

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **JAZZ PIANIST**

## SENRI OE

### **ANNOUNCES NEW TRIO ALBUM**

# **HMMM**

# AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 20 – <u>PREORDER NOW</u> FIRST SINGLE AND MUSIC VIDEO "ORANGE DESERT"

#### **AVAILABLE NOW**





New York, NY (September 4, 2019)—Jazz pianist Senri Oe will release his first-ever jazz trio album titled *HMMM* on September 20 on PND Records / Sony Music Masterworks. Also available alongside today's preorder is the new track "Orange Desert" – <u>listen here</u>. Additionally, the music video for "Orange Desert" is being released today and can be viewed [HERE].

**HMMM** is Senri's sixth jazz album, following a remarkable career as a former J-Pop superstar in the 80's and 90's. Leaving his pop career behind in 2008 to pursue his true dream of becoming a jazz artist, Senri moved to New York to study at the New School for Jazz, and subsequently released the **BOYS & GIRLS** (2018), **ANSWER JULY** (2016), **COLLECTIVE SCRIBBLE** (2015), **SPOOKY HOTEL** (2013) and **BOYS MATURE SLOW** (2012) albums.

Following the news of his father, Tokio's Oe's, death, Senri channeled his intense energy and emotion into writing the album's songs, and composed the three solo piano

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tunes in thirty minutes, before drummer Ari Hoenig and bassist Matt Clohesy's arrived at the recording studio. Senri dedicated the album to his late father who died before the album was completed. **HMMM** was recorded at New York City's 2nd Story Sound and mixed and mastered at Sony Nogizaka Studio in Tokyo. On **HMMM**, Senri is joined by Clohesy and Hoenig on six of the nine self-composed tracks.

"I feel like life is sometimes very hard, but when I think about it in a deeper way, like the album title says, *Hmmm*," says Senri. He adds, "I'm the luckiest person in the world to be given an opportunity to make that final toast. In the weeks leading up to the recording, I was riding a rollercoaster of good and bad things and felt like I was in emotional limbo. I learned a lot about myself from my dad passing away. Life is tough, but you have to move forward. Life can also be more beautiful than you ever expected as you learn to ride. I make music to get fresh air, and I want people to think of me and listen to my music when they feel life is too tough to face."

Senri's song titles speak to the blend of introspection/reflection he brings to the collection. He intersperses his three brief, beautiful and graceful piano pieces – two interludes ("Freshening Up," "When Life Was A Pizza Party") and a postlude (the Christmas-themed "A Fireplace") - amongst six lively gems that showcase Senri's spirited, often lighthearted yet powerfully percussive trademark piano style, as he interacts with the dynamics-filled grooves created by Hoenig and Clohesy.

"Everything we've done on 'Hmmm' goes back to that emotional rollercoaster," Senri says. "You can't stop it, but you can find places in your life where you feel no tension and just relax and let things flow the way they are supposed to. Ari, Matt and I found this kind of place, exchanging very organic musical ideas throughout the shows and recording of the album. Once someone had a sustainable idea he could convey, the others would catch it and from that create some incredible, unexpected interplay. After a while, we had the power to believe in each other onstage, and that chemistry translated perfectly to the studio."

Since his 2012 jazz album debut, Senri has long thrived on building relationships with other artists and creating fresh musical collaborations, as he produced and arranged a collaborative recording by Janis Siegel of The Manhattan Transfer; recorded with renowned jazz vocal greats Sheila Jordan, Theo Bleckmann, Becca Stevens and Lauren Kinhan of the Grammy winning vocal ensemble New York Voices.

Senri has performed at the Atlanta Jazz Festival, Detroit Jazz Festival, Blue Note NY, Blue Note Hawaii, Blue Note Tokyo, Vitello's in Los Angeles, PianoForte in Chicago, and many more. Aside from Blue Note NY, he often performs at NYC venues such as Tomi Jazz, Zinc, the Jazz Gallery, Birdland, Soho House, Smalls and Dixon Place.

A multi-faceted singer, songwriter, actor and radio host in Japan, Senri is the recipient of a Japanese Grammy®, topped the Billboard charts, headlined stadiums, performed on TV soap operas, and had his hits used for major Japanese TV commercials.

#### **About Matt Clohesy and Ari Hoenig:**

Bassist Clohesy has toured/recorded with Seamus Blake, Kurt Rosenwinkel, Geoffrey Keezer, Eric Reed, Ingrid Jensen, Tom Scott, Sean Jones, Gretchen Parlato, Nat Adderley, Jr., Maria Schneider and the John Hollenbeck Large Ensemble. Hoenig, a prolific band leader, has played extensively with Jean Michel Trio, Kenny Werner Trio, Chris Potter Underground, Kurt Rosenwinkel Group, Joshua Redman Elastic band, Jazz Mandolin Project; and groups led by Wayne Krantz, Mike Stern, Richard Bona and Pat Martino.

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Check out the video trailer for **HMMM**: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?">https://www.youtube.com/watch?</a>
<a href="yes/21UVJopAa0o&feature=youtu.be">yes/21UVJopAa0o&feature=youtu.be</a>

For more information visit: <a href="http://peaceneverdie.com/">http://peaceneverdie.com/</a>

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