabear song on one side of a 7", opposite a song from Grizzly Bear, and booked him to perform in Berlin.

There was just one problem: he now needed a band.

"At that point I wasn't around that many musicians who I knew could play with me," he says. "There was an amazing girl at my school who was a violin play-

er, so I asked her, and this friend of mine I used to skateboard with from Hafnarfjörður who I knew played guitar. It ended up being the three of us going to Berlin."

By his own account, this live show was intensely emotional, but would lead to even bigger things.

"I was so nervous, I was blackout shaking nervous," Sindri recalls. "It was a sold out crowd. It was only a few years ago that I started considering myself a musician. I've always felt like a music fan who started making music, which I guess is another word for severe imposter syndrome. At that point, having all these people working at that

"I was so nervous, I was blackout shaking nervous."

theatre, being really nice, and so many people are working around this event and I was just like, 'What am I doing here? I don't belong here. I'm not even at an amateur level musician and I'm playing in front of all these people.' But we did the show and it went pretty well. I think the extreme nervousness and amateurism helped me on stage a bit."

It helped him indeed: the show so impressed another German label, Morr Music, that they approached him about signing with them. Sindri, who knew Thom Yorke had bought Morr Music's entire catalogue, "said yes on the spot". Which meant that he had to make an album.

"I guess I'm a musician now"

Despite being one of the Icelandic indie music scene's iconic figures, Sindri did not really consider himself a musician until much later on in his career. He recalls being struck with the realisation when Seabear played Iceland Airwaves in 2009 at a packed show at Íðnó with a queue stretching down the block.

"I remember after the show I was thinking, 'I guess I'm a musician now. I'm gonna play music and people are going to see it,'" he says. "I was just so happily surprised with the way my life had turned out because I never really expected it. It was a dream that was too big for me to even think about, to be a successful musician." 

Seabear

THU 7th, 19:00, Kex Hostel

SAT 8th, 22:20, Reykjavík Art Museum

Presenting: How To Find Your Power

Alyona Alyona is at Airwaves to put on a show

Words: Hannah Jane Cohen Photo: Provided by Alyona Alyona

A smiling, female, plus-size Ukrainian rapper grooves around the stage of a big European festival. She's performing a song in Ukrainian. The crowd sways and jumps as the artist's black and purple braids swirl around her. Now she's in bumper cars, signing chests, on an airplane, and in a bathtub.

No, this isn't a pipe dream. It's the video for the track "Tomorrow" by Ukrainian rapper Alyona Alyona, who will make her Iceland Airwaves debut this year.

The vibe

"When I was 12 years old, I heard rap for the first time," Alyona Savranenko says. She's on video-chat, standing in an alleyway in Kiev, relaxing during a short break from a shoot. "I

don't know how to explain why I liked it, maybe because people can speak about so many things in one song. It has some vibe."

She shrugs and bursts into loud, boisterous laughter, shaking the phone. Though we've only been talking for a few minutes, I already low-key love her. Smiley, positive, infectious enthusiasm, Alyona's the type of person you just want to be friends with. She talks about everything with passion, so much so that I can't help but think that if she ever wants to give up music, motivational speaking might be a good fit.

Women can rap!

Alyona took up rapping in 2009 and put out her first single that same year. "It was in Ukraini-

an and about women kicking stereotypes," Alyona explains. "I talked about how all the boys would say that women can't rap, but I'm a woman who can rap. I said that women can rap and they can rap good." She grins, her cockiness shining through. But hey—she came into a boys club and ended up becoming the most famous rapper in the country. She's earned that right.

From there, Alyona started grinding, making music and occasionally playing live. It took a while, but last year, her vibe started to catch on. Her lyrics, empowering bad-bitch anthems, resonated with people, while her flow, beats, and general aura caught the attention of those who didn't understand a lick of Ukrainian. After having a few viral hits, she started

touring the festival circuit of Europe. 2019 saw her release her anticipated album 'PUSHKA' and pick up the ANCHOR award from the Reeperbahn Festival International Music Awards. Now, she'll take on Iceland.

Finding your power

"My songs are about people who don't believe in themselves, but have to believe in themselves," Alyona says, turning uncharacteristically serious for a moment. "Girls with different faces, bodies, piercings, tattoos. The new generation. I talk about my roots, my native village and my childhood." She smiles. "I talk about myself, who I am, why I am rapping, why I am a fat girl and what I think about myself."

Once again, the laughter. I don't exactly know what she's laughing at but I can't help but join in.

