

LUIS DE CICCO

Musician, Composer



Co-productions &
Compositions



I am an Italian guitarist and multi-instrumentalist whose musical research is based on multiculturalism and overcoming geographical barriers through music, playing together in an environment free from judgments. Over the years I have had the privilege to play and get in contact with many different styles, instruments and traditions from Eastern Europe, the Mediterranean and Africa. This has given me the opportunity to explore time signatures, scales, instruments not exclusively related to the western world - and of course, open my mind to the richness of diversity. That's why I started recording and composing my own music: to have through it the opportunity to combine cultures, landscapes, emotions gathered from traveling and touring. This process has led me to work mainly as a producer, arranger and session musician with artists from all over the world who have often become my best friends. Especially for theatre groups, I often feel the need to be part of the group, rehearsing with the performers and occasionally going on stage with them, in order to compose a soundtrack that truly reflects the spirit of the group and its real needs. And above all, to have fun in the making! This applies to any type of ensemble that allows immersive work and within which there is trust and openness. In such situation, my help as a producer/composer is to let an idea be born and be transformed and shaped - having no filter between creating and togetherness, letting the environment enter the music and be recognizable. In fact, I like to define the kind of music I make, **ecological**: by the way it welcomes the environment in which it is played, by the care given to the space it can contain.

DISCOGRAPHY - COLLABORATIONS, GUEST

Sink to Swim (guitar, piano, arranger, co-producer) | June 2023

Morning Glory (bass, vocals, guitar) | Feb 2023

Fragile Tribute (Arranger, Producer) | September 2018

Island Tales (Guest guitarist) | June 2015

Catacatasc (Arranger, Guitarist) | March 2014

Tziganapoli (Lead guitar) | January 2013

Ponte (Arranger, Guitarist) | May 2010

ORIGINAL COMPOSITIONS

Awake Go Zero (Lead guitarist, Composer, Producer) | March 2022

Folk for Camera (solo album) | July 2021

Hinterland Blues (Composer, arranger) | July 2019

Performing Arts Music (collection of works) | April 2019

Caboose (Composer, lead guitarist) | October 2017

Watermouth (Solo Album) | January 2017

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

WWW.LUISDECICCO.COM

MEDIA

[@LUISDECICCO](https://www.instagram.com/LUISDECICCO)

COMPOSITIONS

○

MONSTROUS, *DE* (2023)

Inspired by Toich's novel *Ad Bestias*, 'monstrous' is set in a dystopian eco-dictatorship. The piece investigates different forms of pregnancy: women are artificially inseminated with animals, plants, minerals, emotions, natural phenomena and behaviors useful to the eco-regime. It was precisely from reading the book that I started to create a soundtrack for such an atmosphere, composing with laptop and performing live with a prepared guitar connected wireless to the mixer and FXs. The goal was to create both eerie and tribal sounds that one could hear in a such dystopic setting. For the spoken parts, I recorded the performers' voices and then included them into the dedicated songs. This work was facilitated by being on stage myself, both as composer and performer: I often apply this method to composing theatre music, being on stage with the performers/dancers and discovering what is needed *from the inside*, rather than from the outside.

