

BILO I
DAVID MAXIM MICIC

"BILO I" RERELEASE

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THE DROPOUT

The year is 2010. I'm in the studio with two fabulous guitarists and good friends of mine. We are discussing plans on doing a guitar-focused collaboration record together. Some very creative and ambitious ideas are floating around, which was something I truly needed after dropping out from Berklee and spending most of my time depressed, making arrangements for various pop singers, TV shows, and theater. So we started writing some music, every man for himself, with an idea to dip our fingers into each other's work at some point and make a genuinely collaborative and coherent record. The guys were a bit older than me. They had their plans, tight schedules, and what seemed to be a very ambitious project at the beginning slowly turned into "meh, let's just make a little compilation type record and call it a day." That crushed me. I needed a challenge. It drove me straight back into depression, and I completely cut any contact with them. I have to admit, that was a very immature decision to cut them off like that, but also a decision that took me on a journey that will completely alter the course of my life and my career.

"I JUST WANTED THE WORLD TO KNOW"

BILO I (also known as Bilu EP at the time) was my first release that wasn't really a release. I uploaded the Bilu EP without song names and with a little "thank you" note to MediaFire, a popular file-sharing website at the time. I didn't even bother uploading it to YouTube at the time. I've used no music distribution services, and it was never released on a CD or Vinyl, nor did I ever release any merchandise for it. I just wanted to share my music with the world and have someone listen to it. And the world listened. The last time I checked, which was a long time ago, Bilu EP was downloaded over 13.000 times. I mean, it was free, and there were no streaming services at the time, so people just downloaded music from anywhere they could find it. And people used it for travel videos, and it even got picked up by some TV stations in Asia as their background music in some random interviews. Even a number of foot-fetish videos got uploaded with my music onto YouTube, but of course, that got taken down pretty quickly. People requested me to upload it somewhere where they can purchase the Bilu EP. But we had no PayPal in Serbia at the time. I've had no way of earning money with my music. And to be honest, I didn't care. I just wanted the world to know. Music for the sake of music, right?

EU/UK TOUR 2017

David
M/M



10th ANNIVERSARY

I never intended for the original Bilo EP even to be considered an official release, but more of a glorified demo in a way. It is probably to get over that “debut release paralysis” that so many artists struggle with at the start of their careers. Even tho I’ve had actual song titles set in place for the release, I also managed to detach myself from it by not naming the songs but calling them part 1, part 2, and so on.

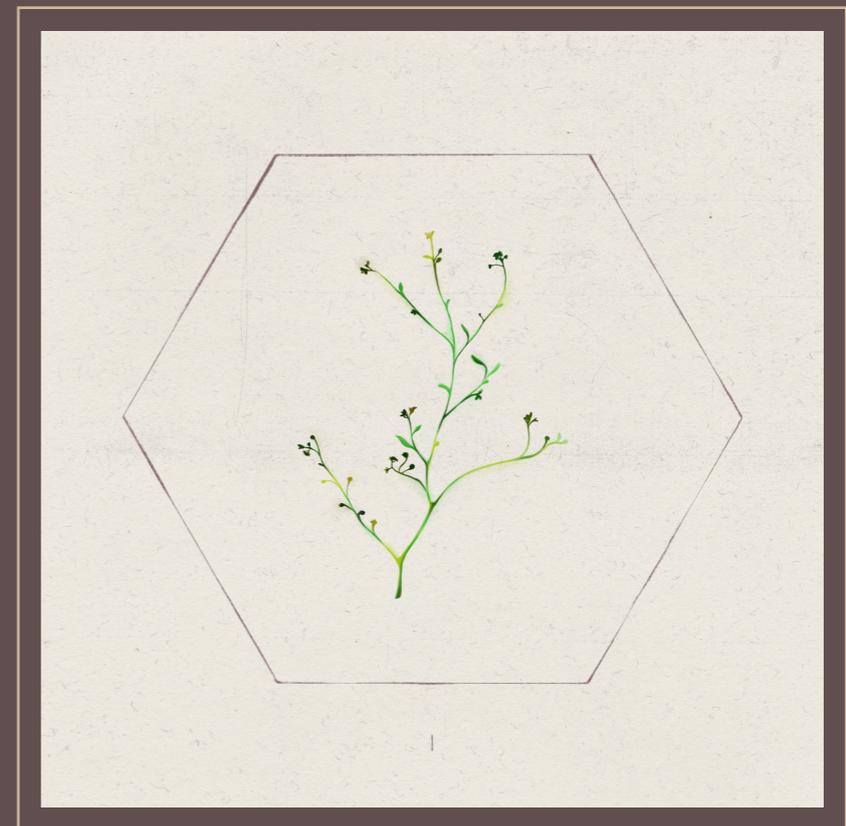
As I started working on BILO IV, somewhere along the line, I started considering the physical release of all BILO records down the line, which meant I had to revisit those old projects and sort out the mixes and masters mainly for technical reasons. That led me to relive the first BILO record entirely and do my best to take it to the next level. It’s such a significant record in my life, and it deserves a proper release, the song titles, a beautiful redesign, and some thoughtful mixing and mastering.

Once BILO I is released, the Bilo EP will be removed from streaming platforms, again, for technical reasons. But don’t worry, Bilo EP will still be available on YouTube, as well as a free download from my website and my Bandcamp page.



Original Design - 2011

[CLICK HERE TO STREAM THE RECORD](#)



Anniversary Design - 2021 (by Yelka)



SANTIAGO, CHILE / MARCH 2019



Korčula, circa 1988

HER

In May 2021, I lost a person that gave me life and made me who I am. She was an artist, my best friend, a mentor, my biggest fan, my mom. She was a true bookworm and the reason behind my appreciation for philosophy, writers, and books and why those are so heavily involved in my music from day one. Her dusty, old, broken hat became a symbol of my early career and will continue to inspire new music for years to come. It was her who named my project *BILO* and gave it its meaning. Bilo means pulse, a heartbeat. The record starts with what I imagined is a person going through a clinical death only to be reborn again. On May 8th in the afternoon, her heart suddenly stopped beating. She passed away in my and my father's arms, quickly, quietly, and got buried on May 13th, the exact day of the 10th anniversary of *BILO I*.

It's a humbling feeling, knowing that you owe someone everything but that you have only so much to offer. And what I can offer is a promise, to live a meaningful life, to celebrate life, write songs about the things that matter, to write songs about her.

GUESTS

SHORTCUT

JAKUB ZYTECKI / Guitar Solo

VLADIMIR LALIC / Narration

BLOOD WHISPERS

ALEKSANDRA RADOSAVLJEVIC / Vocals & Narration

SASA LOKNER / Keyboard Solo

GLOG

VASIL HADZIMANOV / Keyboard Solo

SHADOWPLAY

ALEKSANDRA RADOSAVLJEVIC / Vocals

ALEKSANDRA DJELMASH / Vocals

VLADIMIR LALIC / Narration

"If you're on a track, traveling somewhere and you don't see what's passing around you, it is as if you didn't make a trip through those places, at all."

ALO
RECORDINGS