Stan Douglas,
born Vancouver, Canada, 1960

**ISDN**, 2022

two-channel video (color, sound)
duration: 6 hours, 41 minutes, 28 seconds (video variations), looped
duration: 82 hours, 2 minutes, 52 seconds (musical variations), looped

Courtesy of the artist, Victoria Miro, and David Zwirner  2023.345

**ISDN Transcript**
*(right screen)*

Explicit language contained in the lyrics below.

ISDN is one of Stan Douglas’ “recombinant” works in which dialogue, soundtrack, and imagery recombine and change, often over a long period of time. You are welcome to enter the work at any point.

Because this work changes order, you will need to find your place in the transcript.

[Joker in Arabic]

♫ We fall and lean on the days
This is the nature of man
We get tired and say it’s all fine
One hand holds a whip, the other a bridle.
My mind has ghosts that don’t sleep
It’s all about representation, it’s all dreams
Like I am in Vietnam inside me,
there is a fire that never dies
Leave the form, leave the ignorance
That made all the talk easy
It did not happen smoothly, it came with reason
Intend, and you will find a solution
Walk the right way, we’ll mention you
Get in the wrong way, we’ll cry over you
Smile, relax so we don’t beat you
Your face looks haram, and I’ll fix you ♪

[Raptor in Arabic]
♪ Let the other rapper shoot
Reports, tracks, disses are increasing
In our spot, we make others feel low
We are showing some skill, it broke down
Place got ruined, a fan ran away
That’s Raptor’s rap, I throw a pile of dirt
When I compose, Captagon falls from the words I fed him,
and he became confused.
Stop rapping, your rap is not deep
If he bends, my music will adjust him
I’ll violate him in the matches
What? Hisham slept, he said nonsense
It’s okay, I’m also far ahead of my tongue
Let’s escape this shitty scene in the broken beat
We know who is who ♫

[Joker]

♩ I traveled the seas and gained the rocks
Life flowed into me I was patient like a camel
They raised questions, I put them in the sack
They looked at me, said Joker is Superman
How silly Robin overcame all possibilities
Contentment is a treasure
Long live the capital
Chances are pigeons

They need catching not attacking
Trying will break you so enjoy crashing
Not gonna work by shouting
It will work by the green, by the brown,
And later, pushed by the red
You’ll open your chest but they’re more clever
I’ll hit you in your face, and I won’t think about it
A brother comes, and another goes.
A brother disappoints, and another performs
A brother gains the challenge
And the other leaves the door will lead ♪♪

[Raptor]

♩ ♪ Inside the game, work is not a dip
King and queen, we dance chacha,
Tik tik nine, we enter chacha
Our body is a landing, we spice it up
I am on the shore, he told me his fate
My words are in a bag, it’s better if you’re late
I will appear in your face, and push you in it
And then break you
They said Raptor would quit
He came prepared
The girl is rapping while you’re in the kitchen
That’s the irony of fate
Why are you nervous?
Yes, we are the danger
We do not export pain
Nor grow knowledge ♪♪
[Joker]

♪ My plan is to let go of all who ran away.
Look at everyone else
You and your pocket-sized ambition
Oh oh, I don’t care I’m a ghost,
I’m cute with a high level
Whenever I enter a spot, my account gets higher
They count my words because they are pricey
Hey, you don’t like my profile
Well, I do not breathe at your expense
I do not wake up to get your validation
I don’t care to win you
Or to lose you
Tell me what you don’t like about me
So I can change you ♬ ♬

[Raptor]

♪ I shot a bullet full of heat
Raptor in the sky
And I have some pearls on my feet
King and queen, bon appetit
We charge our power with Mouri on the beat
Oh, oh, they told me dope
Sorry, this is my turn, bring me Dettol
To clean the Scene
Using brillo to clean the grease
When I wake up,
I produce an album
Let everything go,
I came to rise, so I fell
I’m rising with determinant steps
Even when I passed out
My eyes were wide open I’m smooth in this,
slam the words and get paid
I have good taste,
tell me who they are
Clip-clop beat, the horse Is made in Egypt ♬