"All those people have something special inside them, in their soul, and that is their power. They don't have to listen to or look to other people, because other people might say bad things. They don't like your body or your face, but that's ok," she says. "You don't have to listen to them. You don't have to look like them."

Velkomin til Íslands!

After her Airwaves show, Alyona plans to spend 5 days in Iceland. Her excitement about this is adorably palpable. "Iceland is so beautiful!" she yells. "I don't mind that we will see it in November, it's ok!" A big grin takes hold of her face. "Iceland is cool in every season." 🇮🇸

Alyona Alyona

FRI 8th, 22:00, Hard Rock Café



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Soak Those Tired Bones

How to bathe in Reykjavík

Words: **Valur Grettisson & Hannah Jane Cohen**
Photos: **Art Bicnick & Anna Domnick**

*Waterfalls. Lava fields. Volcanoes. Glaciers. There are a lot of things that'll get you Instagram likes in Iceland. But none are more enjoyable than the Icelandic swimming pool. Granted, you won't find many abandoned, mossy, scenic, natural pools in the capital, but there's still a tonne of places to soak your sore limbs after that *Une Misère* set.*

Vesturbæjarlaug Hofsvallagata 107



Vesturbæjarlaug is one of Iceland's most famous pools, and tops pretty much any list of best pools in the city. Their hot pools are ridiculous big, the steam bath and sauna nice and toasty, and there's even a sunlamp and chairs for wintertime sunbathing. For Iceland-o-philes, this spot is probably your best bet to run into Björk or Sigmundur Davíð or Hatari or something. If not, you can end up in a nice conversation with some not-famous locals. Try using the one Icelandic word you know and they will love you like a stray dog.

Sundhöllin Barónsstigur 45a



Do you like jumping from a diving board? Rejoice! Now you can practice that splash in the new and renovated Sundhöll Reykjavíkur. Previously an old-school downtown art deco marvel, it was renovated a few years ago into a state-of-the-art contemporary masterpiece. Complete with a massive outdoor pool, new hot pools, and, once again, a diving board, it's a great spot to relax and it's guaranteed to be close to your afterparty. Just don't get lost in the men's changing rooms. We're not kidding. They're difficult.

Sundlaug Seltjarnarness Hrólfsskálavör 13



So you've got famous people and a diving board. We know what you're thinking: Where are all the waterslides? Enter Sundlaug Seltjarnarness. A 15-minute jaunt from downtown via bike or Hopp scooter, this is the place to bring the kids. Throw 'em down the slide and jump into their heated seawater swimming pool, where you'll float like a feather. It's just like being in space! Except you can breathe. And Elon Musk isn't there.

Seltjarnarnes Foot Pools Near the Gróttta Lighthouse



Not fond of swimming pools? Why are you even reading this article? Ok wait—keep reading, because close to the Gróttta lighthouse is a scenic footbath you don't want to miss. The hot pot—built by Ólöf Nordal—is where one sits on the side, dips their toes in, and gazes at the ocean like some romantic idiot. It's the perfect spot to bring that hunny you met at the Auður show. Talk about 'Enginn eins og þú.'

Nauthólsvík Geothermal Beach Nauthólsvík



If all of this sounds like sissy shit that only grandmas and dead people should do, here's an idea: Join a dozen real life Icelanders for a dip in the unheated Atlantic ocean at the Nauthólsvík beach. While we understand that you're an adrenaline junkie hopped up on Kælan Mikla, please don't do this alone—it's the goddamn Atlantic ocean, for Odin's sake, and it sometimes behaves like a serial killer. If you get cold, there's a large hot tub by the seaside to warm up in. But remember, there's no harm in chickening out and just telling everyone you swam from Hafnarfjörður to Kaffibarinn. They'll definitely believe you. Definitely. 🍷

“It's just like being in space! Except you can breathe. And Elon Musk isn't there.”



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Mhmm... Carbs

Keep your diet to yourself, Becky

Words: **Hannah Jane Cohen** Main photo: **Timothée Lambrecq**

While we're all about a seven course tasting menu, sometimes you just want to stuff carbohydrates in your mouth till you pass out. Enter comfort food, something that everyone loves, even if they pretend all they eat is kale and sunshine. So appease your hangover, get over your ex, and ruin your diet at these Reykjavik comfort food classics.

"It's the best choice of comfort food for those people who hate cheese, or as we call them, Satanists."



