PRESS RELEASE ISU.ORG



February 19, 2021

Lausanne, Switzerland

Listen to "Circles and Squares", the Official Song of the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2021

Today marks the unveiling of "<u>Circles and Squares</u>", the official song for the 2021 ISU World Figure Skating Championships. The song is performed by international artists Måns Zelmerlöw and Polina Gagarina and was specially commissioned for the event, which will be held at the Ericsson Globe in Stockholm (SWE) from March 22 – 28.

The songwriters <u>Måns Zelmerlöw</u>, Stefan Örn, David Lindgren Zacharias, Sandra Bjurman, and Jon Eyden, took their inspiration from Figure Skating.

"We wanted to write a song with a slightly serious tone and at the same time bring out the beauty that exists between two Figure Skaters, the passion, the art, and of course mutual respect. This is mirrored in the arrangement of the song that has an intro full of expectation before we bring in the full orchestra that takes the song to the heights we wanted to hit," says Stefan Örn.

They wanted to create a soaring sound, which they did by recording the song in the historical Atlantis Studio. Everything was recorded live, except from the string orchestra, which was recorded by Erik Arwinder.

"It's always fantastic to start with an idea, and then develop it into a full-scale production. Few people have the privilege of working at this level, and I'm humbled to have had this opportunity. Circles and Squares is crafted by a team that I'm proud to work with and right now we're looking forward to the release of this world-class track!" Örn adds.

"It feels great that Polina and I have been entrusted by the Swedish Figure Skating Association to do the official song. I was extremely impressed by her as a singer back in 2015 in Vienna," says Måns Zelmerlöw.

"I think Circles and Squares is a very direct and romantic song, which is just how I see Figure Skating! I hope that Figure Skating fans and music lovers alike will enjoy the song," says Polina Gagarina.

"The song will help lift the World Figure Skating Championships and will be performed during the Championships themselves. We'll play it during build-up and training and the music video will be shown on the big screen inside the arena. I hope that Figure Skating fans around the world play the song to get in the right World Championship mood! The song will be available on most digital platforms, so just enjoy it!" says Ulrika Molin, President Organizing Committee of the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2021.

The music video that accompanies the single will be released on February 28, 2021. It tells a story, in which we see Måns as a caretaker of an ice rink, where he works hard every day. One day, he sees Polina Figure Skating. In their dreams, they meet as a Figure Skating couple and we get to follow the dramatic and theatrical events as they unfold on the ice. The video, which will be released on YouTube, is a production made at Husby ice rink, north of Stockholm, at the beginning of 2021.

We will have the honour of watching the Swedish and Russian singers perform "Circles and Squares" live during the Exhibition Gala on March 28, 2021 to finish the Championships on a high note.

LISTEN HERE: https://ingroov.es/circles-and-squares

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FACTS

Release date: February 19, 2021 on Spotify, iTunes, and other digital platforms.

Music video release date: February 28, 2021 on YouTube.

Title: Circles and Squares

Artists: Måns Zelmerlöw, Polina Gagarina

Written by: Måns Zelmerlöw, Stefan Örn, David Lindgren Zacharias, Sandra Bjurman, Jon Eyden.

Producer: Stefan Örn Mixer: Johan Kronlund

Mastering: Björn Engelman for Cutting Room

Record label: Argle Bargle Studios

Music video

Creative: FRIMA Agency

Story: FRIMA Agency - Jens Segrén - Mikael Thorn

Producer: Jens Segrén Director: Mikael Thorn Lighting: David Lebahn A-camera: Simon Averin B-camera: Daniel Markström Styling: Jenny Tuvesson Make-up: Mila Damberg

Subscribe to the <u>Skating ISU YouTube Channel</u> to receive alerts when the live streams start and when new videos are posted.

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About the International Skating Union

The International Skating Union (ISU), founded in 1892, is the oldest governing international winter sport federation and the exclusive international sport federation recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) administering the sports of Figure Skating (Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance), Synchronized Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating worldwide. The objectives of the ISU are to regulate, govern, promote and develop its sports on the basis of friendship and mutual understanding between athletes. Currently three ISU disciplines are included in the Olympic Winter Games program (Figure Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating).