

SAVE THE WORLD

New Climate Anthem 'I Need Air' Aims to Provide Cultural Energy for Successful UN Climate Conference in Poland

Bernadette La Hengst's Fifth Climate Change Song Supported by Youth Choirs from Katowice and Bonn

Katowice, December 2018-- A new climate anthem, written by the German singer-songwriter Bernadette La Hengst as part of **Save the World 2018** is today being launched as a cultural contribution to COP24 taking place in Katowice, Poland.

The song, the fifth climate changed-linked chanson written by the German and English-speaking musician in almost as many years, frames the urgency for climate action through the lens of clean air.

It may make Ms La Hengst , whose work spans many issues and genres, perhaps the most prolific climate change composer among mainstream musicians.

Several performances of the song are planned including one at the ClimateHUB and the Pacific Pavilion in COP24, both on 11 December at 6 pm and 8.30 pm. On invitation of the Silesia University a further performance is scheduled at Miasto Ogrodów, the center of contemporary culture in Katowice on 14 December.

A pop campaign video shot on the streets and among the buildings of Katowice was released today as delegates to the annual [UN Climate Conference \(COP24\)](#) look to step up climate action via the landmark 2015 Paris Climate Change Agreement

Last year Bernadette collaborated with Save the World festival 2017 by writing the song ['I'm an Island'](#) which was performed at the opening of the UN Climate Conference (COP23) in Bonn.

It was supported by the German government's [Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development](#) where as part of its campaign the song received over two

million clicks on You Tube. The song was also supported by the [Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety](#)

Bernadette said:” Artists and musicians everywhere have an important role to play in mobilizing awareness and action on what is happening in society and across the globe. Climate change is not a simple, single issue but one we cannot ignore and really must address”.

“At its core is how humanity can live together now and, in the years, and decades to come and in a way that respects the beauty and wonder of our natural world while providing hope, dignity and respect for every man, woman and child—that has got to be worth fighting for,” she added.

‘I Need Air’ can be heard and understood on different levels—it is a love song and it is a protest song. It also takes the theme of air pollution, one of the most shocking and direct manifestations of the impacts of burning fossil fuels.

According to the World Health Organization and its new campaign [Breathe Life](#) as many as seven million people world wide die as a result of air pollution set aside the many more whose bodies and health are damaged by it.

Ms La Hengst is scheduled to be in Katowice from 11 December to 13 December for several events.

Press/Media interested in interviewing her can contact Nick Nuttall on e-mail nuttaburn@yahoo.com or Mobile: +491602111102 or Andrea Tietz on e-mail tietz@savetheworld.de

Bernadette La Hengst has been a collaborator with SAVE THE WORLD from its inception, often through an alter ego called the Climate Fairy. As a musician and director, she works on the interface of pop, performance and politics and has already written a number of songs about climate change.

For the first edition of SAVE THE WORLD she wrote the song “Save the World with this Melody” that generated public choirs as symbols of how cooperating together can not only be fun, but can bring people of many views and backgrounds together in common cause.

“I Need Air” is her fifth climate song. This year she also wrote the song “[Wir sind die Vielen](#)” for the foundation FUTURZWEI which was also performed at the 240,000 strong

UNTEILBAR demonstration in Berlin a few months: contributing to the soundtrack of one of the biggest demonstrations in Germany of the past decades.

Currently Bernadette La Hengst is performing in Falk Richter's production of Lazarus at the Deutsches Schauspielhaus Hamburg. The musical, which premiered on 17 November this year, is inspired by the 1976 film The Man Who Fell to Earth and the songs of David Bowie.

All Climate 'Hits' by Bernadette La Hengst:

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- [Short section of the new song „I Need Air“ in our Call for Entries](#)
- [Opening of the COP23 in Bonn with „I am an Island“](#)
- [Save the World \(with this melody\)](#)
- [SAVE THE WORLD – YOUNG PLANET, workshop “Climate & Mobility“](#)
- [“Climate Astronauts“](#), a winner of the worldwide youth music competition organised by the Climate Secretary of the United Nations; UNESCO and the Austrian-based **International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges** for the 2015 Climate Conference in Paris

Notes to Editors

The Save the World festival has been catalysing action through promoting closer collaboration between the arts, culture, science, experts and sustainability since 2014.

For more information on the Save the World formats.

In German <https://www.savetheworld.de/>

In English <https://www.savetheworld.de/en/>

PARTNER

Production: SAVE THE WORLD for the cultural program of the World Climate Change Conference (COP 24).

Funded by the Federal Agency for Civic Education

Song: In collaboration with Bernadette La Hengst and the Youth Choir of Theater Bonn under the direction of Ekaterina Klewitz.

Video: *In collaboration with Alexander und Mia Basile / weownyou and the City of Katowice / Urząd Miasta Katowice Thanks to HIPHOPSPOT / Alex, the Silesian Museum / Muzeum Śląskie w Katowicach / Public Transport Katowice / Tramwaje Śląskie S.A. and Weirdoskateschool*

Performances in Katowice with support of Dr. Jerzy Jarosz, Silesian Children University (Uniwersytet Śląski Dzieci), Bernadeta Stańczyk, director of the Polish Music Academy Wojciecha Kilara (*Chór Państwowej Ogólnokształcącej Szkoły Muzycznej II stopnia im. Karola Szymanowskiego* Zespole Państwowych Szkół Muzycznych im. Wojciecha Kilara w Katowicach, conductor Dr Aleksandra Maciejczyk), Jolanta Kałuża, director of the International School in Katowice (Zespół Szkół Prywatnych),

Special thanks to *Malgosia Bubik, Aleksandra Gasiorek, Katarzyna Włodarczyk, Ulrich Freitag / Verein zur Förderung der Städtepartnerschaft Köln-Kattowitz e.V., Roland Schmidt und Wojciech Dzido / Goethe-Institut Krakau*

And to *the schools Podstawowa im. Gawlikowicza, Bojszowy, Podstawowa nr 54, Bytom, the school Omega im. Górnośląskich Noblistów, Katowice, Music Academy Mieczysława Karłowicza in Katowice (Państwowa Szkoła Muzyczna I i II st. im. Mieczysława Karłowicza w Katowicach).*