

Oliver Friedli (1977)

Pianist, Sounddesigner, Composer

I often heard about musicians who refused to practice in their early years. I also sensed life in the neighbourhood to be interesting and inspiring, ending up in the struggle of having a really regular practice. I started my classical pianostudies in the age of at six years and my confession is that during the years I considered this instrument my friend and my rival, my challenge and my weakness and my passion drove me to lock myself in a room with this „black devil“. When I became 12 and finally made peace with my passion the piano became my daily companion up till this day.

My concern and curiosity for music grew bigger when I started composing and improvising under the influence of my teachers (William Evans, Hans Feigenwinter, Kenny Barron, Frank Carlberg) who not only earned admiration and respect for many years, but also nourished me with higher standard, deeper understanding and wider perspective of music and sound art.

After finishing my secondary education and many years of classical training, I spent a semester at the Berklee School of Music in preparation for the years ahead in the vocational section of Swiss Jazzschool in Bern, where I spent four years studying with pianist William Evans. At the same time I was fascinated by the world of electronic music, which in my case takes its cue from contemporary influences and European jazz movements. After graduating in January 2005, I decided to delve deeper into the study of music and media art.

I am currently active as an independent musician, composer and sound designer and also work for the HKB in Bern as a lecturer in sound design and media integration.