

From early experiences playing community theater and big band dance halls in Lawrence, KS to summiting musical heights in New York and abroad, pianist Addison Frei (“Fry”) has brought joy to countless audiences through a warm musical spirit and melodic sensibility.

His latest album *Time and Again* (Next Paradigm Music) aims in the tradition of classic trio records, enhanced by the company of Ben Wolfe on bass and Terreon Gully on drums. Frei’s 2021 release *Oread* draws inspiration from Kansas roots, manifesting in a deeply personal collection of thirteen original songs, recorded remotely during the isolation of the pandemic with an array of Frei’s closest musical peers including vocalists Michael Mayo, Tahira Clayton, Mike Brun and drummer Matt Young.

Frei celebrated his previous release *No Defense* (TCB Records) with solo performances at the Monterey Jazz Festival, Montreux Jazz Festival, Alhambra (Geneva), and Lucerne Piano Festival. His lyrical pianism has made him a favorite accompanist for many vocalists including Leslie Odom Jr., Renée Elise Goldsberry, Joshua Henry, Janis Siegel and the late Carol Fredette. He has won first prize in several competitions including the 2017 Parmigiani Montreux Jazz Piano Solo Competition, the 2016 UNISA International Jazz Piano Competition in Pretoria, South Africa, and the 2015 American Jazz Pianist Competition. Beyond his accolades at the piano, Frei’s artistic voice is cemented through his expansive catalog of compositions. His work for string quartet and piano trio “*Comment On War*” was awarded the David Baker Bridges Prize and premiered at the Ravinia Festival.

A proud Yamaha Artist, Frei’s previous records include *Future Speak* (2017), *Transit* (2016) and *Intentions* (2014). He also co-leads AMP Trio, contributing compositions to each of their five studio albums. Alongside Tahira Clayton, AMP Trio was selected as winner of the 2017 DC Jazz Prix, and has toured extensively throughout Asia and North America at jazz festivals, clubs and universities. Frei recently completed his Artist Diploma at the Juilliard School, serving as musical director for this flagship ensemble’s stint at Jazz at Lincoln Center Shanghai. He was a regular member of Orlando-based Dr Phillips Center Jazz Orchestra joining artists such as Lisa Fischer, Sachal Vasandani and artistic director Rodney Whitaker. As a side-person Frei has recorded more than 30 albums including Mark Lewandowski’s *Under One Sky* (feat. Kush Abadey), Lluç Casares’ *Sketches Overseas* (feat. Joel Ross and Philip Dizack), Peter Kronreif’s *Aeronautics* (feat. Lucas Pino and Andrew Gould), Tom DiCarlo’s *Equanimity Project* (feat. Alina Engibaryan and Jonathan Barber) and Alexander Claffy’s *Tassia* (feat. Kurt Rosenwinkel).