THE MAKING OF "LET'S RIDE AWAY"

Tim "Avicii" Bergling was constantly searching for new influences, new collaborators, and new voices, and in 2017, that search took him to Nashville. One of the sessions he booked was at the legendary Sound Emporium studio with Kacey Musgraves and producer Luke Laird.

"It was very organic," said Laird. "I think he had some different track starts, but I think he really wanted that Nashville writing experience and see how that worked, and we just started talking honestly about life. I think we were just trying to capture an emotion, so I just kind of started playing some chords on a guitar, and Kacey and I just started humming melodies and doing what you do when you write a new song, and then he would interject on melodic things. I would say from the beginning of the studio session till the end, we had the whole song in probably less than three hours, and that's with Kacey singing the demo vocal.... I always say it's like a first date, you don't know how it's going to go, but it was amazing, and the whole experience was incredible.

Fast forward to 2024 to finishing "Let's Ride Away" with Elle King, whose demo of another two songs Tim had worked on many years earlier.

"I got a call from Rusty Gaston at Sony Publishing," continued Laird," talking about the potential of this song being released. I was really excited because I remember being proud of the song when we finished writing it. So I recorded Elle's vocals, and she crushed it. Then Carl Falk, who was really good buddies with Tim, who's a great producer who I worked with years ago, he really took on the role of helping finish it out because they knew each other so well that he knew how Tim would want to see it through."

"When I first heard the song," said Falk, "it was a demo that Luke and Tim had done in Nashville. Some bits and pieces were missing, and then I asked for the files, the multi-tracks of the song, and I listened through everything and really tried to fill in the gaps. To me, even though the song was written seven years ago, it felt timeless. And it also had the typical Tim catchy melody. And even the first second that I heard it, and it started with that slide guitar, I was so happy, because it felt like it was a typical Tim thing. There were no rules of how to blend electronic music with organic music or organic instruments."

Carl Falk continues: "It was such a big thing for Tim to finish stuff ... in our relation that was also my job, to help him finish stuff. Because he was working on something and then he would send it to me, and I would send something back and then he was already off to the next song. So, in his mind, his creative mind, he was always working on new ideas and sometimes forgetting that for something to be released, it has to be finished. That was my job."

Luke Laird: "When I heard this song and how well it's written, I always say that it's another proof of Tim being the composer, the songwriter genius that he's always going to be. And

this song showcases that. That, to me, is the reason for it to be released into the world. I also feel like the love and the demand for new material and Tim's songs is huge."

"I think he (Tim) would be really happy with the way it turned out. I know he loved it the day we wrote it and Elle delivered an incredible vocal and stayed true to the melody but also put her own unique spin on it," Luke Laird concludes.

The new single "Let's Ride Away", featuring Elle King is a part of *AVICII FOREVER* - a celebration of producer/DJ/songwriter Tim "Avicii" Bergling, one of the most iconic artists of our time.

AVICII FOREVER makes long-awaited new music available to fans, while also elevating Avicii's profound catalogue with huge worldwide hits like "Wake Me Up", "Levels", "Heart Upon My Sleeve (feat. Imagine Dragons) and more. **AVICII FOREVER** was created to deepen the casual listener's knowledge of Avicii's repertoire, while also introducing his legacy to a new and younger generation.

AVICII FOREVER is available on digital and physical formats, as well as an album visualiser on YouTube, visualising the cover art.

More about Avicii Forever, please see separate press release.

Video of making of the song Let's Ride Away here: LINK

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