

Sycamore-73 – A Soothing Journey into Downtempo Soundscapes

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Staffan Österlind is a Swedish musician, guitarist, and producer who releases chill, synth-driven instrumental music under the artist name **Sycamore-73**. The name carries personal history: Österlind once lived on **Sycamore Avenue in Hollywood** and was born in 1973. Alongside his work as a touring guitarist in various bands and shows across **Europe** and **Asia**, Sycamore-73 represents his producer-driven project, where atmosphere and emotion take center stage.



In this project, Staffan Österlind is the instrumentalist, programmer, arranger, and mixer—in other words, the producer. The songs themselves are written and sung by Lithuanian vocalist and songwriter Alna Katinaite, whose spiritual and introspective lyrics form the emotional core of the music.

From Early Fascination to a Life in Music

Österlind's musical journey began early. He started playing guitar at the age of nine, but his fascination with music and sound goes back even further. As a child, he was mesmerized by ABBA's lush synth textures, while bands like Iron Maiden could keep him listening for hours. Music quickly became more than a hobby—it was a calling.

At just nine years old, he persuaded his friends to start a band, miming songs by Loverboy. Even then, the desire to create and perform was unmistakable.

Influences: From Guitar Heroes to Progressive Soundscapes



As a guitarist, Österlind cites **Jimmy Page** as a major influence. As a producer, however, his inspirations lean more toward progressive and synth-oriented music. Artists such as **ABBA**, **Pink Floyd**, **Genesis**, and **Marillion** have all left a clear imprint on his sonic palette.

When **Alna Katinaite** sent him her songs—initially just vocals and acoustic guitar—Österlind immediately envisioned a stripped-down yet expansive production style. His goal was to create something “massive” without overwhelming the songs, allowing Alna’s powerful vocals to remain front and center, supported by rich, atmospheric soundscapes rather than conventional piano or acoustic arrangements.

A Genre of Its Own

Describing the music of Sycamore-73 is intentionally playful. Österlind refers to it as *downtempo*, *chill out*, *lounge pop*—half-jokingly calling it a “new genre.” The music is calm, immersive, and reflective, perfectly suited for late-night listening or moments of introspection. Alna Katinaite’s spirituality shines through in the lyrics, adding depth and a meditative quality to the sound.

A Long-Distance Creative Collaboration

Despite the close musical connection, Österlind and Katinaite have never met in person. Alna, who lives in London, sends her songs remotely, and Österlind selects the ones he feels inspired to develop further. This long-distance collaboration has proven to be a strength, allowing both artists to focus purely on the music itself.



Live Experience and Career Highlights

While the Sycamore-73 project has not yet been performed live, Österlind is no stranger to the stage. Among his most memorable experiences are performing at the **Emmy Awards** in **Las Vegas** and playing with **Paul Di'Anno** in India in front of **20,000 people**. Touring and live performance—whether on small stages or massive venues—remain his greatest passion.

The Creative Process

When composing his own music, Österlind usually begins by experimenting—playing with guitar riffs or exploring synth sounds until something clicks. When working for others, the process becomes more

collaborative: clients describe the style and mood they want, and he shapes the music to match that vision as closely as possible.



A Genre of Its Own Describing

the music of Alna & Sycamore-73 album *Destiny* is intentionally playful. Österlind refers to it as downtempo, chill out, lounge pop—half-jokingly calling it a “new genre”.

Latest Release on FinnRadio

The Alna & Sycamore-73 album *Destiny* was released on December 12, and Österlind has selected three tracks he believes will resonate strongly with FinnRadio listeners. The album invites the audience to slow down, breathe, and immerse themselves fully in the sound.

Based in Málaga, Reaching the World

Staffan Österlind is Swedish but currently based in **Málaga, Spain**. Alna Katinaite is originally from **Lithuania** and now lives in **London, UK**. Despite geographical distance, their collaboration feels seamless—proof that music knows no borders.

One Final Invitation

The message behind Sycamore-73 is simple and sincere:

"Put on your headphones, kick back, relax, and allow the music to carry you on a soothing, atmospheric journey". Find more of Staffan www.staffanosterlind.com

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