



BIO

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 has been working on his new album, coming out fall 2013... stay tuned!

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