

Naomi Nakanishi is a dynamic pianist, improviser, composer, currently based in Brooklyn, NY. Their work aims to reconstruct, experiment and interact with sounds influenced by their comprehensive background in Black American Music, indie-folk tunes, and classical piano, inviting listeners with unique melodies, sonorous harmonies and unconventional phrasing. Recent work includes commissioned pieces *Mirrored Hands (2023)* and original film score to *Oath of the Sword* as well as their debut EP *Hear Me Speak (2022)*. As a composer and bandleader the essence of their work draws from their experiences as a queer, Asian American musician. Naomi was recently selected to participate in the 2023 Mutual Mentorship for Musicians Cohort led by Jen Shyu and Sara Serpa, and is a graduate of the Berklee Global Jazz Institute. They seek to continue learning from multigenerational, queer coalitions while curating more culturally rich and interactive experiences in their musical journey.