

# KAUAN – KAIHO

LABEL: [kauanmusic](#) RELEASE DATE: [September 22, 2017](#)



KAUAN have always created moments of quiet introspection, even amidst the thundering riffs and caustic screams that largely defined the contours of the band's earliest output. But on Kaiho, as KAUAN step out of their past, songwriter and founding member Anton Belov expands upon the reverb-rich, post-rock debuted in 2009's Aava Tuulen Maa to create serene, nostalgic soundscapes that transport the listener to idyllic days long past spent at the foot of the Ural Mountains outside his native Chelyabinsk.

Kaiho is KAUAN's eighth album following 2015's lauded Sorni Nai, which chronicled the infamous and unsolved Dyatlov Pass Incident in which nine hikers mysteriously died after becoming trapped in a blizzard in the Urals. Kaiho focuses on childhood and the transition to adulthood, when the death of a loved one shatters halcyon beginnings and makes clear the stark reckoning that awaits in the end. Lyrics for Kaiho were written by the great Finnish folk singer Marja Mattlar, and as always with KAUAN, they are sung in Finnish, a language that in its eliding vowels creates soothing ethereal tones understood by few but deeply felt by all.

With Kaiho, KAUAN lifts off into awe-inspiring plateaus where dulcet alien notes weave amidst the faded light of long gone autumn afternoons, the still of mid-winter, the glittering drops of snowmelt. These moments are remembered tenderly and fondly, echoing from the past and pieced together from afar in the bustling city center of Kiev that KAUAN has called home since 2011.

Art for Kaiho, a series of landscape and abstract watercolors painted by Belov's grandmother, depicts memories pulled from his childhood in Troitsk, but visualized through her own interpretation. Art direction for the album was provided by FELD in Berlin, Germany (Erased Tapes, Nils Frahm, Ólafur Arnalds).

Kaiho releases September 22 on KAUAN's own label, kauanmusic, founded for this release to mark a departure into new unknowns. The album is distributed internationally by Redeye Worldwide.

## PRESS

"KAUAN blend elements of folk and metal better than perhaps any other band today, clouding doom in a lush and weary atmosphere..."

—Stereogum

"...spellbinding...regardless of whether you understand Finnish or not."

—Pop Matters

"...as with Godspeed You! Black Emperor, Kauan's layers of strings and keyboards make a compelling case that "symphonic" need not be shorthand for hokey melodrama"

—Brooklyn Vegan