

1. **High Wire** (Cohan/Corea) 06:05
  2. **Whisper Not** (Feather/Golson) 05:45
  3. **Autumn In Rome** (Fridén/Kjekstad) 05:54
  4. **That's All** (Brandt/Haymes) 05:06
  5. **Autumn Serenade** (Gallop/De Rose) 04:17
  6. **Moody's Mood** (Jefferson/Moody) 04:15
  7. **Pennies From Heaven** (Burke/Johnston) 04:28
  8. **Moon Song** (Fridén/Kjekstad) 04:54
  9. **Too Romantic** (Kjekstad/Kjekstad) 03:35
- Total Time 44:19

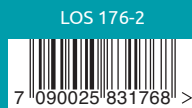
**Aina Fridén** vocal  
**Ulf Johansson Werre** piano (+ trombone track 6 and scat track 7)  
**Frøde Kjekstad** guitar  
**Roger Williamsen** bass  
**Hermund Nygård** drums

Recorded March 15, 2013 at Leif Bråten Lyd, Fredrikstad  
and September 10, 2013 at Kruttrøyk Studio, Oslo by Hermund Nygård  
Mixed December 2016 at Caspersen Studio by Håvard Caspersen  
Mastered March 8, 2017 at Masterpool Studio by Knut Bjørnar Asphol  
Produced by Aina Fridén and Frøde Kjekstad  
Executive producer Odd Gjelsnes  
Front cover photo by Marianne Martinez  
Cover design by design holtmann

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LOS 176-2

Aina Fridén Up High

Losen Records LOS 176-2



Featuring Ulf Johansson Werre & Frøde Kjekstad Trio

Aina Fridén grew up in a family of musicians;  
with all the great American singers on the  
record player every day: Sinatra, Ella, Anita,  
Bing, and Connie Francis, as well as all  
kinds of jazz, and classical composers.  
The American songbook came to be second  
nature to her. After some years as a  
freelance singer, she studied jazz at the  
University in Oslo, impressing everybody  
by singing difficult parts of horn  
arrangements, and other instrumental  
parts, with great accuracy and detail. Since  
then, she has developed her own style as  
a jazz singer, reflecting her background in  
American jazz, with artistic dives into the  
lyrical elements of European music. Her  
impressive musical ear is a keystone in the  
variations and scats you hear on this hard  
swinging recording. With a natural feeling  
for the rhythm, groove, melody and swing  
of jazz, she stands out as a true individual,  
contemporary jazz artist.

## High Wire (Cohan/Corea)

is a fantastically well-written piece of music,  
swinging hard with an impressive vocal  
performance, showing the great flexibility  
of Aina's voice, as well as burning  
instrumental solos.

After many years of fans asking for a CD,  
the moment has finally arrived: Aina  
Fridén's debut CD release – as a leader!  
I have been playing with Aina for about  
20 years now and we have played countless  
gigs together, from duo to big band.  
I have been lucky enough to follow her  
development through the years, into what  
she is today: a true jazz artist.

This recording came about as a result of a  
collaboration with the Swedish jazz pianist  
and jazz personality Ulf Johansson Werre.  
When I introduced my longtime friend Uffe  
(Ulf) to Aina for a quintet project, there was  
a musical explosion, right from the first bars  
of the rehearsal!

So we booked a studio in connection with  
a small tour, went into the studio, and did it!  
The project turned out to be a smash hit,  
both in concert and on CD, showing great  
interplay, blistering scats, and some serious  
jazz singing!

**Whisper Not (Feather/Golson)**  
The classic tune by one of the most  
remarkable composers in jazz, Benny  
Golson, is grooving along with some great  
swinging work by Roger and Hermund.  
**Autumn In Rome (Fridén/Kjekstad)**  
This ballad was written many years ago,  
and Aina put some lyrics to it, reflecting  
on a romantic autumn spent in Rome.

**That's All (Brandt/Haymes)**  
With a bumpy, "pop-ish" groove, this great  
melody comes to new life, featuring a  
great melodic scat, showing Aina's sense  
of advanced and well-sounding melody  
with big intervals and be-bop details.

**Autumn Serenade (Gallop/De Rose)**  
becomes a mysterious, swinging, ghostlike,  
spooky tune, with sailing, melodic vocal  
lines, a whispering groovy bass line, and  
intricate polyphonic improvisations,  
showing great interplay between the  
musicians.

I hope you enjoy listening to the album just  
as much as we enjoyed making it!

**Too Romantic (Kjekstad/Kjekstad)**  
I wrote this piece for a big band project  
some years ago, and wrote a new  
arrangement for quintet later. This feel-  
good tune swings hard, making a fine  
closer for the set.

**Moon Song (Fridén/Kjekstad)**  
This is another of my compositions that  
Aina put words to. The lyrics started  
as an improvisation and developed into  
a smokey, dreamy ballad.

**Pennies From Heaven (Burke/Johnston)**  
The beautiful intro of this song, leads into  
a fine swinging piece, with Uffe scatting  
along on his piano solo!

Frøde Kjekstad