Critical Praise for Fred Hersch SOLO

“When it comes to the art of solo piano in jazz, there are currently two classes of performers: Fred Hersch and everybody else.” -Dan Bilawsky, *All About Jazz*

“4.5 stars…a program so rich you will want to savor it in increments, enjoying its bittersweetness and poignancy.” -John Corbett, *Downbeat*

“Fred Hersch is a pianist of unfailing imagination, who plays with a coherence of touch and conception… full of sparking images and an unimpeded sense of expression.” –Pierre Giroux, *Audiophile Audition*

“Hersch is a naturally elegant, erudite improviser who thinks in terms of overall governing form. But on this night, his passion caoses songs to spill free. He sounds impulsive, daring and bursting with creative energy.”

–Thomas Conrad, *Jazz Times*

“In the history of jazz, it could be argues that very few pianists could really play solo successfully and satisfyingly. Tatum, Peterson, Jarrett – those with a formidable technique. Hersch, also, belongs in that stellar group; he’s a master-musician with a style uniquely his own, incorporating a wonderful harmonic sense, swing, humor, touch at the keyboard, emotion and lyrical imporovisations.” –Dave B.. *Bebop Spoken Here*

“With [*Solo*](http://www.amazon.com/Solo-HERSCH-FRED/dp/B010PD9ERQ/), his 49th album as a leader (or co-leader) and 10th as a soloist, Fred Hersch nails his standing as one of the premier jazz musicians of our time, a pianist of subtle touch and propulsive flow, something like Keith Jarrett but more focused, less rhapsodic—Ravel to KJ's Liszt or Rachmaninoff – 4/12 Stars” -Fred Kaplan, *Stereophile*

“Hersch’s is not at all an old fashioned approach, instead it’s very modernistic without being avant and practically steps away from any particular decade while clearly steeped in the Great American songbook adapted by the innovations of bebop and the flowing river of piano traditions from time immemorial. In one sense it’s a repertory retrospective, in another a continuity, the shapes and reborn trajectories of the improviser’s art an endlessness.” –*Marlbank Reviews*

“To paraphrase the famous remark Miles Davis made about Bill Evans, Fred Hersch plays the piano the way it ought to be played.”

–Mark Sullivan,  *All About Jazz*

“… full of contrapuntal daring, radical reharmonizations, and rhythmic inventions that take the familiar piece to some wholly new territory. Of his ten solo albums, this may be his best.” –Bill Milkowski,  *Absolute Sound*

“His accomplishments, experiences, performaces and recordings about and their abundance may suggest his age. However, Hersch’s energy, indivuality and vast range f interests are still those of someone still enjoying the excitement of experimenting with an art form and still realizing the possibilities of a jazz career. Hersch’s love of the msusic remeains undiminished, and he offers his inimitable contributions in return. *Fred Hersch SOLO* is the latest confirmation of Hersch’s singular style,unlike any pthers in jazz. It’s a style that only strengthens progressibely as he follows his own muse to lead jazz in new directions. 60 minutes of a jazz master in absolut command of his artistry.” *E-Jazz News*

 “Hersch has such a splendid mix of intuition and technical prowess, there is no filtering of this gift by bass and drums…his pensiveness over the timing, touch and solo excursions are palpable.” –John Lennon, *JazzWeekly*

*“Fred Hersch Solo* is a set that puts the pianist's technical expertise front and center. His is an approach rich in emotion, with a nimble delicacy of touch.”

–Dan McClenaghan, *All About Jazz*