Ramen Momo Tryggvagata 16

This charming hole-in-the-wall Tibetan and Japanese fusion spot is the best place to warm your soul with carbohydrates in the form of long strings—everybody say (r)Amen! The restaurant's portions are hearty, with more noodles than you can munch on and delicious poached eggs and seaweed to match. It's the perfect mix of a culinary experience and a comfortable, substantial meal. It's also the best choice of comfort food for those people who hate cheese, or as we call them, Satanists.



Icelandic Street Food Laekjargata 8

For soup to really fit the bill of comfort food, it has to be substantial—not any of that dinky ginger asparagus nonsense. Reykjavik's low-key dive Icelandic Street Food offers three dishes: lamb soup, shellfish soup, and a stew called fisherman's favourite. All three can be ordered in bread bowls and have the perfect protein to broth ratio for them to be not only fulfilling, but toasty and relaxing. They also have free desserts and coffee to munch on after (or before) your meal. Directly next to the restaurant is local hot-spot Secret Cellar, which allows you to BYOS (bring your own soup), so you can enjoy some comedy while you slurp. There's also free refills. We repeat: FREE REFILLS!



Eldsmiðjan Laugavegur 81 & Bragagata 28

You can't talk about comfort food without mentioning the king of the genre: The bold. The beautiful. The pizza. While Reykjavik has a tonne of options, from the gourmet pies of Flatey to good ole' Dominos delivery, Eldsmiðjan is without a doubt your go-to for a simple greasy slice that's not too complicated nor too simple. Their basic cheese slices are juicy and filling, but throw some pepperoni on there and you've got an afternoon worthy of your future heart-attack. While they've got a casual, cosy ambiance in their dining rooms, if you prefer to gorge yourself while watching 'Sex In The City,' they have a separate entrance for take-away orders.



Veganæs Tryggvagata 22

Located in the Gaukurinn music venue, Veganæs bills itself as a vegan comfort food restaurant. While that's true, a more accurate description would be that it's a comfort food restaurant that just happens to be vegan. The vegan fish dish—called fish-ish—tastes just like properly fantastic fish, and throw it on a burger and you've got the epitome of what a messy, yummy, finger-licking fish burger should be. The Burnt sandwich—basically a jalapeno grilled 'cheese'—will give you probably the most squirm-worthy cheese-gasm ever. Make sure to grab a booth. You'll need time to digest in your post-eating glow.



Prikið Bankastræti 12

Prikið serves up a whammy in the category of simple, warm, and calorically questionable foods. Sit down and pick between the red and blue pill, or rather, brunch or a burger. If pancakes get you all giggly, Prikið has all the breakfast hall of famers. Pancakes, sausage, eggs, you name it. That said, the French Connection is a true gem. It's bacon, ham, cheese, pancakes and syrup in-between two slices of french toast. Yes, that's a real meal. For lunch—the Snoop Dogg is a true crowd pleaser, as it's basically a combination of everything good: pepper cheese, bacon, bernaïse and sweet potato fries. They also have milkshakes. Lord, help us. 🍷



ICELAND AIRWAVES OFF - V E N U E

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November 6 Wednesday	Canopy Reykjavík	17:00	Frid
	Canopy Reykjavík	18:00	Svavar Knútur
	Slippbarinn	16:30	Hildur
	Slippbarinn	17:30	Between Mountains
	Slippbarinn	18:30	JFDR
November 7 Thursday	Canopy Reykjavík	17:00	Ásta
	Canopy Reykjavík	18:00	Ceasetone
	Slippbarinn	16:30	Sóley
	Slippbarinn	17:30	Huginn
	Slippbarinn	18:30	Sykur
November 8 Friday	Alda Hótel / Brass	17:00	Daði Freyr
	Alda Hótel / Brass	18:00	Sycamore Tree
	Reykjavík Konsúlat	17:00	Valborg Ólafs
	Reykjavík Konsúlat	18:00	Marteinn Sindri
	Canopy Reykjavík	17:00	Elísabet
	Canopy Reykjavík	18:00	Hrím
	Slippbarinn	15:30	KUL
	Slippbarinn	16:30	Matthildur
	Slippbarinn	17:30	Emmsjé Gauti
Slippbarinn	18:30	Agent Fresco	
November 9 Saturday	Alda Hótel / Brass	17:00	Teitur Magnússon
	Alda Hótel / Brass	18:00	Cell 7
	Reykjavík Konsúlat	17:00	Mikael Lind
	Reykjavík Konsúlat	18:00	Elín Hall
	Canopy Reykjavík	17:00	Marteinn Sindri
	Canopy Reykjavík	18:00	Raven
	Slippbarinn	15:30	Warmland
	Slippbarinn	16:30	Bríet
	Slippbarinn	17:30	Hipsumhaps
Slippbarinn	18:30	JóiPé x Króli	

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REYKJAVÍK
KONSÚLAT
HOTEL

SLIPPBARINN
CAFÉ · RESTAURANT · BAR



Tuesday, Nov 5th — Saturday, Nov 9th

Off-Venue Schedule

Both the official and off-venue schedules are subject to change. You can find the latest version of the schedule at icelandairwaves.is and in the Airwaves app.

