

April 17, 2023  
For Immediate Release

**Bendik Giske Announces New, Self-Titled Album Produced by Beatrice Dillon  
Out June 9th On Smalltown Supersound**

[Listen to Lead Single, “Rush”](#)



(Photo by Luke Abby)

Norwegian saxophonist, composer, and artist **Bendik Giske** announces his **new album, *Bendik Giske***, out **June 9th** on **Smalltown Supersound**, and presents its **lead single, “Rush.”** Under the guidance of producer and electronic musician, **Beatrice Dillon**, *Bendik Giske* sees

the saxophonist stripping away a layer of melodicism, honing in on pattern and rhythm to bring out a different dimension of his mesmerizing sound. Where Giske's 2021 album, *Cracks*, observed him "[developing] an entirely new vocabulary for his instrument, using electronic treatments to yield a curiously disembodied sound" (*Pitchfork*), *Bendik Giske* is akin to musical full-frontal nudity — every detail, every huff and puff audible, no obscuring, no aestheticising.

"Rush," *Bendik Giske*'s lead single, is an electric, five minute submersion into Giske's latest sonic landscape. As the track builds, Giske's hypnotic saxophone percussively weaves a sparse yet dense landscape.

### [Listen to "Rush" by Bendik Giske](#)

Now on the cusp of his third solo album, Bendik Giske knows himself well. The Norwegian saxophonist is in his prime as an artist: confident in his voice and abilities, buoyed by critical acclaim from all corners — including two **Norwegian Grammy nominations** — and a surge in audiences everywhere.

Sessions for *Bendik Giske* began with producer Beatrice Dillon posing a challenge to Giske: what would happen if he stripped away some of his defining features as a producer in order to explore, in her words, an "unadorned and elemental approach?" While again working with single-take recordings, no overdubs, only saxophone and his body, gone is the reverberant space and mellifluous glamor. Throughout the recording and mixing process, Dillon's belief in spaciousness allowed Giske's sound to breathe and resonate all the more vividly.

Confrontational, *Bendik Giske* demands great attention, but through its physicality — you can hear and feel his body in the music — it takes you to a flow state, somewhere between ecstasy, elation, and spiritual awakening. Intensely human, there's a stark tension there, too — there always will be when fighting for existence and validity — elegantly illustrated by **Florian Hetz**'s striking photograph of Giske for the album's cover.

Inspired by Judith Halberstram's *The Queer Art of Failure*, Giske's path has taken him far outside the confines of his training and participation in the environment of a jazz conservatory. Working these new explorations with his instrument has been a ten-year process of peeling away what Giske knew ultimately didn't fit, finding the sonic territory of his lived experience. What emerged were systems that allowed for studies of tempo and proportion, a starting point for an immersive improvisatory approach, mapping years of musical probing.

*Bendik Giske* is the sound of social emancipation through the meditative pulse and velocity of circular breathing and the dance of the body, especially fingers, tongue, and lips. Giske knows that music can be a powerful tool in bringing people together to find ideas, and the longevity

of his project is at its utmost a call for care, togetherness, storytelling, and the ability to gather for a shared cause. In all earnestness, *Bendik Giske* is a proposal for truthfulness and existence, a space for one to express their most profound self.

[Pre-order \*Bendik Giske\*](#)

***Bendik Giske* Tracklist:**

1. Start
2. Not Yet
3. Rhizome
4. Rise And Fall
5. Rush
6. Slipping
7. End

[Download cover art & hi-res images of \*Bendik Giske\*](#)



(*Bendik Giske* Cover Art)

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