

Kenny Warren who performs with a who's who of improvisors from his generation, has earned acclaim for his "impressive technical prowess and improvisational agility."

Joining the brass band Slavic Soul Party in 2008 began the expansion of Warren's melodic concept to include Roma music and Arabic maqam language. As a prolific composer, Warren's music was first featured on 2 albums by instrumental rock collective NOOK. In 2010 Warren formed Laila and Smitty, named after his great aunt and uncle. Originally focusing on playing country-blues standards and Warren's folksier compositions, the band evolved into a singular avant-song-writing outfit which *Bird is the Worm* calls "massively genuine and unabashedly heart-on-the-sleeve open and honest". Laila and Smitty has released 3 LPs, most recently in 2019 on happylucky records. Meanwhile Warren continued to develop as a free improviser, recording records in 2014 with the collective ZhirtZ n ZkinZ (Sulde) and in 2015 with The Sandra Weiss Quintet (Leo Records).

In 2017, The Kenny Warren Quartet released Thank You For Coming to Life (Whirlwind Recordings) which highlights Warren as a jazz composer and soloist. The album was heralded as "Boldly creative and superbly orchestrated...A masterful album... Stunning." by Radio REC. In 2018 Warren released YLA (prom night), a solo cassette which resulted from a series of home recording experiments done on a creative retreat to California that winter. In April 2020 Whirlwind released Warren's trio record called In The Heat, featuring Matthias Pichler on bass and Nathan Ellman-Bell on drums.

During the covid era Warren has focused on home recordings. His latest release, a solo trumpet record called Forehead, is available exclusively on his [bandcamp](#) page. 2021 will see the release a series of experimental electronic EPs.

Mr Kenny Warren was photographed by Peter Ganushkin

<https://www.kennywarrenmusic.com/>