[Joker]

♩ In this stability, we lost relativity
I decided to rap at 7:00 a.m.
I woke up, got stoned with Uranium
I start my shift
Have my proteins from the Opsins
In my head, there are spaces for discoveries
What has passed has died, it’s all rap
We knew the streets like we were cats and dogs
I came from the roots like an ape
I stopped playing online games
I save the guards from the enemies
I have completed the game in two levels
I take my girlfriend to outer space
It seems like I’m putting on fire.
Even though I didn’t mean to
I’m just extraordinary
I’m an upgrade in every form ♪♫

[Raptor]

♪ I’m sorry for this
Here, we have a mine full of rhymes
He is a homie from the scene
We’ll fight you
You’ll be trembling, shush
I’m sorry for you
What is coming will terrify you
Our path is locked
We hush everybody and shut the weak
Here we walk in, our concerts were full
Because of our names
Raptor is a lexicon
When I say hi, everyone is terrified
Hi-five, no, it’s a punch
The pain can be seen
Damn, your voice will hurt the ears
In this game, we destroyed the place
From Alexander’s land
When he went to Amman ♪♪

[Joker]

♪ Hey, look, you’ll be a runner
But you’ll lose the race
You’ll regret that we’re enemies
It’s tough to compete on the beat
It’s hard, like an exam
Let everyone hear
I’m a rapper that will leave a mark in this scene
One mind is better than the other
Get on it, live it, and don’t you dare to dream
All these people won’t understand
Local ignorance in their minds
Oh, I left all friendships and all this silliness
I spent the night waiting
Too much time has passed
And I found the truth in the daylight 🎶

[Raptor]

♪ Get in, the home is yours
This place was good in the past
My words are pieces of art
Hearing your voice makes me sleep
I think that I passed out
I lost the results, how much did I get?
I make rap
Raptor on the beat
Raptor standing on the tomb
I’ll give you followers
Do you get this?
Can you get it?
No, man, but I am not your fan
C’est la vie
You’re robbing with your master’s money
I scored an easy goal
I removed the sound
I forgot the instrument
Your rap is weak, it’s trash
Too bad you’re part of this scene
This track is hard
When I come,
I’ll take your fan ♪♪

[Joker]

♪ It feels like walking on the ocean
All my steps are drowning
My mind went crazy
I needed a mirror to recognize me
Our success was by overpassing the troubles
So we celebrated, we entered the journey
Where we want to be is immortal
Some were desperate, some were tired
Some got bored and felt that their time had passed
Life won’t discriminate, it’ll whip us all
I’m here but look at the marks on my back
I was trapped from the four corners
Their hobby was to frustrate me
So many of us have fallen
But I’ve risen like a warrior ♪♪
[Raptor]

♩ Beat, I entered I’m here to question,
Who’s better in the field?
My rap builds
Don’t care about the rest
Won’t be silent or quiet, I’ll shout and scream
I’ll lead the game and hit the pocket
Will collect my cash
Will get my cash, yeah
Nobody is invited I’m steady
And the price is high
A singer and a rapper
There is no one like me
Stop crying, your voice is high
My trap is smooth
Look at me, I’ll pass you the beat
Raptor is the only one
Who swings on the beat
I am here to hunt, I’ll write a beef
Writing in Arabic will seal the deal
I didn’t know what to curse
The beat in rap equals six zeros ♩ ♩
[Joker]

♩ Their life is shit
But they sugarcoated their words
I didn’t hear the advice from the losers
I walked along the legend’s road
If you want the truth, I made a huge effort
I wandered all around
I gave the rules the finger
Said, nah, got the money with pain
When I fell, I didn’t feel the ache
I was trapped, I didn’t surrender
I didn’t get what failure meant
I didn’t know it
I know it’s dangerous
And that the road is longer than the destination
But fate can blind the eyes I shot some fire
and my tears aren’t raindrops ♩ ♩

[Raptor]

