



IRASCIBLE MUSIC



SUUNS (CAN)

«Hold/Still»

Label: Secretly Canadian

Release Date: 15.04.2016

Web: www.secretlycanadian.com/

[artist.php?name=suuns](http://www.secretlycanadian.com/artist.php?name=suuns)

Hold/Still, the third studio album from Suuns, is an enigmatic thing: an eerily beautiful, meticulously played suite of music that embraces opposites and makes a virtue of cognitive dissonance. It is a record that does not give up its secrets easily. A natural step on from their two previous albums, 2011's Zeroes QC & 2013's Images du Futur, and yet a marked departure, Hold/Still is a cerebral exploration of how to take live and analogue instruments and create a deeply textured "electronic" record. In May 2015, they decamped to Dallas, Texas to work with Grammy-winning producer John Congleton and for three intense weeks they recorded by day and stewed in their cramped apartment by night. "It felt like we were on a mission - looking for something to take us out of our element, or that might seep into our music", say the band. Hold/Still will be released 15 April, 2016.

The first single, 'Translate', is one of the defining songs of the album - the sound of a band working in mental lockstep, crafting guitar music that feels un beholden to clear traditions or genre brackets. It is a song that the band have been reworking for years, and was one of the last songs to be finished for the album, and yet, perhaps, defines the record perfectly. The synthesizers are the work of Max Henry, an obsessive who builds his own patches and confesses to using cranky or budget equipment - "[good gear] does all the work for you, and that's not always fun". Accompanying the song is the first of a trilogy of videos for the album (the second and third installments will be launched ahead of the record release). Shot by Charles-André Coderre, a long term collaborator of the band, he says "'Translate', the first music video of a triptych series, is an incandescent vision. It was shot with thermal imagery. The concept was simple: film the band in their rehearsal space and transfigure the footage into something unusual and gorgeous. We experimented the different meanings of the word "translate" and explored a new film language by shooting what the human eye can't see." Also released today is the Dark Sky 'Psych' remix of 'Translate' - the first of a number of remixes that will be launched alongside tracks from the album. This one takes 'Translate's repetitive, krautrock-like rhythms and squeezes them into a tighter, mesmeric arrangement.. Says Dark Sky "We really liked the psyched out sounds and sonics from the original track which sounded vintage but also forward thinking. We were inspired to build on this vibe."

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Place du Nord 7, 1005 Lausanne
Geroldstrasse 33, 8005 Zürich
www.irascible.ch

D-CH Promotion: Fabienne Schmuki

fabienne@irascible.ch; 044 271 32 83

F-CH Promotion: Gilles Kaeser

gilles@irascible.ch



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