



Tim Chernikoff - Biography

Jazz pianist and composer Tim Chernikoff has been making his mark in the New York jazz scene with a style that has stood out to musicians and listeners alike. His approach to music has been to find his own musical identity through dialogue with the jazz traditions of bebop and swing while exploring personal connections to the music, through a process of purposeful discovery on the piano and composition. Described by jazz performer Dan Haerle as “extremely inventive in his Composition and Improvisation”, his works expand upon the progressive pallet of jazz to express ideas and personal revelations, and their artistic sparks are further illuminated through his collaborative ventures.

In his budding career, the up-and-coming artist has had experiences across the US performing with world class musicians— in the Bay Area California, Dallas Fort Worth Texas, and New York City. Educated in the West Coast (Stanford Jazz Workshop), Southwest (North Texas) and East Coast (Manhattan School of Music) regions of the United States, Chernikoff has had a diversity of educational and professional experiences.

As a composer, Chernikoff draws influence from a range of influences from Maurice Ravel and Thelonious Monk to Cecil Taylor and Frank Zappa, Chernikoff appeals to every attitude and emotion that crosses his field of view, with material ranging from wistful and elegant to angry, disillusioned and even crass. The resulting work in his trio work presents an adventurous musical climate that promises to douse the listener in splashes of catharsis and rumination.

About his compositional style he says “if I didn’t appeal to the quiet serenity and bombastic crassness that I observed in my daily life, then I wouldn’t be able to sleep at night.”

Off the wake of his 2021 Debut release “Pieces of Sanity”, Chernikoff is working towards a new album to be release in late 2025, and will be premiering works in progress at his shows in 2025.

Press Reviews:

“[He] Attacks the piano with pace and confidence... Hints of Chick Corea, Keith Jarrett and Herbie Hancock... His own compositions...emphasize sound textures and moods... It’s clear [that] Chernikoff is a hugely proficient player.”

-The Progressive Aspect

"Working with drummer Kenneth Salters and bassist Jakob Dreyer, it's not that Chernikoff takes the piano trio anywhere radically new, rather it's that he is so damned good at what the form does best... There's a striking emotional honesty to the chord sequences and melodies that reminds me of Steely Dan at their most reflective.... confidence and mastery"

-Jeremy Shatan, AnEarful Jazz Blog

Artist Brief:

Off of the wake of his debut album "Pieces of Sanity [2021]" featuring Kenneth Salters and Jakob Dreyer, Chernikoff is composing and premiering a new set of compositions for his second album marked for late 2025 release, while documenting the process to share with fans and students alike. Recognized by critics as a 'Hugely proficient player' [The Progressive Aspect] and 'So damned good at what the form does best' [An Earful Jazz Blog], the pianist carves out an adventurous yet mature approach to performing and improvising that invokes the attention of audiences young and old.

CONNECT with Tim Chernikoff

Album Streaming: <https://bit.ly/3MHkX0k> Instagram: [@chernijazz](#)

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