

SONGS OF SOARING BIRDS

Icelandic cultural documentary

| 50 min | Iceland / Europe

“A poetic meditation on voice, nature, and transcendence.”

Logline

Icelandic musicians give voice to modern poetry inspired by birds and flight, exploring the human desire to transcend earthly limits.

Synopsis

An ode to life and the beauty of the heavens, the film explores freedom and fragility through song in the European art song tradition, with modern harmonic language, using the symbolism of birds in flight as a metaphor for freedom, longing, and spiritual ascent—a poetic, symbolic, musically structured cinematic work about human existence, voice, and transcendence in a contemporary European context.

Why This Film

Structured as a musical journey, the film explores the symbolic and emotional resonance of birds and flight, suggesting a fragile connection between human longing and the natural world and aiming to create a cinematic experience where sound, image, and thought converge as well as to approach cinema as a form of listening, where the viewer is invited to inhabit a space of attention, reflection, and presence.

Status

Pending: Axess TV (Sweden), Golden Prague International Television Festival, and soon to be submitted to RÚV (Iceland)

Credits

Producer/composer: Thorvaldur Gylfason

Artists: Hildigunnur Einarsdóttir mezzosoprano, Bryndís Halla Gylfadóttir cello, Hrönn Thráinsdóttir piano

Poet: Kristján Hreinsson

Director: Jón Egill Bergthórsson

Links

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cjpm6HoWmFI>

Screenener: <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/1173401999>

Password: Hildigunnur2026

Contact

Thorvaldur Gylfason

Email: gylfason@hi.is

Phone: +354-862-8351

Website: <https://gylfason.hi.is/en/tonverk/songs-of-soaring-birds-3/>