♩ Everywhere, people think they’re Snape
I am faster than the waves, motherfucker
We deny you exist
Whoever stole, his rap is deep
The real rap is in the underground
It won’t be affected
I lead this field by miles
Everyone’s high, it’s all public
Kids with responsibilities
Look at Hisham
Hair turned gray
When he beat their silly rap
Where was my rap?
Shebeita, 2000
The rap’s quality is turning bad, he died
He is not an artist, he is a thinker
So he criticized to look real
He is here, again
He is here, it’s okay
We understand that this is our field
Then we heard the MCs
We’ll burn you all ♬

[Joker]

♩ These people aren’t good, they exaggerate
Create a Liquor store out of a prayer bump
We lived in peace
Unexpectedly, all the hatred appeared
All this nonsense is just a cover
In this mud puddle
Better to find Indians than soldiers
And all this occurred in the raid
When we talk, we’re monkeys
In the streets, we’re leopards
In the escaping, what a loss
You wish you were feared by people
When they see you
They say he’ll break the door
So many knocks, and it doesn’t open
I’ll come and cry over you all
If I want your greatness, I’ll bring you
Hey, ghosts of the gang
I live the life that tempts you ♬♩

[Raptor]

♩ Who did you beat? Who is real, how many shares?
How many rappers are on the top? Unfair, Ampere
We are done with this scene
Everyone became Sean, beef
It’s okay if I continued in Arabic
That’s my purpose, why it was shitty
A myth not destroyed
Lyrica is just like volcanos
I’ll park as an Arab
My rap’s soil is Coulombs
Rap that’s enchanting
I ask them to leave you

I am calling you, I’m an artist calling you
Shut it, I’m killing it
I am calling you
I am an artist who is calling you
Shut it, kill it
Shut it, I’m calling
I am an artist who is calling you
Shut it, I am killing it
Just shut it♪♪

[Joker]

♪ The corpses flew when the Joker arrived
My mind exploded
What’s funny is that they have the money
But they couldn’t buy him the talent  
You can’t look me eye to eye  
Even if you pulled your eyelids, bro  
Lunatic, strange  
On this melody, it’s scary  
Tell me flow and hello  
Oh, the door banged and I didn’t hear it  
He knocked and reached the peak  
But he didn’t rise  
The loser of this gang  
Has no personality  
Every once in a while, he changes his material  
When you see him from afar  
You think he’ll swallow you  
But when things get serious  
He becomes ridiculous ♪

[Raptor]

♪ Peace, he is standing, it’s clear  
It’s folded from the sleeve  
Naive, we don’t need a diagnosis  
I benefit from no one, sorry, nobody’s here  
Your friend is somewhere else
Don’t be disappointed, don’t call
A knockout with a sword, I’ll disappear
Like an empty square
You’ll be satisfied with our voice
You’ll be pleased with our voice
When there was no other than Hisham In his field,
we saw him, his music was on the beat
When they saw him
They said that’s shitty rap
They cursed him, but he tried to rap and liked it
Then said, I created it
He stole from the one who started
Others saw him and heard him, this rap is fake
Oh, this rap is fake
When he came, I started checking everyone out
And I got bored ♪

[Joker]

♫ If I hear your voice, I won’t talk to you
I’ll only bring you and destroy you
People only talk about me
Because they’re empty and thirsty
This cup is not yours
You must try on your own
I don’t care about anything else
If all is under my control
Hey you, if you bring girls my age with you
We’re no longer homies
I never take a bad way, this ain’t my vibe
There is nothing that tempts me
I’ll point out everyone, and they’ll come
All are trying to have a piece
As if they are mice and I am the cheese
I told you, yoh, this role is not for you
Leave it and take mine ♪♪

[Speaker in Arabic]

♪ They said Raptor disappeared
He produced this track and was pleased
Stop now, so we don’t beat you
When power comes together, it makes a fire
Heat has become a trend
Going to lock this house
But we’re standing at the doorstep
We’re heading to the top with Joe’s tunes
In the production room
Rap is the outcome, I’m the dealer
Who turns rhymes into pieces
Whatever happens, only God sees me
We all will dap
No matter how long I’m gone
I always come back
Depression is there
What’s that sound?
Are you suffering?
We’ll destroy you
And you’ll have no reaction, damn ♬

