

## Solo Piano Performance: The New Challenge in Jazz

Well-known New York-based jazz pianist Takeshi Asai, a rising star in the international jazz scene who has performed live in more than 30 cities worldwide, including London, Paris, South France, Australia, and Egypt, will give a solo piano concert on April 17, Friday, at DiMenna Center in Manhattan.

The concert is presented by the Franco-American jazz label *de trois cités records* and hosted by the DiMenna Center for Classical Music. In this concert, Takeshi will play a Steinway D model.

Most jazz performances are played in ensembles, such as trio, quartet, and big band, and solo piano jazz is a relatively new jazz format. Although some pianists enjoy the associated freedom and artistic autonomy, solo piano jazz performances present enormous challenges in terms of maintaining the jazz groove in the absence of rhythmic accompaniment.

In the April 17 concert, the audience will have the opportunity to listen to timeless jazz standards handpicked by Takeshi, novel improvisations involving even the audience, the pianist's own compositions, and 21<sup>st</sup>-century music with highly sophisticated harmony, as well as being enthralled by Takeshi's inspirations among European medieval music, American pops, blues, and the compositions by Beatles. The entire concert will be arranged by Takeshi, who is widely acclaimed for his mastery of music and versatile music style by jazz critics both in the United States and in Europe.

This concert, which is conducted bi-annually, will be held for the third time in New York. Each concert was recorded and released as a live album, and *JazzTimes* nominated the last one the best



Takeshi  
Asai |||||

8:00 pm  
Friday  
April 17  
2020

Takeshi  
Asai  
Solo  
at  
DiMenna  
Center  
NYC

"sheer beauty and grace"  
JazzTimes

"Un pianiste de jazz  
impressionniste et délicat"  
Art District Radio, Paris

"He has the 'it-factor' that makes  
the music absolutely incredible"  
CJ Shearn, Jazz View

DiMenna Center  
Benzaquen Hall  
450 W 37th St  
New York, NY 10018

### Ticket

\$20 (Early Bird in February)  
\$25 (Regular)  
\$30 (at the door)  
Available @ Eventbrite



album in the solo category. Furthermore, this August, Takeshi's solo piano performance will kick off the inaugural Central Wisconsin Jazz Festival.

#### Takeshi Asai Solo

Date: Friday, April 17, 2020, 8:00 pm

Venue: DiMenna Center, Benzaquen Hall

450 W 37th St, New York, NY 10018

Official site: <https://dimennacenter.org/>

Info: [i@takeshiasai.com](mailto:i@takeshiasai.com), de trois cités record, NY Office

Takeshi's Official site: [www.takeshiasai.com](http://www.takeshiasai.com)

#### Ticket

Regular: \$25

At the Door: \$30

On-line purchase: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/takeshi-asai-solo-tickets-9406427787>

Mail: [i@takeshiasai.com](mailto:i@takeshiasai.com), de trois cités record, NY Office



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