

# Sarah Bernstein Quartet



## ALBUM RELEASE *Still/Free* on Leo Records

The spectacular debut of the Sarah Bernstein Quartet on Leo Records features the acclaimed New York violinist with master musicians Kris Davis on piano, Stuart Popejoy on electric bass and Ches Smith on drums. *Still/Free* showcases Bernstein's distinctive post-tonal and polyrhythmic jazz compositions, deconstructed by open improvisation and sonic exploration. The music develops through seven pieces which flow organically from minimalism to breathtaking be-bop to free jazz.

Track notes:

1. "Still/Free": The title track explores a haunting major over minor motif.
2. "Paper Eyes": A reflective ballad is introduced by a freely improvised piano/violin duet.
3. "Cede": The dissonant, uptempo post-bop tune establishes a strong jazz setting.
4. "Nightmorning": Darkly elegant counterpoint supports solitary improvisation.
5. "4="": A post-tonal overture to free-jazz interrogation blasts into an angular head and solos.
6. "Jazz Camp": Poetry meets rhythmic austerity and ferocious soloing.
7. "Wind Chime": Minimalist violin pizzicato and ensemble soundscapes create a meditative effect.

## BIO

**SARAH BERNSTEIN** is a New York-based composer and violinist whose work incorporates vocals, electronics, improvisation and original text. She is known for her fiery multidisciplinary performances, and has garnered international acclaim for her distinctive recordings. She leads the avant-jazz *Sarah Bernstein Quartet*, improvising strings *Frikativ Quartet*, minimalist/poetry duo *Unearthish*, and solo noise/electronics *Exolinger*. Nominated "Rising Star" in the DownBeat Critics Poll for the past three years, she is a recognized innovator in forward-thinking jazz. Her poetry has been published by Red Ceilings Press and Sensitive Skin Magazine. Sarah is originally from San Francisco, CA. She holds degrees from California Institute of the Arts and CUNY Queens College. <http://sarahbernstein.com>

**Info:** [http://leorecords.com/?m=select&id=CD\\_LR\\_746](http://leorecords.com/?m=select&id=CD_LR_746)

**Listen:** <https://sarahbernstein.bandcamp.com/album/still-free>

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