[Joker]

♩ Ferraris and parked cars are not the same
You brought oil with you
But it is not envy that transformed
Your performance
And turned men into monkeys
Fish rope, one flow
Like social development
You’dl die if the Internet did not exist
We would not have heard of you
And you would have been a shoe
This job is not for you
You’re tripping, your screaming is enchanting
If you want to get near, I want to try
I’ll play drums over your head
Everyone knows you’re weak
The best Egyptian rapper,
choose your words It’s all over there in Kenya ♪♪

[Raptor]

♫ Who is this, who are those?
Let’s get started, we are scary
Like Jason and Freddy
I asked if you were ready
They said slow down, I was just about to start
I’m a killer, but I’ll act calm
Osta, won’t you quit?
Even if I paid you the half, don’t exaggerate
You won’t even reach the half
Motherfucker, you’ll be our toy Yalla fucker,
not weed, we are Africans
If you want to reach Raptor, sorry, you can’t
He’s sitting in the opposite seat
But you just can’t Eco, Eco, Danger, Danger
If I see an error, I’ll look to the other side.
The cover is off now, okay
If you try, you won’t lose anything
mistake Where am I? I’m not Henedy Where am I?
God made everyone see
I won’t disappear, here I come, damn ♪♪

[Joker]

♪ Don’t talk too much, so you don’t get tired
I have much more left
I remember you well
Tell me, what shall I do?
We’ll not be homies
And I’m not like everyone you knew
Your words are empty
You’ll cash them
Your systems are messy, I don’t like them
Your words are empty, you’ll cash them
You prepare the materials for the machines
Honey, I am not Kuwaiti
Nobody can judge me
Only God can.
My account is in Switzerland
And you won’t know how much
Money it has♪♪

[Raptor]

♪ We slipped inside the game, inside the clouds
Simply, you won’t understand
We teach, who knows, the curse
You’re blind, that’s your curse
I killed it in the game, I ripped you to pieces
It’s easy for me, and for you, it’s hard
Easy for me For you, it’s hard
Yeah, yeah
For you, it’s hard
He’s Bruce Wayne, she’s Lois Lane
I’m in the middle, I’m Clark Kent.
I’m Superman, I’m Superman
Leave him asleep, that’s his fate
All will be clear in this domain
Everyone’s heart will die
These albums will shake
We killed it
He took drugs, he slept
Cool, man, that’s great
Look, we’ll light it up
Fire we make ♫

[Joker]

♫ I don’t have time for you
You look haram, I’ll modify you
I intend to get you,
because I have your bait
Your screaming is enchanting
This job suits you
I don’t need more nonsense talks
If she asked for anything, I’ll play stupid
I’d rather use my hand to dig
Than take an axe from a liar
They took a lot from you today
They came to ask for a picture
Our presence is overwhelming
Everywhere when we enter, our faces shine
If you have with bulldozers
We’ll win you standing on our feet ♫

[Raptor]
Let’s start to see what is happening
Are you teasing us?
Damn, we still humiliate you
Wake up.
C’est la vie, syllable, tre, double, rap scene
In Sinai, man, this is Raptor
The sea of this scene
You’ll bring two broken verses again
No question and answer, we also will sleep
All of this and I am still playing
It’s all a playground
You’ll light the fire, but you’ll miss the peak
All the rappers can’t hear you
All of this and I am still playing
All is a playground
You’ll light the fire, but you’ll miss the peak
All the rappers can’t hear you

[Joker]

It’s easy for you and me to live
Under the same roof
But when life happens under the vision
Of a sci-fi director
Be positive, fast and positive
I have to run,
follow me quickly
My mind is busy,
I can’t find you,
I’m alone, and it’s all in English
Yeah, my path will end in a maze
You’ll get in and get lost
I advise you to avoid it from the beginning
My mind is full of sounds ♪♩

[Raptor]

