

Kneebody Biography

In their almost two-decade history, the Grammy-nominated band Kneebody has created a genre and style all its own. Their sound is explosive rock energy and high-level nuanced chamber ensemble playing set within the frames of highly wrought compositions that are balanced with adventurous no-holds-barred improvising.

Kneebody is keyboardist **Adam Benjamin**, trumpeter **Shane Endsley**, saxophonist **Ben Wendel** and drummer/bassist **Nate Wood**. The band has no leader or rather, each member is the leader; they've developed their own musical language, inventing a unique cueing system that allows them each to change the tempo, key, style, and more in an instant.

The group met in their late teens while at The Eastman School of Music and Cal Arts, became fast friends, and converged together as Kneebody amid the vibrant and eclectic music scene of Los Angeles in 2001. Since then, each band member has amassed an impressive list of credits and accomplishments over the years all while the band has continued to thrive and grow in reputation, solidifying a fan base around the world.

In 2005, Kneebody released their debut self-titled album Kneebody on Dave Douglas' Greenleaf Music Label. Low Electrical Worker followed in 2007 on the Colortone Label. A collection of 13 original songs, Low Electrical Worker was hailed by saxophonist Joshua Redman as one of his "favorite albums of 2007."

In the spring of 2009, Kneebody and vocalist Theo Bleckmann released 12 Songs of Charles Ives on the Winter & Winter label and received a GRAMMY nomination in the "classical crossover" category. 2013 saw the release of The Line for Concord Records. In 2015, Kneebody's groundbreaking collaboration with electronic musician Daedelus on Kneedelus was released on Flying Lotus' imprint Brainfeeder records to praise from critics and audiences alike. In 2017, Motéma Music released Kneebody's Anti-Hero. 2019 brought back-to-back releases from Kneebody on Edition Records. In the Spring, they released By Fire, an EP featuring an eclectic selection of covers from John Legend to Soundgarden. Followed by the Fall release of Chapters, the group's first full-length album as a quartet, mixing deep grooves and deft melodies with a wide range of guests including Becca Stevens, Gretchen Parlato, Michael Mayo, Gerald Clayton and Josh Dion.