

IGNEA
Monumental
Release: 23.10.2026

Echoing nostalgia for a future that never arrives on *Monumental*!

IGNEA explores nostalgia in all its forms on their upcoming studio album, ***Monumental***, set for release on October 23, 2026, via Napalm Records. Following ***Dreams of Lands Unseen*** (2023), the Ukrainian four-piece navigate through unique facets of the past across nine tracks—from the grandeur and ambition of Cold War space dreams to the melancholy of urban decay and forgotten modernist structures, all the way to the emotional weight of personal and collective memory. All lyrics on ***Monumental*** were written by vocalist Helle Bohdanova. The music was composed by keyboardist Yevhenii Zhytniuk, with additional contributions from Helle Bohdanova. Mixing and mastering were handled by Grammy Award-nominated producer Jacob Hansen, known for his work with bands such as DELAIN, Amaranthe, Volbeat, Amon Amarth, Arch Enemy, and Epica. ***Monumental*** is **IGNEA**'s second full-length album that was written during the full-scale war in Ukraine. The recording process mostly took place in the winter of 2025-2026, during icy temperatures and long power outages in Kyiv.

Musically, ***Monumental*** blends technical metal riffs, industrial textures, atmospheric interludes, grandiose choruses, and melodic passages to mirror “nostalgic rides,” where darkness, reflection, and awe collide. Visually and conceptually, **IGNEA** drew inspiration from retrofuturism, modernist and monumental architecture, and industrial design, creating a world where sound, imagery, and memory converge. The album stands as an ode to the past, a meditation on lost and unrealized futures, and a celebration of the enduring beauty hidden within forgotten places. The opening track, “*Darkness*,” sets the emotional tone, capturing the nostalgic escapes we all drift into when the present feels overwhelming and the past seems gentler than it truly was. The song moves between eerie, melancholic verses and uplifting, grandiose choruses, culminating in a cathartic moment featuring a live choir and blast beats. Bursting with energy from the outset, “*Dreams of Lands Unseen*” explores the era of Cold War space exploration—a time when humanity projected its greatest hopes onto the cosmos. March-like choruses echo the propaganda-fueled optimism of the age, while shimmering keyboards and theremin solos channel a distinct 1980s atmosphere. It is followed by “*Presence of the Past*,” **IGNEA**'s ode to urban decadence—the bittersweet sensation of living in a city that is constantly changing, decaying, rebuilding, forgetting, and remembering all at once.

“*Prefab*” emerges as a rave soundtrack for metalheads, a stomping industrial anthem featuring electro-industrial icon Andy LaPlegua of Combichrist, whose unmistakable voice perfectly complements the song's atmosphere and theme. The album's second guest appearance comes in “*Harmony Manufactured*,” where Helle Bohdanova shares vocal duties with German powerhouse Britta Görtz of HIRAES. Fast, technical riffs and robotic growls create a mechanical pulse, while carefully crafted arrangements evoke the precision of engineering and design. Through both sound and lyrics, the track explores how technical perfection can still carry emotion, beauty, and enduring memory. The tempo slows on “*What Buildings Dream of*,” a metal ballad featuring an uplifting and emotional chorus, while subtle electronic beats add an industrial pulse reflecting the raw texture of monumental architecture. It serves as a tribute to the beauty, fragility, and silent inner life of the buildings that shaped both our landscapes and collective imagination. The album's most unexpected moment arrives with “*I am in Hell*,” a short interlude designed like a retro-futuristic TV advertisement from the 1960s. **IGNEA** then descends once more into the past with “*Between No Longer and Not Yet*,” a doom metal track infused with dark jazz elements, capturing the state of mind while listening to a vinyl record. Time folding onto itself through sound, memories unlocking with each rotation of the needle—a reflection on the beauty and grief of nostalgia. With “*Nadir*,” **IGNEA** closes ***Monumental*** through a reflective orchestral outro, leaving listeners with a lingering sense of nostalgia, hope, and quiet melancholy.

On ***Monumental***, **IGNEA** takes the listener on nostalgic rides, with all their ups and downs, expressed in music and lyrics, carrying a sense of gentle sadness and reflection, as nostalgia can bring back beautiful memories, darkened by the awareness that these moments will never happen again.