Bryggjan Brugghús

Thursday

15:00 - 15:30: Hanna Mia Mill
16:00 - 16:30: Jóhanna Elísa
17:00 - 17:30: In Zeros
18:00 - 18:30: Mæðraveldið
19:00 - 19:30: Pale Moon
20:00 - 20:30: Quest

Friday

14:00 - 14:15: Blaffi
14:20 - 14:35: Einn
14:40 - 14:55: Morgunroði
15:00 - 15:15: Ruddagaddur
15:20 - 15:35: Seppi
15:40 - 15:55: Holy Hrafn
16:00 - 16:15: Regn
16:20 - 16:35: Bróðir BÍG
17:00 - 17:25: Haukur H
17:30 - 17:55: Valby Bræður
18:00 - 18:25: 7berg
18:30 - 19:00: Alexander Jarl

Saturday

14:00 - 14:30: Númer Núll
15:00 - 15:30: Graveyard Club
16:00 - 16:30: Enari

17:00 - 17:30: Freudian Slip
18:00 - 18:30: Krummi
19:00 - 19:30: Cryptochrome
20:00 - 20:30: Tengdur drengur

Geysir

Thursday

16:30 - 17:00: Huginn
17:30 - 18:00: Bermdsen
18:30 - 19:00: Chrypto

12 Tónar

Wednesday

17:30 - 18:00: Brött Brekka
18:15 - 18:45: Rauður

Thursday

17:30 - 18:00: Gugusar
18:15 - 18:45: Laura Secord

Friday

17:30 - 18:00: Pórir Georg (My Summer as a Salvation Soldier)
18:15 - 18:45: Skoffin

Thingholt

Friday

16:00 - 16:30: Raven
17:00 - 17:30: Magnús Jóhann
18:00 - 18:30: Mikael Lind

LÓA

Saturday

16:00 - 16:30: Ateria
17:00 - 17:30: Konfekt
18:00 - 18:30: Karma Brigade

Jörgensen

Thursday

16:00 - 16:30: Foreign Monkeys
17:00 - 17:30: Flammeus
18:00 - 18:30: Una Stef
18:30 - 19:00: Bee Bee & The Bluebirds

Slippbarinn (Marína)

Wednesday

16:30 - 17:00: Hildur
17:30 - 18:00: Between Mountains
18:30 - 19:30: JFDR

Thursday

16:30 - 17:00: Sóley
17:30 - 18:00: Huginn
18:30 - 19:30: Sykur

Friday

15:30 - 16:00: KUL
16:30 - 17:00: Matthildur
17:30 - 18:00: Emmsjé Gauti
18:30 - 19:30: Agent Fresco

Saturday

15:30 - 16:00: Warmland
16:30 - 17:00: Briet
17:30 - 18:00: Hipsumhaps
18:30 - 19:30: Jói Pé og Króli

Konsúlat

Friday

17:00 - 17:30: Valborg Ólafs
18:00 - 18:30: Marteinn Sindri

Saturday

17:00 - 17:30: Mikael Lind
18:00 - 18:30: Elin Hall

Alda

Friday

17:00 - 17:30: Daði Freyr
18:00 - 18:30: Syccamore Tree

Saturday

17:00 - 17:30: Teitur Magnusson
18:00 - 18:30: Cell7

Joe & The Juice Laugavegur

Friday

16:30 - 17:00: 24/7
17:30 - 18:00: Soffia Björg
18:30 - 19:00: CKR

Joe & The Juice Hafnartorg

Saturday

16:30 - 17:00: Haki
17:30 - 18:00: Sylvia Erla
18:30 - 19:00: SÍGQY

Canopy

Wednesday

17:00 - 17:30: Frid
18:00 - 18:30: Svavar Knútur

Thursday

17:00 - 17:30: Ásta
18:00 - 18:30: Ceasetone

Friday

17:00 - 17:30: Elísabet
18:00 - 18:30: Hrím

Saturday

17:00 - 17:30: Marteinn Sindri
18:00 - 18:30: Raven

Stúdentakjallarinn

Thursday

16:30 - 16:55: Tómas Welding
17:00 - 17:25: ROKKY
17:30 - 17:55: Vök

Landsbankinn

Saturday

15:30 - 15:55: Krassasig
16:00 - 16:25: Una Schram
16:30 - 16:55: Auður

Listaháskólinn

Wednesday

16:30 - 16:50: Stéphanie Turcott
17:00 - 17:30: José Luis Alexander Anderson
17:45 - 18:15: Sakaris Emil Joensen

