

Current Press Release

AUSTIN RETRO-FUTURE ARTIST SCOT BYRD ANNOUNCES DEBUT SCI-FI SINGLE "HALO" FOR JUNE 12, TIMED WITH SPIELBERG'S *DISCLOSURE DAY*

AUSTIN, TX — Independent singer-songwriter, producer, and multi-disciplinary storyteller Scot Byrd has announced the official **June 12, 2026** release of his debut single, "**Halo.**" The track's premiere intentionally corresponds with the global theatrical debut of Steven Spielberg's upcoming UFO sci-fi blockbuster, *Disclosure Day*. Merging Devo's synth punk stylings with the art-pop sensibilities of Talking Heads, "Halo" serves as the atmospheric vanguard for Byrd's upcoming sci-fi concept album, *Explorer One*.

For Byrd, the Space Age isn't just a stylistic aesthetic—it is a birthright. Literally born on the exact day the United States launched its very first satellite into orbit in response to Sputnik, Byrd grew up completely immersed in the cultural frenzy of the Space Race. That lifelong fascination culminates in "Halo," a tongue-in-cheek, danceable New Wave track tracing humanity's first contact with extraterrestrial life.

The track's origin story is as compelling as its narrative. Byrd originally penned "Halo" in 1978, sparked by a perfect storm of pop-culture milestones: Steven Spielberg's *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* hitting theaters and Devo's historic, paradigm-shifting performance on *Saturday Night Live*. For years, the song was a staple of Byrd's early acoustic sets and late-night parties, where he performed it alongside his brothers backed by a Casio keyboard rhythm track. Decades later, operating out of his Austin home studio, Byrd has fully updated the lyrics and injected the track with a polished, modern production sheen while preserving its original, youthfully enthusiastic core.

"Halo" bridges the gap between Byrd's extensive background in the dramatic arts and his deep musical roots. A former college voice major trained in opera, Byrd went on to earn a BFA in Acting from CalArts and an MFA in Screenwriting from the UCLA Film School. After years spent working behind the scenes in Hollywood film marketing and PR, Byrd returned to his first love, establishing an independent record label LLC in Austin to maintain total creative autonomy over his self-produced works.

"For me, songwriting and cinema are entirely interconnected," Byrd says. "I approach music as a filmmaker, crafting story-driven lyrics and evocative arrangements. 'Halo' is a fun, driving introduction to a larger sonic universe I can't wait to share."

"Halo" is available on Spotify, Apple Music, and all major streaming networks on June 12, 2026, via Byrd's independent imprint, ByrdWorld Records. The track will be followed by the full-

length concept album *Explorer One*, which explores diverse sub-genres of rock from yacht rock and prog-rock to retro synth-pop. *Explorer One* (the album) will launch in early 2027.

About Scot Byrd:

Scot Byrd is an Austin, Texas-based singer-songwriter, music producer, and entertainment entrepreneur. With a diverse background spanning classical opera training, CalArts acting, and a UCLA MFA in screenwriting, Byrd creates highly cinematic, genre-bending music. Operating his own independent record label and home production studio, he collaborates with artists globally and crafts narrative-driven songs perfectly primed for both listeners and visual media.

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