 

**SIMON LEOZA
Alcatraz - Snorri Hallgrímsson Rework** – A rework by islandic composerSnorri Hallgrímsson available on all streaming platforms

**Montréal, June 2022** - After a successful year in 2021 with the release of his acclaimed album *Albatross* as well as a symphonic version *Albatross - Live at La Maison Symphonique de Montréal*, Montreal artist **Simon Leoza** now unveils the rework of his track “Alcatraz” by composer Snorri Hallgrímsson.

The original version was approached in a very instinctive way by Simon: his idea was to create a mess that slowly builds to a controlled climax. In the early sketches of the album, **Simon Leoza** went to Iceland to work with Snorri, a wise creative advisor for the conception of the album, so it was obvious that he would have his take with this rework.

According to Snorri, the song is chaos — in the best way possible. The gorgeous ricochet string arpeggios combined with multiple piano layers, woodwinds, synths, and beats make Alcatraz such a unique piece. His goal was to somehow have more control over all of these elements, while still adding to the size and scope. He tends to have a fairly rigid and minimalistic approach, so combining that with Simon’s beautifully controlled chaos.

The piece takes the listener on an intense journey evolving in a captivating way, sharing moments of softness, peaceful aspects, interspersed with more agitated parts or even of mastered upheaval. A piece of infinite richness that cannot leave you indifferent.

**Simon Leoza**
Following the success of his three EPs released under the moniker Tambour, which received rave reviews internationally, Montreal neoclassical composer Simon Leoza released in 2021 his first full-length album, *Albatross*, which transports the listener somewhere in between the intimate and the grandiose. Known for his mesmerizing music videos and having accumulated more than 7.5 million online streams (Spotify, Apple Music, Soundcloud), the artist has also received two SOCAN Foundation prizes for Emerging Screen Composers in 2020 and stood out at the Gala de l’ADISQ 2021 with a breathtaking performance, in addition to winning a Félix for his virtual concert at the Maison Symphonique de Montréal.

**Snorri Hallgrímsson**
Snorri Hallgrímsson is a composer, producer and multi-instrumentalist from Reykjavík, Iceland. Starting out as a classical guitarist, he fell in love with film music in his teens which prompted him to start writing his own music. Snorri has a Bachelor’s degree in composition from the Iceland Academy of the Arts, and a Master’s degree in Scoring for Film, Television and Video Games from Berklee College of Music. Snorri’s music mixes his classical background with electronica, choral music, and film music. His film credits include “Out Of Thin Air”, documentary series “Travel Global Think Local”, and award-winning short films “Cut” and “Naturaleza Muerta”. He is a long-time collaborator with composer Ólafur Arnalds and has among others worked with him on “The Chopin Project”, “Island Songs”, and the BAFTA-award winning score for “Broadchurch”.

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02/10/2022 - Québec - Grand Théâtre de Québec
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