TRAILER

<https://youtu.be/tPn58rzbUEo>



SOUNDTRACK & PERFORMANCE

7-10 Dec 2022

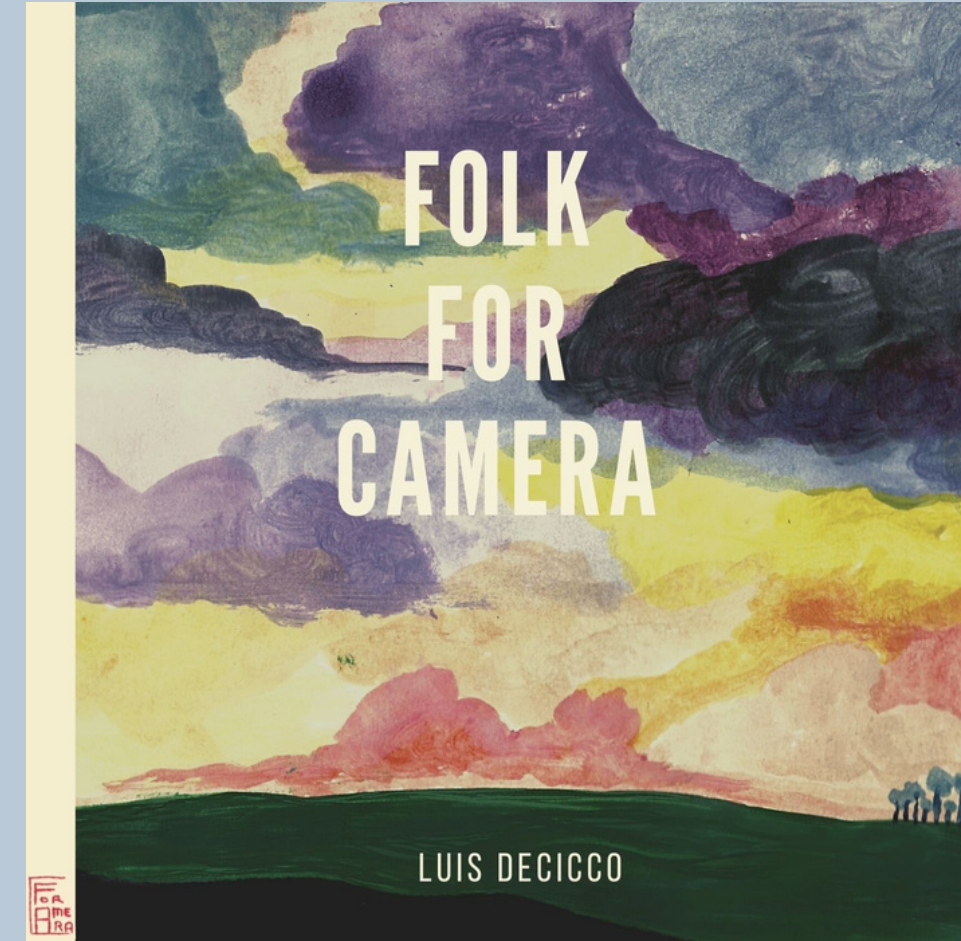
#dystopic #electronic #theatre

FOLK FOR CAMERA *DE/I 2021*



○

Folk for Camera is a solo album by LdC. The disc is meant for a folk/rock chamber ensemble, in which acoustic instruments from various traditions dialogue and influence each other in a game of contamination and experimentation, ranging from jazz to cinematic music. The common thread is the sound of the slide guitar, whose horizontal movement escapes genres boundaries to reach different cultures and countries. No loop station has been used, to give a more organic and acoustic sound to the environment, and indeed much emphasis is placed on sound design, in an attempt to give 'air' to each track and make the listener imagine a landscape. The album complements previous solo albums, where the search for an imaginary place created through sounds is at the core of the research.



SOLO ALBUM

June 2021

#jazz #rock #chamber #cinematic

○

SUGGESTED TRACK

<https://louisdecicco.bandcamp.com/track/pomerion>

JAWO, / 2021

COMPOSING,
PRODUCING

Artistic Residency

Sept 2021

#jazz #world



Jazz, eastern music, debke, electronic: two weeks residency in Ceppaloni have brought almost twenty musicians from all over the world to gather and to experiment with genres, finding new definitions of "world" music and recording a CD together with international guests. In this context, I tried to add a sense of space to the arrangements, so as to accommodate electronic experiments and more traditional playing, gave by the guests.. The suggested piece features Gabriele Coen (Blixa Bargeld, Teho Teardo) on bass clarinet.

