



# ODAKAI

DJ / Music Producer



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## LINKS:

<https://linktr.ee/odakai.music>

Odakai best describes himself as an evolving musician. Having picked up the trumpet at age 11, he has been involved with music in some capacity ever since. From high school marching band in his hometown of Cincinnati, Ohio, to first DJing a Mardi Gras party in St. Louis, Missouri, to his first closing performance for Kyle Walker in Pensacola, Florida, and even a Pirate Cruise on Lake Union in Seattle, Washington, it's always something. One thing outside of music that Odakai prides himself on is caring for everyone he meets. If we don't enjoy the people around us, and don't make life a little better for them, we're wasting precious time. As an alum from both The Ohio State University and Washington University in St. Louis with a professional background in Engineering as well as community involvement, Odakai loves offering more than just a DJ set. Odakai will manage venues, vendors, logistics, programming, and anything else necessary to run a smooth operation. Odakai's goal is to positively affect everyone around him, and his favorite way to do that, is by sharing music.

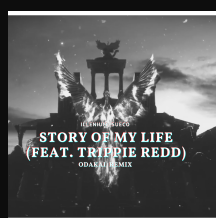
Recently, Odakai maintained a residency at Hotel Effie SanDestin in Miramar Beach, Florida. Having played New Year's Eve, July 4th Weekend, and many weekends in between, the rooftop pool and bar was a great place for a DJ to play a range of music from Deep Melodic and Tropical House to much more upbeat and energetic styles of House and Dance Music, and a great spot for testing out new originals. In addition to his residency, the DJ/Producer has played the Dancefestopia Yellow Brick Road Tour in Fort Walton Beach, closed for a headlining Kyle Walker, and even made his own events including pool parties, party boats to Crab Island, and more. Now living in Seattle, WA, Odakai is looking to start leaving a positive impact on the community around him, supporting other local artists and embodying Peace, Love, Unity and Respect through himself and through music.

When it comes to styles, Odakai loves diversity. While being known personally for his affinity to Tropical House, Melodic Dubstep and Tech House, Odakai will play whatever his taste and the setting calls for. Now, if the setting calls for any of these or a range of Bass House, Electro House, Future Bass, Progressive House, or again Tropical House, that just makes life easy. See below some of Odakai's recent releases, inspired by some of his favorite and his most admired artists and a recent feature on the cover of Indifferential magazine.

## Notable Releases:



The Chainsmokers, Ship Wrek -  
The Fall (Odakai Remix)



Illenium, Sueco Feat. Trippie Redd -  
Story of my Life (Odakai Remix)



Kygo ft. Maty Noyes -  
Stay (Odakai Remix)



July 2022  
Part 1

# ODAKAI



## Recent Venues:

- Beta Theta Pi & Sigma Chi Fraternities @ University of Idaho | Moscow, ID (Private Event)
- Beta Theta Pi Fraternity @ The Ohio State University | Columbus, OH (College Football Tailgate)
- Emerald City Pirate Cruise | Seattle, WA (Lake Union Private Event)
- Seville Quarter | Pensacola, FL (Kyle Walker Support)
- Downtown Music Hall | Fort Walton Beach, FL (Dancefestopia Yellow Brick Road Tour)
- SunQuest Cruises | Destin, FL (Crab Island Party Boat)
- Hotel Effie @ SanDestin Resort, Miramar Beach, FL (Resident DJ)

# Indifferential Magazine Artist Feature:

## INTRODUCING: ODAKAI

BY GEORGE  
SKENDROS

Where can we find you right now and what are you up to?

Right now I'm in Destin, Florida. I'll have one last show in the Florida Panhandle closing for Kyle Walker and then I'm driving across the country to move to Seattle, Washington! I'm unbelievably stoked to meet a ton of new people, especially in the industry, once I make it out to the Pacific Northwest.

Tell us a bit about your influences.

