

UDOBI

Hope Udobi Nwachukwu

Pianist | Composer | Producer | Songwriter | Musical Director
Baltimore and Washington, D.C. | management@udobi.com | +1 240 603 3902 | udobi.com | @udobimusic

ARTIST PROFILE

Nigerian American pianist, composer, producer, songwriter, and musical director whose cinematic, rhythmically charged work connects modern jazz, soul, hip hop, electronica, indie rock, classical language, Afrobeat, and West African memory. Born in Washington, D.C. and shaped by formative years in Nigeria, UDOBI began his relationship with jazz at age nine, returned to the United States at fourteen, and undertook private piano study. Active professionally since 2006, his practice spans original composition, international performance, musical theater, immersive audio, teaching, and ensemble leadership.

SELECTED COMPOSITION AND ORIGINAL WORK

In The Wild | Debut Album | Composer, Pianist, Producer | 2019

- Created ten original compositions recorded in Washington, D.C., New York, and Miami.
- Collaborated with Grammy Award winning engineer Jimmy "The Senator" Douglass on selected mixes.
- Presented the album in a sold out release performance at Blue Note Jazz Club in New York City.
- The album draws from jazz, hip hop, soul, Afrobeat, and classical language while exploring survival, displacement, memory, and transformation.

Lovers Rock | Composer and Musical Director | 2024 to 2025

Composed original music and served as musical director for the musical conceived by 24/25 YoungArts Fellow Joseph Webb and developed at the Rhinebeck Writers Retreat with support from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND ARTISTIC APPOINTMENTS

Independent Performing and Recording Artist | Pianist, Composer, Producer, Songwriter | 2006 to Present

Performs, records, composes, arranges, and produces across jazz, soul, R&B, hip hop, rock, electronica, Afrobeat, and interdisciplinary settings.

Black Alley | Touring Keyboardist | Joined 2010

Toured throughout the United States and Canada with the Washington, D.C. rock soul collective and appeared with the group on VH1 and MTV.

Jazz at Lincoln Center Doha | Artist in Residence | 2016

Completed a six week international residency centered on sustained performance, artistic development, and cultural exchange.

One Off Studios | Producer and Composer | September 2017 to Present

Creates and develops original music, production, and composition for artist and media projects.

UDOBI MUSIC | Music Producer | January 2018 to Present

Leads music production and creative development for recording, live performance, and collaborative projects.

Bose | Sound Designer | January to April 2019

Created immersive audio material and application samples for the Bose RADAR augmented audio experience.

GoldLink | Musical Director and Keyboardist | February to March 2019

Provided musical direction and keyboard performance for live artist engagements.

Bose RADAR Augmented Audio Experience at SXSW | Featured Speaker and Contributing Artist | 2019

Presented on immersive and 3D audio, recording, production, and sample creation. Original music was featured in Bose's augmented audio experience.

Dave Chappelle's Summer Camp | Featured Pianist | 2021

Performed at the multidisciplinary gathering of artists and cultural figures.

Yaya Bey | Musical Director | 2024 to 2025

Directed live performances and touring presentations across North America, Australia, and Brazil.

- Ten Fold Tour
- Do It Afraid Tour

TEACHING ARTIST AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Jazzing Up Learning: Hit the Road, Jack! | Pianist and Teaching Artist | 2023 to Present

- Supports young audiences through live piano and keyboard performance, jazz history, improvisation, ensemble interaction, and original music.
- Engagements include schools and community programs through Arts for Learning Maryland, with selected presentations at Garfield Center for the Performing Arts and schools across Maryland and Virginia.

SELECTED COLLABORATIONS

Jazz and improvised music: Jeff “Tain” Watts; Bobby Watson; Delfeayo Marsalis; Isaiah Collier; Sarah Hanahan; Fred Yonnet; Jeff Bradshaw

Gospel: Sammie Okposo; Tim Godfrey; Spencer Taylor and The Highway QC's

Soul, R&B, and contemporary music: Chuck Brown; Mary J. Blige; Naturally 7; Angie Stone; Vivian Green; Raheem DeVaughn; Wayna; Kindred The Family Soul; K. Michelle; The Art\$; Yaya Bey

Hip hop: Scarface; Talib Kweli; Common; GoldLink

Multidisciplinary and cultural collaborations: Dave Chappelle

SELECTED VENUES AND INTERNATIONAL REACH

Blue Note Jazz Club; The Kennedy Center; Arena Stage; Blues Alley; Keystone Korner; The Lincoln Theatre; The Hamilton; Smalls; DROM; The Fillmore; City Recital Hall Angel Place; Vivo Rio; Roxy Theatre; Elsewhere; Northcote Theatre; Atlas Performing Arts Center; Garfield Center for the Performing Arts.

International reach: United States; Canada; Brazil; Asia; the Middle East; and Australia

PRESS, BROADCAST, AND SCREEN

VH1 and MTV | Television Appearances with Black Alley

DownBeat | Performance Feature

Coverage highlighted UDOBI's quartet, original compositions, modern jazz rhythms, and improvisational command.

Washington City Paper | Album and Artist Profile

Coverage focused on UDOBI's original compositions and jazz fusion practice, including hip hop, electronica, and indie rock influences.

Lady in the Lake | Apple TV Series Appearance | 2024

CORE CREATIVE AND TECHNICAL SKILLS

Piano and keyboard performance; original composition; songwriting; musical direction and arrangement; music production; sound design; audio engineering; immersive and 3D audio; jazz improvisation; live performance development; touring and ensemble leadership; teaching artist engagement.