SUGGESTED TRACK

<https://youtu.be/zgIm58U3ysI>

WATERMOUTH, / 2017

COMPOSING,
RECORDING, PRODUCING

Performing Arts

#experimental #world #sampling

Watermouth is a concept album structured as an electrified ritual for sound and dance. Built from samples collected around Europe, it maintains a ritualistic and undisclosed character. Released in 2017, it has since been performed in various music and dance contexts, together with performer Daniela Marcozzi. The instrumentation ranges from everyday objects (vases, rubber bands, pots) to ethnic, self-made instruments. The sense is precisely to rediscover the magic of the everyday: urban soundscapes intertwine with primitive melodies, imagining an ideal place (soundscape). It was Luis' first solo album, influenced by a desire to rediscover his roots and trace his influences: African music, blues, electronic, primitive folk.

LIVE VIDEO <https://youtu.be/HJoSJNHSPfA>



- Watermouth started as a residency in an ex-furnace in southern Italy, together with director Francesco Corbisiero and dancer Daniela Marcozzi.

INFO

<https://www.danielamarcozzi.net/watermouth>



PRODUCTIONS

ERIN K, *UK 2023*

erin K is the solo project of US-born, London-based singer-songwriter Erin Kleh. The latest album, released in June 2023, was co-produced by Luis and Kristofer Harris (Belle & Sebastian, Ghostpoet) at Squarehead studios in Kent. In particular, one of the singles taken from the album, 'Keep Her', features Luis on guitars and piano, as well as arrangements. The album was followed by a twenty-concert promotional tour in Italy, in which Luis alternated between electric and acoustic guitar, ukulele and backing vocals. The arrangement of the songs started with acoustic guitar and vocals and then developed by incorporating different instruments and harmonic solutions.

LISTEN

<https://youtu.be/mOeQ1kHMB6g>

SINK TO SWIM on Spotify

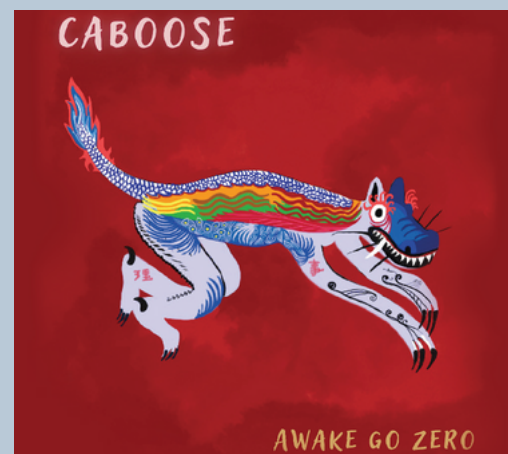
<https://open.spotify.com/album/3UvcZCjGwqRitdpmYhFL73?si=oW9oS-16QGWYaaz6XK9tLA>

CO-PRODUCING,
ARRANGING, TOURING

June 2023

#antifolk #singer-songwriting

The Caboose is a project founded by Luis De Cicco that, taking its inspiration from hill country blues, incorporates elements of North African music, soul and rock. All tracks and lyrics were composed and produced by Luis, both in recording studios and in more lo-fi environments. Underlying the project is a sound that oscillates between rock and world music, accompanied by lyrics that investigate the figure of the traveller. Studio recs are done live (guitar and drums), to maintain a steady and natural groove, to which very few overdubs are added to give the record spontaneity and freshness. During live performance, the crucial element is the interplay between drums and guitar, whose arrangements include numerous polyrhythms. The absence of the bass promotes a free flow of the song, which makes it suitable for numerous re-arrangements throughout, emphasising improvisation.



Listen on Spotify

https://open.spotify.com/album/70YDcs6AE2r7pJgzOLj946?si=3UMq1KY_T46dRRXQgybxiQ

THE CABOOSE, DE/I 2022

COMPOSING, RECORDING,
ARRANGING

March 2022

#rock #alt. blues



WEBSITE <https://www.caboosemusic.com/>