Thursday

17:00 - 17:45: Sirrý, Steina and Una – Work in Progress
18:00 - 18:20: Alvar Rosell Martin & Stefan Sand Groves
18:30 - 19:00: Elham Fakouri

Friday

17:00 - 17:45: Polar Institute
18:00 - 18:45: Camerata LHI

Lucky Records

Tuesday

19:00 - 19:45: Los Bonboneros

Wednesday

16:00 - 16:45: Svavar Knútur
17:00 - 17:45: TUD
18:00 - 18:45: Marteinn Sindri
19:00 - 19:45: Los Bonboneros

Thursday

16:00 - 16:45: Brött Brekka
17:00 - 17:45: Langi Seli og Skug-garnir
18:00 - 18:45: Óværa
19:00 - 19:45: Volcanova

Friday

16:00 - 16:45: Revenge of Calculon
17:00 - 17:45: Sóley
18:00 - 18:45: Laura Secord
19:00 - 19:45: GG Blús

Saturday

13:00 - 13:45: El Odderino
14:00 - 14:45: ThizOne

15:00 - 15:45: Andartak
16:00 - 16:45: Rauður
17:00 - 17:45: Kristoffer Rodriguez
18:00 - 18:45: Valby Bræður
19:00 - 19:45: Hermigervill

The Nordic House – Salur

Thursday

16:00 - 16:40: S.hel
16:45 - 17:25: Mikael Lind
17:30 - 18:10: Gabríel Ólafsson
18:15 - 18:55: Bláskjár

Friday

15:00 - 15:40: Nising
16:00 - 16:40: David Rist
17:00 - 17:00: Vio
18:00 - 18:40: Omotrack

The Nordic House – Bistro

Friday

15:40 - 16:20: Jökull Logi
16:40 - 17:20: Sveimhugar
17:40 - 18:20: Mill

Waldorfskólinn Sólstafr

Tuesday

13:00 - 14:00: Moð úr miðöldum

Wednesday

13:00 - 14:00: Moð úr miðöldum
14:00 - 14:30: Darrí
14:30 - 15:00: Svavar Knútur

Thursday

13:00 - 13:30: Dan Rose
13:30 - 13:45: Arianna Ferro
13:45 - 14:00: Elliott
14:00 - 14:30: Cryptochrome

ON Venue

Kornhláðan

Thursday

18:00 - 18:40: Brett Newski
19:00 - 19:40: Raven

20:00 - 20:20: Inga Birna
20:30 - 20:50: Marteinn Sindri
21:00 - 21:40: Valborg Ólafsson
22:00 - 22:40: Umbra

Friday

18:00 - 18:40: Jóhanna Elísa
19:00 - 19:40: Svavar Knútur
20:00 - 20:40: Hera
21:00 - 21:40: Trilogía
22:00 - 22:40: Beebee and the Bluebirds
23:00 - 23:40: Una Stef & The Sp 74

Saturday

18:00 - 18:40: Rebekka Sif
19:00 - 19:40: Soffía Björg
22:00 - 22:40: Heidrik
23:00 - 23:40: Omotrack

Díllon

Wednesday

16:00 - 16:40: Nathraal
17:00 - 17:40: CXVII
18:00 - 18:40: Blodmör
19:00 - 19:40: Nyrst
20:00 - 20:40: Óværa
21:00 - 21:40: Nexion
22:00 - 22:40: Úlfúð
23:00 - 00:00: Mannveira

Thursday

16:00 - 16:40: Morpholith
17:00 - 17:40: Atomstation
18:00 - 18:40: Noise
19:00 - 19:40: Horrible Youth
20:00 - 20:40: Ottoman
21:00 - 21:40: Alchemia
22:00 - 22:40: Paladín
23:00 - 00:00: In Siren

Friday

16:00 - 16:40: Sigurbogi
17:00 - 17:40: Krummi
18:00 - 18:40: Siobhan Wilson
19:00 - 19:40: Brett Newski
20:00 - 20:40: Pétur Ben
21:00 - 21:40: Flavor Fox
22:00 - 22:40: Arstidir
23:00 - 00:00: Ragnar Zolberg

