

# Zola Jesus *Okovi*



For over a decade, Nika Roza Danilova has been recording music as **Zola Jesus**. She's been on Sacred Bones Records for most of that time, and *Okovi* marks her reunion with the label. Fittingly, the 11 electronics-driven songs on *Okovi* share DNA with her early work on Sacred Bones. The music was written in pure catharsis, and as a result, the sonics are heavy, dark, and exploratory. In addition to the contributions of Danilova's longtime live bandmate Alex DeGroot, producer/musician **WIFE**, cellist/noise-maker Shannon Kennedy from **Pedestrian Deposit**, and percussionist Ted Byrnes all helped build *Okovi*'s textural universe.

## ARTIST STATEMENT:

Last year, I moved back to the woods in Wisconsin where I was raised. I built a little house just steps away from where my dilapidated childhood tree fort is slowly recombining into earth. *Okovi* was fed by this return to roots and several very personal traumas.

While writing *Okovi*, I endured people very close to me trying to die, and others trying desperately not to. Meanwhile, I was fighting through a haze so thick I wasn't sure I'd find my way to the other side. Death, in all of its masks, has been encircling everyone I love, and with it the questions of legacy, worth, and will.

*Okovi* is a Slavic word for shackles. We're all shackled to something—to life, to death, to bodies, to minds, to illness, to people, to birthright, to duty. Each of us born with a unique debt, and we have until we die to pay it back. Without this cost, what gives us the right to live? And moreover, what gives us the right to die? Are we really even free to choose?

This album is a deeply personal snapshot of loss, reconciliation, and a sympathy for the chains that keep us all grounded to the unforgiving laws of nature. To bring it to life, I decided to enlist the help of Alex DeGroot, who has been the only constant in my live band and helped mix the *Stridulum* EP back in 2010. It will be released on Sacred Bones, the closest group of people I'll ever have to blood-bound family.

## TRACK LISTING:

- 1 Doma (2:15)
- 2 Exhumed (3:45)
- 3 Soak (3:57)
- 4 Ash to Bone (2:07)
- 5 Witness (4:01)
- 6 Siphon (3:50)
- 7 Veka (5:13)
- 8 Wiseblood (4:39)
- 9 NMO (0:56)
- 10 Remains (4:26)
- 11 Half Life (4:49)

## KEY INFORMATION / SELLING POINTS:

### Hometown / Key Markets:

- Merrill, Wis., New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Portland, Austin

### Selling Points / Key Press:

- First **Zola Jesus** release on Sacred Bones since 2013
- Return to the heavy, dark, exploratory pop of her earlier work
- Great press for last record including **NPR Tiny Desk Concert**, *Later...with Jools Holland*, **Pitchfork** Best New Track, and more
- Confirmed for **Adult Swim Singles** program
- Full U.S. and European tours beginning in September
- Rust-colored vinyl limited to 4500 units

## Related Catalog:

- SBR-022 *The Spoils* LP/CD
- SBR-062 *Conatus* LP/CD
- SBR-073 *In Your Nature 7"*
- SBR-102 *Versions* LP/CD
- SBR-185 *Stridulum* LP/CD

## RiYL: Björk, David Lynch, The Knife, Nine Inch Nails

CATALOG #: SBR-184

GENRE: Alternative/Electronic/Pop

RELEASE DATE: 9-8-2017

AVAILABLE FORMATS: CD, LP, LP-CI

UPC-CD: 616892498544

UPC-LP: 616892498445

UPC-LP-CI: 616892498742

VINYL IS NOT RETURNABLE

EXPORT RESTRICTIONS: None

BOX LOT: CD 30 / LP 40

## LABEL CONTACT:

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CD



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LP



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RUST COLORED LP



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