How much time do you have? I could talk all day about the artists I look up to. It's a pretty diverse lineup. When I was in a band and my love of music started it was trumpet players like Louis Armstrong and Maynard Ferguson. Those two had some insane chops. Once I was exposed to electronic and dance music, Illenium 100% got me hooked. I heard "Afterlife" my sophomore year of college and just knew that's what I was going to love from then on. Now my production has all sorts of influence. I rely on my band, guitar and other instrument experience to help lay foundations of my work, and then I'll incorporate elements inspired by anyone from Illenium to Kygo, and John Summit to Tiesto. There's so much to learn and take inspiration from to make your own unique combinations and make something that's all you.

How did you start?

Nothing special here, I bought a DDJ-400 for myself for Christmas a couple of years back because the need to get into performing and playing music for people was just absolutely nagging at me. I also took a couple of music production courses, Kygo's was my first actually, and did a ton of putting myself out there DJing so that when I had my own music, I already had a platform on which to play it! I started DJing Mardi Gras parties for my friends, going away parties, pool parties and eventually F-45 in Destin have me my first professional shot. I would DJ workout classes for 2 hours every Saturday with high-energy dance music and loved every second of it. One thing led to another and the gigs slowly build on each other, and so does the music production.

Tell us about your latest or upcoming release.

The Chainsmokers and Ship Wrek ran a competition with Skio Music to remix "The Fall." I'll be putting that up on SoundCloud, and if I'm lucky, the A&R team with the artists might choose mine as an official release!

What is your favorite book? What would you suggest to our readers?

This is a super niche one. I absolutely love rock climbing, and I could go on a whole rant as to why that is. But a book called "The Rock Warrior's Way" is an amazing read. It basically covers all the mental challenges of Rock Climbing (particularly lead climbing outdoors) and how to frame your perspective. But the lessons can apply to everything. Falling is always a risk, but you accepted the risk of falling before you got on the wall, thinking about it up there is just wasting mental capacity and going to make you actually more likely to fall. Same with anything else. If you're going to DJ/produce. Just do it! And once you're out there, don't think about failure, don't compare yourself to others. You accepted you're going to have your own journey when you got into it, worrying about stuff like that is entirely counterproductive and sets you back. And another point is, some short climbers may have a hard time reaching certain holds. That doesn't mean you can't do the climb, you're just going to have to approach it differently. The rock doesn't care how tall you are, just like the audience usually doesn't care what your background is. Just figure out your way up, do what works for you, and don't worry about what other people are doing.

How will artists be influenced by the rapid change in technology in the future in your opinion? What will change?

I think it's going to be really interesting to see. It's easier than ever to get into music, it really is. But succeeding might be harder than ever. Because so much is available, it's really on the individual to bust their butt if they want to succeed. Being good isn't enough, you have to be unique in a way people relate with, and people have to like being around you. Some wizard kid at production is making the coolest sounds in his room right now, but the personable DJ who spent years working to put on events and get his name out is the one on the lineup. Do something to break through the noise.

What advice would you give your younger self?

Just start! There's no magical, poetic time where the stars align and you have a sign to start DJing or producing. You're going to be pretty bad at first, just accept that! Embrace it, and just get going. You WILL learn, sometimes it will be frustrating, sometimes it will be rapid. This is a long game, consistency and dedication is what this is about. Consistently lift people up around you, work on your craft, go get your name out, and just get going. The best time to get started is as soon as you can.

What has been the best time for music in your opinion? What era would you like to live in as an alternative?

Great question! It's hard not to say the 80s/90s when synthesizers and electronic music were just getting big. Drum machines, mog synths, everything was so raw and new, if you were big then, that meant you were a pioneer of something that had never been done before. Those DJs and producers did something for our culture and communities that will live on for generations.

Do you remember any strange or funny incidents that happened to you?

Nothing sticks out but I can turn this into advice, whenever stuff goes wrong, embrace it! You accidentally step on the chord plugging in your deck? Laugh it off and just get back up and running as soon as you can! As an entertainer and performer, people take their cues from you. If you make it look funny and not a big deal, then it isn't! If you freak out, people will assume you've done something horribly wrong. And if something happens out of your control, always be gracious and leave ego out of it. Everyone's doing their best and not meaning to impact you negatively, just help even if you don't have to and always be kind and understanding to those around you, especially the ones working so that you can play.

[Listen to  
Odakai](#)

