About ‘Unholy Power’

Laura Hickli embraces her authentic power with her explosive, evocative newest single Unholy Power. The song drops the listener into a lush landscape of layered electric guitars, vintage synths, wind and washing pedal tones as Hickli’s exquisite, melodramatic vocals truthfully pave the way through halting collapses, huge wall-of-sound choruses and intimate confessions. Her unique ancient hymnal and classical roots meet her art-rock/baroque-pop appetite, further elevating her latest sound with pristine experimental production in the likes of Weyes Blood, Lana Del Ray and Phoebe Bridgers whilst nailing the sincerity and attitude of iconic artists like Kate Bush, Bjork and Fiona Apple.

Laura Hickli on ‘Unholy Power’

"Unholy Power is about finding deeper and more authentic strength within myself by embracing chaos and mortality over depending on the stability and invincibility of being close with an all-knowing deity. Unholy Power is about shedding my religious skin, and with that losing what used to be my moral guide, and 24 hour go-to therapist. It’s about realizing that the whole time I was bringing my burdens to the Lord, what I was actually doing was praying to myself… critically analyzing my way through issues, manifesting healing, and letting go of what I can’t control."

Unholy Power Single Release Date: July 9, 2022

Biography

Laura Hickli (Mohkínstsis/Calgary) is an internationally touring baroque pop songstress known for her dreamy, tightly-arranged soundscapes, exquisite vocals, evocative lyrics and her emotionally powerful performances. A classically trained pianist and member in several award-winning musical projects including Carla J. Easton and 36?, Hickli’s latest material has struck a spellbinding balance of spectral intimacy and bombast explosivity. Described as ‘indomitable,’ Laura Hickli will shatter any expectations of the way a piano should be played, a voice should be lifted, or a life should be lived.

"Unholy Power", their first release on Montana’s North Pole Records, is the lead single off of Laura Hickli’s new record “Both Feet in the World, At Least I Can Stand”.

Single Release Unholy Power - July 9, 2022
Single Release Love, Outlive Me - August 20, 2022
Album Release Both Feet In The World, At Least I Can Stand - October 1, 2022

Laura Hickli Highlights

- Achieved Top 100 Artists on CBC Searchlight
- BMIR Alumni at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity
- Educator at the National Music Centre (Canada) 2018
- Winner of Best Music Video and Award of Merit at The Edmonton Short Film Festival, AMPIA and Best Shorts Competition for Midnight 2015
- Awarded grants from FACTOR, Alberta Music, and Harvard Broadcasting (X92.9)
- Frequently aired on CBC, BBC and a variety of radio stations worldwide including 1 hour exclusive live Block Heater set on CBC’s Key of A
- Featured performer of Sled Island, Block Heater, Beakerhead, Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, SoundOff Summit, CMW and more
- Scored award-winning film ‘Hide Away’ by Julie Whelan, winning ‘Best Mental Health Short’ at Short Film Breaks Festival (Romania)
- Toured North America extensively with 200+ shows and festivals in 2019 after touring the UK in 2018
- Member in Western Canadian Music Award Winning band 36? (Canada) and Carla J. Easton (UK), their record ‘Impossible Stuff’ produced by Howard Bilerman (Arcade Fire) shortlisted for Scottish Album of the Year Award 2019
Lyrics

Half the time I don’t know if I’m happy.
Other times, I don’t feel a thing.
And I wonder if there’s a reason.
I really hope it means something.

I used to pray to God when I felt lonely.
I swear I could tell him anything.
Looking endlessly for answers...
Proving myself wrong and right.

Is there a point in trying so hard?
I’m tugging at the roots of my tired hair.
Tighten my grip on this old dream...
But I don’t have a clue what’s happening.

I used to think that I was something special,
and used my charm like some unholy power.
But now I see I’m made of human.
And now I am stronger than before.

There is a point to trying so hard!
I focus on the reasons why I care.
Loosen my grip on this old dream...
I don’t always need to know what’s happening.

Official Music Video

Unholy Power will be released with a home-made music video filmed and self-produced in isolation during the Covid-19 pandemic. In this video, Hickli demonstrates her professional makeup artist education for the first time by creating bold, unique and compelling makeup looks inspired by each lyrical line in Unholy Power. With each new visual lyrical embodiment, Hickli reinforces the song’s message of unleashing her fierce authentic inner power, letting go and accepting the chaos of life after religion. Fun fact: one of her looks is a paper-mache mask made from pages in her old bible!

Filmed by Taylor Cochrane
Edited by Laura Hickli
Makeup Looks by Laura Hickli
Guest Makeup (Clown Look) by Danielle Desormeaux

Credits

Recorded at 36? Studios
Produced by Laura Hickli and Taylor Cochrane
Head Engineer Taylor Cochrane
Assistant Engineer Laura Hickli

Performers on this recording:
Laura Hickli, Taylor Cochrane

Written by Laura Hickli

Mastered by Brock McFarlane at CPS Mastering

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