Saturday

16:00 - 16:40: Omotrack
17:00 - 17:40: Skaldí
18:00 - 18:40: Sturle Dagsland
19:00 - 19:40: Helge
20:00 - 20:40: Rokky
21:00 - 21:40: CeaseTone
22:00 - 22:40: Hachiku

Miami

Friday

20:00 - 02:00: Silent Disco

Saturday

20:00 - 02:00: Silent Disco

Special Events

Díllon Whiskey Bar

Discounts for wristband holders at venue

Monday (no wristband needed)

17:00 - 17:40: Velvet Vilain
18:00 - 18:40: Sigurboði
19:00 - 19:40: Skaði
20:00 - 20:40: Noise
21:00 - 21:40: Ragnar Zolberg
22:00 - 22:40: Dead Bird Lady
23:00 - 00:00: Sara Ajnnak

Tuesday (no wristband needed)

16:00 - 16:40: Sindri Eldon and the Waves
17:00 - 17:40: Morii
18:00 - 18:40: Beware the Blue Sky
19:00 - 19:40: Keelrider
20:00 - 20:40: Sturle Dagsland
21:00 - 21:40: Volcanova
22:00 - 22:40: Rock Paper Sisters
23:00 - 00:00: Vicky

Sunday (no wristband needed)

16:00 - 16:40: Ring of Gyges
17:00 - 17:40: Keelrider
18:00 - 18:40: Rock Paper Sisters
19:00 - 19:40: Una Stef & The SP74
20:00 - 20:40: Atomstation
21:00 - 21:40: In Zeros
22:00 - 22:40: Mighty Bear
23:00 - 00:00: The Major Dudes

Kex Hostel

KEXP Presents

Tuesday (no wristband needed)

19:00 - 19:30: Kristofer Rodriguez
Svönuson
21:00 - 21:30: Lucy in Blue

Radio Sessions

Kex Hostel

KEXP SESSIONS

Tuesday (no wristband needed)

19:00 - 19:30: Kristofer Rodriguez
Svönuson
21:30 - 22:00: Lucy in Blue

Wednesday (wristband required)

14:00 - 14:30: Madame Gandhi
16:30 - 17:00: GRÓA
19:00 - 19:30: The Holy
21:30 - 22:00: Laura Secord

Thursday (wristband required)

14:00 - 14:30: Gabríel Ólafsson
16:30 - 17:00: GDRN
19:00 - 19:30: Seabear
21:30 - 22:00: SONS

Friday (wristband required)

14:00 - 14:30: girl in red
16:30 - 17:00: Svavar Knútur
19:00 - 19:30: Sunna Fridjons
21:30 - 22:00: Special Guests

Saturday (wristband required)

13:00 - 13:30: Pillow Queens
15:00 - 15:30: Æ Mak
17:00 - 17:30: Just Mustard

Hressingarskálinn

THE CURRENT SESSIONS

Friday (wristband required)

12:30 - 13:00: Between Mountains
13:30 - 14:00: Hachiku
14:30 - 15:00: JFDR
15:30 - 16:00: Boy Azooga

Saturday (wristband required)

12:30 - 13:00: Graveyard Club
13:30 - 14:00: Pip Blom
14:30 - 15:00: girl In red
15:30 - 16:00: Penelope Isles



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REYKJAVIK NOV 6 — 9 2019

OFFICIAL SCHEDULE (EVENING)

This is the official schedule **after 19:00**, for day events earlier than this check the app!
Like all festivals bands and times are subject to change, always check the app.
For special events and on and off-venue – you know where to go! **The app!**

WEDNESDAY 6th November 2019		19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	0:00
venue / time							
Reykjavík Art Museum			Kælan Mikla	a/ia	Orville Peck	Une Misère	
Gaukurinn		KUL	Hrim	Ragnar Zolberg	Flekar	Mighty Bear	Morpholith
Kex Hostel		The Holy		Laura Secord	Matthildur	Cease-Tone	
Hressingar-skálinn (Hressó)			Valborg Ólafs	SIGGY	Ásta	Konfekt	Tómas Welding
Gamla Bíó							
Frikirkjan							
Hard Rock Café			Flammeus	lam-Helgi	Una Schram	Úfur Úfur	Hipsumhaps
Iðnó							
Valshöllin							

