

Daniel Freedman short bio

Drummer, percussionist and composer Daniel Freedman grew up in New York City a musical family. In high school, he studied with Max Roach, Billy Higgins and Vernel Fournier and later studied with master drummers in West Africa, Cuba and the Middle East.

Coming up as part of the Smalls scene in the 1990s, Freedman was a member of Jason Lindner's acclaimed big band, Omer Avital's sextet and Ben Wolfe's quintet.

He is a member of the collective Third World Love, has been in Anat Cohen's quartet since 2006 and toured the world with Angélique Kidjo's band from 2009 to 2015.

Freedman has played and recorded with such artists as Sting, Youssou N'Dour, Omara Portuondo, Tom Harrell, Wynton Marsalis and Meshell Ndegeocello.

Imagine That, his 2016 release on the Anzic label features Lionel Loueke, Jason Lindner, Omer Avital, Gilmar Gomes and a guest appearance by Angélique Kidjo.

Imagine That received 5 stars in Downbeat magazine and was called a "masterpiece".

BandCamp chose it as one of the best releases of 2016 and said "Its one of the best things to hit jazz in 2016."

JazzTimes made *Imagine That* an editors pick and said " Most of these musicians have worked together and what seems disparate on paper becomes the town square in their hands"

Freedman's 2012 release *Bamako by Bus* featured a core band of Avishai Cohen, Lionel Loueke, Jason Lindner and Meshell N'degeocello and received rave reviews.

His debut album as a leader, *Trio* received a nine-star review in *Modern Drummer* magazine, and he was featured as one of the publication's "Young Lions."

The New York Times selected him as one of five young drummers on the New York scene who helped change jazz drumming for the piece "Propelled by Different Drummers."