

To the world of authentic jazz from Rock

A guitarist who spins the real emotion of daily life in New York

Koji Yoneyama

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Jazz is music that reflects the way of life. If you listen to the first album "Dialogue" by guitarist Koji Yoneyama, you will be able to see his life and proof of his life in New York for seven years. When Koji Yoneyama, who was born in Osaka in 1987, decided to go to New York, surprisingly that "I really didn't know anything. I didn't know even the existence of " Village Vanguard ". From a rock band, and the band broke up after a vocalist Keiya signed a contract with a major record label. When I was a 3rd year university student at Osaka University of Arts. "I became alone and wanted to try the jazz that I learned at university (guitar major) at this opportunity. At first, I couldn't play anything, and I was frustrated and practiced selflessly." The Rock band was so popular that he wouldn't be easy to pull it down. He decided to go to New York because the conversations with his university friends in hot spring, "Why don't you go to New York?" "Yeah... Why not" "When I imagined myself 10 or 20 years later, I was able to imagine myself being on the current extension. I thought it was not good to use the future only for this confirmation work." Two months after the conversation with a friend, I canceled my apartment lease in Japan, and he was on an airplane to the United States.

Continuing struggles in New York. At first, he couldn't speak English, even if he got angry, he didn't know what it was. Every day he even wondered if he really liked music. In the meantime, the number of musician friends increased after he began the hot and emotional guitar play which expressed his emotions directly at clubs or black churches. The musicians who participated in the first album are such music friends. The base Yuta Tanaka is a benefactor who allowed unfamiliar Koji Yoneyama to stay for a while when he was just arriving in New York. He is also active as a classical composer. Tangy Steven art, a drummer, was a Belgian

who met through Tanaka's introduction. A Pianist, Noah McNeill has been gigging together in a restaurant for five years. The songs are selected from the usual repertoire with members who have deep relationships. It is Included duo and quartet performances.

The guitar play that Yoneyama shows here is a straight-ahead jazz style. "My favorite guitarist is Jim Hall. I was impressed to meet him several times in the year I came to New York. There is out-of-the-box way with freedom and flexibility, and it is a minimum persuasive claim, while changing the shape like water, harmonize the whole as if flowing." Jim's work <Waltz New> was also recorded on this album. The performances that can be heard here are more straight ahead than the image of rock or Jim Hall music. This album is the expression of the real feelings of struggling about jazz every day in New York. This first album will be released only by streaming at the first time.

About Image

“DIALOG” (Koji Yoneyama)

\* Distribution only (Downloadable with various streaming services such as Spotify, Amazon, YouTube Music)