WASTELAND

SECOND HAND CLOTHING

Ingólfsstræti 5
101 Reykjavík

THURSDAY 7th November 2019

venue / time	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	0:00
Reykjavík Art Museum		Briet	Georgia	Hjaltalín	Mac DeMarco	
Gaukurinn	Blóðmör	Kontinuum	Krasasag	Pillow Queens	The Holy	Auðn
Kex Hostel	Seabear			Brett Newski	sir Was	
Hressingar-skálinn (Hressó)		Frid	ROE	Ayelle	Siobhan Wilson	Loah
Gamla Bíó		Stars and Rabbit	Glass Museum	JFDR	Emmsjé Gauti	Shame
Fríkirkjan		Between Mountains	Hrím	Pétur Ben	Niklas Paschburg	
Hard Rock Café		Axel Flóvent	Amanda Tenfjord	Pink Milk	GDRN	ÆMAK
Íðnó		Warm-land	Yaeger	Miller Turner	Joesef	Jóipé x Króli
Valshöllin						

FRIDAY 8th November 2019

venue / time 19:00 20:00 21:00 22:00 23:00 0:00 1:00 2:00 3:00

Reykjavík Art Museum	Hildur	Anna of the North	Mammút	Hatari	Booka Shade			
Gaukurinn	Just Mustard	The Howl & The Hum	SONS	Broen	Pip Blom	Boy Azooga	Snapped Ankles	Hausar
Kex Hostel	Sunna Friðjóns	Special Guests	TBC...		Self Esteem			
Hressingarskálinn (Hressó)	Sturle Dagsland	Hachiku	Sunna Margrét	Murkage Dave	Jesse Markin			
Gamla Bíó	PAVLA	Teitur Magnússon	Sykur	GDRN	girl in red			
Friðkirkjan	Siv Jakobsen	Gabriel Ólafsson	Hugar	John Grant				
Hard Rock Café	Warm-land	Detajji	Alyona Alyona	Madame Gandhi	Ivan Dorn	Cell7	Une Misère	
Iðnó	Cease-Tone	Elin Hall	Helge	Tiny Ruins	Blanco White	Berndsen		
Valshöllin								

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SATURDAY 9th November 2019

venue / time 19:00 20:00 21:00 22:00 23:00 0:00 1:00 2:00 3:00

venue / time	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	0:00	1:00	2:00	3:00
Reykjavík Art Museum		Penelope Isles	Auður	Seabear	Whitney	Biggi Veira (Gus Gus DJ Set)			
Gaukurinn		Joe & The Shitboys	Una Stef & The SP74	W.H. Lung	Warm-duscher	Pottery	GKR	Hatari	
Kex Hostel		The Garrys	Velvet Negroni	Otha	ROKKY				
Hressingarskálinn (Hressó)		Sunna Fridjons	.PAPER-CUTZ	Einarindra	Lydmor	Free Love	Krabba Mane		
Gamla Bíó									
Frikirkjan		Sycamore Tree	Alexandra Strélski	Svavar Knútur	John Grant				
Hard Rock Café		Ateria	Between Mountains	Jóhþex Króli	Bashar Murad	Pattester	Alkkan	Nina Las Vegas	
Iðnó		Baseball Gregg	Bessie Turner	Ólöf Arnalds	Aron Can	Sólstafr	Grisalappalisa		
Valshöllin		Daði Freyr	Agent Fresco	CHAI	Vök	Of Monsters and Men			

OFFICIAL SCHEDULE (EVENING)
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Power Alert

Dr. Nelly Ben Hayoun opens up

Words: **Hannah Jane Cohen** Photo: **Nick Ballon**

A self-proclaimed “Designer Of Experiences,” Dr. Nelly Ben Hayoun’s work runs such a vast gamut that distilling it down into a sentence seems rather impossible. At this year’s Iceland Airwaves Pro music industry conference, she’ll attempt to distill her knowledge as one of the keynote speakers.

A Renaissance woman

“What I do is design experiences,” Nelly says. “For me, it’s a multidisciplinary practise involving modifying power structures in institutions by making use of events and installations. ‘Event’ is a broad term to address multiple disciplines—film, music, design, politics, linguistics, theatre—I make use of all these different disciplines. It makes it hard to pigeon-hole me.”

For those not familiarly with Nelly’s work, what she does is probably difficult to visualise. It’s easier to understand through examples, and there’s really no better one than the International Space Orchestra (ISO), of which Nelly is the creator and director.

Going to Mars

The ISO is the first orchestra comprised exclusively of space

scientists. “It has a specific function,” Nelly explains. “It acts as a place for critical thinking inside a federal agency. Say you’re the head of NASA and I’m the guy who just started. It’s really hard to tell you that I don’t think we should go back to the moon. But because you are playing the dobro and I am playing the trumpet, we can engage in much more free conversation.”

