

Chris Pitsiokos (b. 1990) is a New York/Berlin-based saxophonist, composer and improviser. While Pitsiokos does not concern himself with genre, broadly speaking his music falls under the umbrella of experimentalism, including noise, improvised music, experimental jazz, free jazz, noise rock, new music, minimal music, drone and art rock. As a soloist he has developed a unique voice on the alto saxophone: his expansion of the instrument's vocabulary has served to multiply its emotive and formal possibilities. He has recorded over 30 albums as a leader or co-leader.

As a bandleader and soloist, he has toured in Japan, the US, South America and Europe. In 2016 he was a resident at John Zorn's club the Stone and contributed to *Arcana*, a series of books edited by Zorn. In 2017 he had a solo concert at ISSUE Project Room in New York, toured Europe with CP Unit for the first time, and toured Japan as a soloist and performed with luminaries Otomo Yoshihide, Sachiko M, Tatsuya Yoshida, Makigami Koichi, and Jojo Hiroshige (Hijokaidan). 2018 was marked by a busy festival touring schedule, including (but not limited to) two European tours with CP Unit and a duo tour with Otomo Yoshihide. In 2019 Chris toured South America for the first time and completed a 21-show solo tour of Canada and the US. His touring has taken him to major international festivals such as Sapporo International Arts Festival in Japan, Moers Festival in Germany, Jazz Jantar in Poland, Jazz Festival Lima in Peru, Wels Unlimited Music Festival in Austria, Meteo Mulhouse Festival in France, and Jazz Cerkno in Slovenia, to name a few among many. In 2020 and 2021, despite the pandemic, Chris organized various outdoor guerilla shows in Brooklyn. Since 2021 he has returned to his busy touring schedule, mostly as a soloist, with various improvised music groups, with Otomo Yoshihide, and with ROKC Music, a collaborative quartet with Oli Steidle, Kalle Kalima, and Ronny Graupe. In February 2023 he premiered a new piece, "Irrational Rhythms and Shifting Poles" for alto saxophone, computer, and four speakers. He has also worked with Axel Dörner, Mazen Kerbaj, Tony Buck, Wendy Eisenberg, Nate Wooley, Miya Masaoka, Paul Lytton, Peter Evans, Weasel Walter, Jaimie Branch, and Tyshawn Sorey.

Pitsiokos serves on the Editorial Board of, and writes for, Sound American.

[www.chrispitsiokos.com](http://www.chrispitsiokos.com)