



Crédit photo : Hamza Mejri

## BIO

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MARCO CALLIARI was born in Quebec, but he has never strayed far from his Italian roots. Growing up with his famiglia, he was surrounded with the melodies of the opera, until at age 14, he began to follow a very different sound: wild, screaming heavy metal! It is at that time that he co-founded, with his friends, one of the most interesting metal groups in Quebec, "Anonymus". In 2006, after more than 15 years and five solid albums, Marco ended this important musical adventure to fully throw himself into his own thriving solo career, which he began to pursue in 2003.

His first composition a festive album, *Che La Vita*, borders what can be called World Music, Jazz, poetic music, with all the lyrics and music written by Marco -- and all in Italian. *Che La Vita* has sold over 25 000 copies in a primarily French speaking environment.

After this ground breaking success, Marco recorded his second solo album *Mia Dolce Vita*, in which he remakes his own versions of traditional Italian songs, including *L'italiano*, *Bella Ciao* and *L'Americano*. Released in November 2006, the album, to date, has sold over 40 000 copies in Quebec. Quebec-famous DJ MC Mario has remixed Marco's interpretation of "*L'Americano*" (from *Mia Dolce Vita*). The remix was one of the hits of the summer of 2010, was aired in clubs and radios, and generated interest abroad in the UK and Germany. To date, the video of the remix counts over 1 500 000 times on YouTube!

During his recurrent trips to Europe (Italy, France, Switzerland, and Belgium), USA and Canada, Marco Calliari found inspiration for his third album. In February 2009, he isolated himself at the far end of Gaspésie. In Cap d'Espoir, at a lighthouse keeper's old cottage, he devoted himself to writing and composing "*Al Faro Est*", 2010.

For each of his 3 albums, Marco Calliari was among the nominees at the Gala de l'ADISQ in 2005, 2007 and 2011 in the "Album of the year - World music" category. Marco has been nominated again in 2012 in the "Quebec Artist of the Year - Other Languages" category.

In Quebec, summer 2008 saw Marco host the opening night of the Francofolies of Montreal with a variety of musical guests, and was broadcast live on TV5 World. He also was invited to perform in a very special show, side-by-side with some of Quebec's greatest artists, in front of dignitaries and an audience of nearly one million people, as part of the 400th anniversary of Quebec City celebrations! The summer of 2011 in Quebec was also full of several important festivals for Marco: most notably, the world-renowned Montreal International Jazz Festival and the popular Festival d'été de Québec, where over 70,000 people gathered

and danced at his amazing shows.

In 2011, he performed in New York and caused a commotion among the talent scouts at the Association of Performing Arts Presenters conference—one of the most important events for the performing arts. His performance at APAP was instrumental for him, as it gave him the opportunity to perform in Madison (World Music Festival), Milwaukee (Global Union) and Chicago (WMF). He also performed at the Winnipeg and Regina Folk Festivals, where once again audience, organizers and promoters fell under his charm. And it goes on in 2012 in Calgary, Oxbow and Jousard for west Canada this summer. New York in last January, Johnson, VT and Troy, NY beginning of March, where the magic of Marco's energy worked again! And the adventure goes on in 2013 : Fallon (Nevada) Lafayette (Louisiana) in USA, and Hinton (Alberta) in the Canadian Rockies.

Marco is releasing a new album in September 2013, MI RICORDO. "MI RICORDO" means "I Remember" in Italian, but is also a translation of the Quebec motto that is "Je me souviens". Marco "remembers" that he is the son of Italian immigrants and he holds a dual Quebec/Italian cultural identity. He embraces both cultures with a catching enthusiasm. Marco Calliari's festive spirit, his trademark, enabled him to champion some of Quebec's most beautiful songs which he sings... in Italian !!! Like Ayoye – Offenbach, Julie – Les Colocs or Lindberg – Robert Charlebois. And other surprises from Paul Piché, La Bolduc, Richard Desjardins, Diane Dufresne. For the Italian version of "Lindberg", Louise Forestier joined Marco in order to create a bilingual version. Trying to recognize the songs we are fond of is a lot of fun and surprising! After more than 200 shows worldwide, Mi Ricordo, staged by Michel Faubert, is still very successful.

In 2016, Marco is starting a new project in which his fans will discover a new side of himself. We usually know Marco for his capacity to make people dance, but this time around, it's with tenderness that he will move his audience. The One Night project is a show mostly composed of ballads which bets on Marco's authenticity and intensity. Last March, Marco offered a live performance with 7 talented musicians at Club Dix30 in Brossard which was recorded for a CD/DVD launching this fall. Transcended with emotions, this most recent album rallies some of the biggest classics of Italian music, hits from previous albums and even new French songs, foreshadowing a new French project...

Busy on stage, but also involved in his community, Marco is the spokesperson for multiple events and organisations such as the Montreal's Italian Week, the MusiQualité contest, he is part of community sponsorship programs and he is an ambassador for the 10th anniversary of Diversité Artistique Montréal. He is also taking part in the Téléradiothon de la Ressource Du Bas-Saint-Laurent – Gaspésie – Îles-de-la-Madeleine as both a performer and an animator for 2015 and 2016.

Furthermore, Marco is the host of a daily radio show, and this in French, English and Italian, on CFMB 1280 AM, Montreal's Italian Radio, which has reach throughout Québec.

[marcocalliari.com](http://marcocalliari.com)  
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