To distill it down: By putting everyone—regardless of their specialty or position—on the same playing field, power structures are dismantled and the scientists feel more comfortable sharing their ideas.

The pearls

Nelly might be journeying to Iceland for the conference, but she plans to take full advantage of Iceland Airwaves. She’s most excited to see JFDR and Madame Gandhi, among others.

“I’m looking forward to being surprised. In general, I find that if you go anywhere at 15:00, you’ll see these bands that nobody knows,” she says, a smile brightening her face. “That’s where you find the pearls.” 🍷

Read full article online on grapevine.is/airwaves

Iceland Airwaves Lounge And Airwaves Pro Conference 2019

Airwaves Pro is a conference takes place at CenterHotel Plaza, and it’s open to those with an Airwaves Pro wristband. The conference is held by Iceland Airwaves, Iceland Music, Reykjavik Music City, STEF, Firestarter and MIT Bootcamps. The conference has also been kindly assisted with funding from the Nordic Culture Fund.

Thursday, Nov. 7

10:30 - 12:00
Speed Meetings
Presented by STEF and Iceland Music (invitation only)

12:15 - 13:15
Everyone Loves Music, So Why Not Use It For Tourism?
Panel Presented by Reykjavik Music City

12:15 - 13:15
Futureproofing Radio
Panel Presented by Iceland Naturally

14:00 - 15:30
Firestarter Demonstration Day
Presented by Icelandic Startups, Reykjavik Music City and Iceland Music

15:45 - 16:30
Record in Iceland Presentation
Presented by Iceland Music

15:45 - 16:45
Keynote: Stephen O’Reilly (ie:music, ie:ventures)
Presented by Iceland Airwaves

16:00 - 17:00
Sync Speed Meetings
Presented by Iceland Music and STEF

17:00 - 17:30
A brief Introduction to Sync
Presented by Nordisk Copyright Bureau

17:00 - 18:00
Keynote: Alison Donald (AWAL/Kobalt)
Presented by Iceland Airwaves

17:30 - 18:30
What are you syncing about?
Panel Presented by STEF

18:00
Happy Hour at Plaza

Friday, Nov. 8

10:30 - 12:00
Speed Meetings
Presented by STEF and Iceland Music (invitation only)

12:15 - 13:15
Northward bound: Breaking the Nordic market
Panel Presented by Iceland Airwaves

12:15 - 13:15
Re-inventing the wheel: the new media model
Panel Presented by Iceland Airwaves

14:00 - 15:00
Ready, Set, Export!
Panel presented by Iceland Airwaves

14:15 - 15:15
The future of venues in Reykjavik, Iceland and beyond
Panel presented by Reykjavik Music City

15:15 - 16:15
The Future of Intellectual Property Panel

15:30 - 16:30
And They Lived Happily Ever After: Marrying Music And The Innovation Sector
Presented by Reykjavik Music City, Iceland Music and Icelandic Startups

15:45 - 16:45
Keynote: Tina Tallon
Presented by MIT Bootcamps

16:30 - 17:30
Music and Mental Health
Presented by Iceland Airwaves

17:00 - 18:00
Keynote: Dr Nelly Ben Hayoun
Presented by Iceland Airwaves

18:00
Happy Hour at Plaza



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SINCE 1999

20 years ago, some smart people at Icelandair had the brilliant idea to stage a music festival in an aircraft hangar. From humble beginnings, Iceland Airwaves was born. We are proud to be a founding sponsor of Reykjavík's biggest music celebration, and we invite you to join us as we bring Icelandic music to the world.

Visit Reykjavík Art Museum, our official venue for the festival, and come along to Valshöllin on Saturday 9th to see hometown headliners Of Monsters and Men. See you there!



Wednesday November 6

20:00 – Kælan Mikla
21:00 – aYia
22:10 – Orville Peck
23:20 – Une Misère

Thursday November 7

19:50 – Briet
20:50 – Georgia
21:50 – Hjaltalín
23:00 – Mac DeMarco

Friday November 8

19:50 – Hildur
20:50 – Anna of the North
21:50 – Mammút
22:50 – Hatari
00:00 – Booka Shade

Saturday November 9

Reykjavik Art Museum
20:30 – Penelope Isles
21:30 – Auður
22:30 – Seabear
23:40 – Whitney
01:00 – Biggi Veira
(GusGus DJ Set)

Valshöllin

19:30 – Daði Freyr
20:25 – Agent Fresco
21:25 – Chai
22:35 – Vök
23:45 – Of Monsters
and Men

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