♩ It is hard to get the idea, aren’t you tired?
The vortex keeps rolling
We beat and fight, how much will you sell?
Go, bring a concept tomorrow
Ah, parties and groups
Splitting the cake
People come together when things are well
Click, Click, all came back
When they saw the green
They saw the cash
Rotate, illuminate
My mind told me not to be reckless ♩♩

[Joker]

♩ We cannot reach heaven
When we live with these people
They are mean and quiet
No one knows the unseen
The shame is on those who don’t have money
So, we’re going to fight back
Never give up your right even once
When I understood the intentions
I saw no one beside me
They are all nasty at the end
But they were angels initially
I don’t care anymore
There is no one in my heart
I believe life is a jungle
Life is a jungle ♩♩

[Raptor]

♩ Raptor repeats
That’s his style
Raptor disappeared, he’s offline
It was depression, yeah It’s okay if I vanish It’s alright,
I am awake now
Yeah, Yeah, we’ll make a fire
Yoh, you I’ll tease you
All who said I disappeared
All have exploded, blast
I look like I don’t give a fuck I am awake
I once thought that I could do like them
Then decided to do and feel
What makes me comfortable
No, no, I am different from all others
So I wanted to tell them all♪♪

[Joker]

♪ You’ll find it empty as long as
We stand on the corner
You wanted to be satisfied
I am the strong dude
We are a mafia, but our intentions are good
You’ll get your men
I’ll call mine from Upper Egypt
Don’t overstate
Don’t you even dare to think
All the people we fought are struggling
We don’t have preferences
But you’ll become a target if we don’t like you
Others were better
And we’ll remain much more♪♪

[Raptor]

♪ Joe, pass me the beat
To score a hat-trick in the goal
My homie and I are playing in the zone
Complaining about tone; we’ll pull the siphon
Mimi and the gang are paralyzed
Shut them up, pay them in dollars
Raptor and Afro are here
Boom, the microphone stopped
Boom, the likes are being clicked
Two verses, we’ll cause a riot
That’s the mindset
We don’t care who left or entered
We want our pockets to be full
Together, we can flood the country
Yeah, flood the country
Together we can build a country
Flood the country ♪♪

[Joker]

♪ We are waggling like a bee
Tomorrow will be better
Life is shitty and rough
The devil is wearing a suit
I am in a vortex
I need to get out, maybe get therapy
The sky is calling me
The journey has a one-way ticket
Everyone dreamt of coming here
Everybody craved this
You are staring at us
Your eyes are on us
Time is running out
Like dogs, you’ll get mad
You’ll stand against the wall,
you’ll die out
Stand against the wall,
you’ll die out ♪♪
[Raptor]

♫ People are strange, that shit’s weird
They think we’re steady, but time runs fast
What happened was enough
The camera is following us
We came to offend you
But instead, we mourn with you
He lived like an icon
And then he vanished
They all slept
I am fighting them all but mocking you
Your rap is foolish, your game is slow
The rhyme is not in the right flow
My mind is like a cloud, it'll swallow you
I told you, stay light
Your rap is sharp, we'll add to it
Leave us and go somewhere else
A helpful rapper, a happy rapper
You didn’t like Raptor
Wait a second, repeat ♫♫

[Joker]
I am great in every spot
The dollars are in my jacket
I am on a trip, and life is lovely
I’ll call my men to save my homie
Life is stable, things will be scary
If I am coming
I live by the moment, I don’t even see you It’s all in me,
everything else is just a concept
It’s easy to start but hard to finish
Hey, to all men
It is not even 4 percent
We’ll flip it upside down
Charging, charging
And it’s not working
Even if you were holy
People would gossip
They’ll not stop ♬♬

[Raptor]

♬ I’m stable
I work on myself, I walk alone
I don’t care if I miss the train
Let’s score six goals, I am a striker
Even if I am sitting on the bench
Raptor keeps running, not standing still
I didn’t come here to end your career
Everyone is already cursing you
If I hear your name, I won’t reply
This is how I’ll cancel you
I am not the problem
You are the trouble, I am not the problem
You are the trouble
Too much peace, I should be rewarded
Now, I only have one year left
That is my duty
I’ll give them all I can
I’ll give them my power ♪♪

[Joker]

