

JON SNELL

300-word bio

Jon Snell, an award-winning pianist and composer based in New York City, blends contemporary classical and soundtrack influences in his latest project, *Awakening* (released January 30, 2024) — this project extends beyond just the music with 50% of proceeds from sales being donated to the International Justice Mission (ijm.org).

Snell, an Iowa native, is known for his versatility, having worked across various genres, including R&B, pop, jazz, and musical theatre. He holds a B.A. in Music from the University of Northern Iowa and an M.M. in Jazz Piano from the Manhattan School of Music. He serves as a pianist and music director at Trinity Baptist Church NYC.

As a pianist, Snell has performed at several notable NYC jazz clubs, including Dizzy's Club at Jazz at Lincoln Center, The National Jazz Museum in Harlem, Chelsea Table + Stage, Jazz at Kitano, and 55 Bar. He has also recorded on nine albums of original music. *Stay Thirsty Magazine* has praised his “originality,” “inventiveness,” and “sophisticated approach,” describing him as “someone to keep an eye on.”

Snell's reputation as a composer and arranger has led to commissions from institutions such as Columbia University and the Manhattan School of Music. His portfolio showcases projects involving up to 175 musicians.

Alongside his musical accomplishments, Snell is an author of a series of creative piano technique books, which provide fresh perspectives on the work of Frederic Chopin and Charles-Louis Hanon. He shares his knowledge through online music lessons with students in seven countries. Snell also holds a Faculty position at the Manhattan School of Music, teaching jazz courses and private lessons in the Precollege Division. Additionally, he has guest taught at New York University and Manhattan School of Music, teaching Jazz Keyboard Skills to jazz majors at both the Undergraduate and Graduate levels.

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