Artist: **BEATA HLAVENKOVÁ**  
Album: *Žijutě*  
Cat. nr.: MIN57  
Formats: LP/CD/DL  
Label: Minority Records  
Release date: **October 29 2021**

"Dear Life, I wish to live you fully, with all the good and bad that you bring,” says pianist, singer, and producer Beata Hlavenková through music recorded on her sixth solo album entitled *Žijutě*, which will be released on October 29, 2021.

The winner of two Anděl Awards and the Jantar Award, Hlavenková is now fully focused on her solo creative work, writing lyrics, and singing, following the release of the album *Sně* and the soundtrack for the movie *Zátopek*. Listeners will have a hard time classifying her music in any of the established genres. Hlavenková has gone the way of intelligent pop, featuring electro beat and crossover elements, an approach that naturally reflects her musical personality. Hlavenková's work has instinctively evolved from dreamy poetry to a distinctive expression, even though her musicality remains submerged in impressionist soundscapes.

*"I no longer want to remain immersed in dreamy reveries so much. I now want to use words and express ideas. I love singing and arranging, and I like contrasting elements. That makes me feel good and gives me self-confidence. Moreover, it is where I direct large amounts of energy and time, and where I focus my education. Each of the songs on* Žijutě *has precisely what is called for. In some cases, it means a different number of musicians. In contrast to* Sně*,* Žijutě *is much broader and packed with musical material in this regard. I spent long hours in the studio recording, overdubbing, trying different sounds and arrangements in striving to achieve the best possible result. It's only thanks to the deadline that I'm not still there,"* quips Hlavenková.

Out of the 11 compositions, nine feature lyrics in Czech and two in Slovak. They reflect the author's state of mind at the present time, important moments in her life, memories, and her continually growing passion for singing. The song *Okamih* was created as part of OOO, an unfulfilled project during which Hlavenková began singing, while the composition *Pořád je to tak* was written together with lyricist and sound designer Lukáš Duchovič. *Když padá sníh* is based on a phrase coined by Hlavenková's favorite author, Eckhart Tolle, while *Běžím* reflects ideas expressed in the book *Born To Run,* and gives a nod to the composer's work on the *Zátopek* soundtrack. The composition *425 - Dobrý den, noci* pays homage to Amherst, an American city where Hlavenková lived for three years. *Zahrada* tells a story about coping with the difficult time during the recent lockdowns.

The lyrics for the song *Sovám* were created in an impromptu fashion in the studio, in collaboration with vocal coach Pavla Fendrichová, singer songwriter Thom Artway, and singer Ota Klempíř. The composition *Komíhání* features a brand-new arrangement created by Hlavenková to underscore lyrics written by Václav Kvapil for the recently completed project Eternal Seekers.

Each of the songs features different guests – Tomáš Liška, Gabriela Vermelho, Pavla Fendrichová, Lukáš Duchovič, Vojta Nýdl, Rich Perry, Adam Koller, Thom Artway, Oto Klempíř, Tomáš Neuwerth, and David Stypka.

*"The composition* Píšu ti *was originally written for the movie* Dukla 61*. I wrote it together with David, but it stayed on the back burner for a long time. It was only at last year's songwriting camp that David suggested that we finish it. Regrettably, we didn't have enough time to do that before he passed away, but I was at least able to use his singing on the demo. His genius shines through the music,"* adds Hlavenková regarding her collaboration with Stypka.

Hlavenková's principal music partners on the album and on stage are trumpet player and drummer Oskar Török, guitarist and co-producer Patrick Karpentski, and bassist Miloš Klápště. They also form the Dream Band, an ensemble capable of producing both big and chamber-like sounds, where all of the musicians play multiple instruments and sing backup vocals. The final mix was created by Slovak guitarist, musician, and sound designer Andrej Hruška, known for collaboration with Zuzana Mikulcová and Katarína Máliková. The album's visual design was prepared by Zuzana Lednická from Studio Najbrt, and images were supplied by a duo of photographers known as Shotby.us, the winners of the Czech Grand Design Award.