♪ My mind is pricey, like antiques
It has some chemical reactions
My brain is quiet I leave him alone
Our presence is overwhelming
It makes you fade
Yeah, dear Mido
Wander and wander
Find him something that is helpful
He wants it but won’t get it
We’ll run this house, yeah
Loneliness was bitter
Now, I avoid engaging
Our minds are incredible
Our presence is there
My eyes are full, but my heart is empty
I walk alone, and it is going well
You are trying to lock the path, nah, nah, nah
Fuck off, ya Osta ♪

[Raptor]

♪ Too much peace
I should be awarded.
I am great even when I’m silly, yeah
All the past years, I am still standing
Do you remember the previous years?
We used to rap together in the streets
We’ve created our zone in the field
Rooted ourselves and emphasized our presence
All is clear, Raptor is crazy
I’ll jump from the 9th floor
I am insulting you all
But in fact, I am suffering
It’s your fate,
why are you shouting?
I am drinking a bottle,
way too much
It’s not you, really
Raptor knows you too well
What a silly laugh you have
Damn this stupidity♪

[Joker]

♪ They said my determination
Would reward me
I asked what I should pursue
They didn’t answer
All that I got was that
You should continue, dear Joe
So stop following me
I create glory
You’re just getting in my way
Your light is fading, because I stole it
And whoever is saying, he can’t see me
That’s because I’m higher than you
I live like a criminal
I break all the rules
When I Laughed and when I cried
It was the same life
I slept on the same sheet
But I didn’t have the same dreams
I didn’t have the same dreams ♪

[Raptor]

♪ Yeah, the same dreams
Fuck your stupid face
I was on a date and I saw you
I was on a date that was better than yours
You passed by, don’t dream
My head is packed, you can’t join
We’ll sing alone, not in your tone
You won’t have meat
Things changed This is my time
Let’s Chill, I’ll start now, she’s silly
When I saw her, I was young
I am one of a kind
He brought her to watch me singing
He brought her to watch me singing
And now I'm speaking
I need someone to hit me
So I head to sleep ♪♫

[Joker]

♪ You keep thinking about it and it's not helpful
You long for it
And it was in your hand, why throw it? You wish to find it
You are confused I made all the effort
While you were sleeping at home
I'll have a future full of life
You'll turn yellow, and then you'll die
I stay silent, I don't gossip around
People are mad, people are evil
The clock and I, we're on the same pace
I value time, every minute
You again, nah, nah
Did you regret it?
Also no
I can live without you, it's easy
You throw your beat
You’re just scum♪♪

[Raptor]

♪ My words are accurate, yours are tacky
You walk on the land, I walk on the moon
That’s a winner, that’s a loser
You just exploded, a blast
He appeared, became famous
He’s well known
He reached the limit,
said he can do it
That’s the news I didn’t answer
when you kept calling
You can pass and then repeat
Did you like what I said?
My words shine like diamonds
Your words, how much are they worth?
I’ll light the fires with two verses
No mercy
You’ll obey, no mercy
So this is why I don’t know what to say
I don’t know what to say
Because all my words are censored♪♪

[Joker]

♪ From a city to a country
I crossed the seas and the mountains
I suffered a lot
And I was patient like a camel
I set my rap as a motive
Versus life
I’ve learned to distinguish
Wolves from sheeps
People are mean, they can act like friends
What’s between us is worth nothing
Your mind is sick
And your life is full of gossip
Just go away, scumbags
Life is easier without you
It is easy to degrade you
But I am saying this
For the sake of our old days
And for sure, you’ll meet shitty people
Like you♪♪
♪ We’ve tasted the bitterness of life
Oh, we passed the troubles
Ah, and we are about to begin
All who are in the picture are us
You were the light of my heart
Your fault was that you were by my side
That was a hard time I found you when
I was lost in the crowds
You left my heart empty
No mercy, we rest
Being far is better, one step at a time
It’s not worth it
Why do you leave a road that’s wide open?
You understand these words for sure
This game is a curse
Life keeps playing with you
When you’ve got higher
Life will bring you down ♪♪