

# “SILENCE IS THE ONLY SOUND”

– A new album from Kari Rueslåtten

**The latest album from Kari Rueslåtten, one of the finest voices in alternative Nordic folk-pop, and queen of melancholia, is due for release on August 25.**

The new recording, titled “Silence is the Only Sound”, reaffirms Rueslåtten’s ability to deliver incredible vocals laden with dark-edged melancholy. *“The new music evokes elements from my rural Norwegian heritage”* she explains, *“and incorporates memories of folk tales and music passed on to me from my father”*.

Rueslåtten has stripped her songs back to fundamental emotions such as grief, loss and heartache, and combined these with inspiration from the natural environment. Her songs describe interwoven real and fantasy lives, and she retreated to a traditional cabin in the mountains for much of the writing process to help develop these elemental themes.

*“I get inspired in the loneliness of the fields, and I believe my lyrics become more personal too. Of course, I take my liberties as a writer, sometimes it is hard to say where my own story ends and fiction begins.”*

## **Peace within**

There’s no doubt that the awesome Nordic landscapes of towering snow-capped mountains, misty fjords and cascading waterfalls propel Rueslåtten’s musical work. But in amongst this majestic setting, her music encourages listeners to take time to absorb the world and stories around them. She says, *“It’s ok to dwell...to have a quiet moment. We should allow ourselves to do that.”* The album title represents this sensation of finding peace within oneself.

## **20 years anniversary**

In 1997 Kari Rueslåtten released her first solo album, *Spindelsinn*. As a surprise gift to her fans, Rueslåtten has recorded an English language version of the title track for her new album.

*“I did a new version of Spindelsinn because I wanted to do something special for all the people that have followed my music through the years. I have played this song live at almost every concert in many different countries, and people have sung with me in the Norwegian lyrics, even when they don’t know Norwegian.”*

20 years after her first solo release Kari Rueslåtten is as vital and productive as ever. Her creative energy is bursting through from which she explains to be a reoccurring sense of time running out.

*“Maybe it is a natural thing, but the older I become, the more this sense of urgency is taking over, it’s like I am scared that there are songs that won’t be written unless I hurry up. I guess I’ve always been an impatient person”,* Kari says with a smile.

## **Digitization**

Rueslåtten has been stunned by the amazing reception for the first single, “Chasing Rivers”. She says, *“I make the music that I like, and it feels like a lovely present when so many others like it too”*. And it’s clear that others do like it; the single has been downloaded in over 40 countries.

*“It was not until I came back to the music scene in 2013, after a long break, I really understood in fact how many people there were out there who liked my music. Now, meeting these people on concerts or on social media, and also reaching out to these people via music streaming services, is really what’s motivates me. Many claim that the digitization of the music industry has been a curse – for me it has been a blessing.”*

## **Parr Street Studios**

Rueslåtten returned to legendary Parr Street Studios in Liverpool, UK, and the same musicians with whom she recorded “To the North”. She likes the *“special atmosphere”* there, and records the songs

live, including the vocals. The band inspire and feed off each other, and their combined skills mean that only a few takes are required, or as Kari puts it; *"if there is too many takes of one song, the energy and edginess tends to disappear"*.

Rueslåtten expects to be touring the new album in Europe and Latin America in 2017 and 2018.

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**Kari Rueslåtten (no), Vocals** She was one of the founder members of the progressive doom metal band The 3rd and the Mortal. The band defined a genre and was an inspiration for many other bands worldwide. After leaving The 3rd and the Mortal in 1995 she has now released seven solo studio albums, and one collection. She has recently toured extensively in Europe and Latin America. Her unique talent has brought Kari Rueslåtten into collaboration with many different artists, such as Toumas Holopainen from the Nightwish, Anneke van Giersbergen (ex The Gathering), Liv Kristine (ex Theatre of Tragedy) and the Norwegian rock legend Åge Aleksandersen. Kari Rueslåtten has always been aiming to uncover the beauty hiding in the dark.

**Jostein Ansnes (no), Producer and guitar** Jostein Ansnes is one of Norway's best known guitar players, known among other things for his work with the critically acclaimed Norwegian band Dadafon, singer Kristin Asbjørnsen and the Norwegian rock legend Åge Aleksandersen. He has been playing live with Kari Rueslåtten on all her solo-tours in the past years, and produced her three most recent albums.

**Richard Turvey (uk) – Producer, piano and Keyboards** Richard Turvey works as a producer and musician at Parr Street Studios in Liverpool, working with promising artists such as De Mispers (B-Unique), Darlia (B-Unique), VITAMIN (Tri-Tone) and Blossoms (Skeleton Key).

**Steve Pilgrim (uk) – Drums** Paul Weller's drummer, Steve Pilgrim, plays the drums and percussion on Chasing Rivers. He was a member of The Stands (2003-2004), and is now an established singer/songwriter, having released three solo albums; "Lover, Love Her" (2007) "Sunshine" (2009), "Pixels and Paper (2011) and Mornings Skies (2017).

**Martyn Campbell (uk) – Bass** Bass player Martyn Campbell is most known from his work with The Lightning Seeds, Rain, Richard Ashcroft, Wah! and Terry Hall. Campbell has also been working with Pete Wylie, and toured with Shack.

**Øyvind Engen (no) – Cello** Øyvind Engen, cellist composer, has worked with a range of artist both live and in studio crossing many genres. Engen is one of Norway's most skilled cellists.

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