



Roberta Gulisano

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Bio

Roberta Gulisano is an artist with an extraordinary ability to intertwine deep roots and an **innovative spirit**, embodying the complexity and beauty of her native **Sicily**. From the very beginning, her journey has been marked by a strong connection to tradition, paired with constant **musical exploration**.

Roberta took her first steps in the musical world as a singer and dancer in the **Compagnia Triskele**, a group born from a shared passion for Sicilian folk traditions. Her lively and authentic performances in town squares served as a springboard for a career that would soon take a more personal direction.

Her artistic approach was profoundly influenced by listening to Italian songwriters from the '70s and '80s. Driven by a desire to explore new musical languages, she pursued **jazz studies** at the Conservatory of Palermo, where she honed her mastery of harmony and focused on **composition**.

In 2010 and 2012, she stood out at the **Bianca D'Aponte Prize**, winning the award for Best Lyrics in both editions. In the same year, together with Compagnia Triskele, she won the **Andrea Parodi Prize** with the song Fimmini, a tribute to the strength and resilience of women.

In 2011, Roberta released her first single, *Troppo profondo per le 23* (Too Deep for 11 PM), paving the way for her debut album **Destini Coatti** (Coerced Destinies, 2012), which was selected for the Opera Prima section of the **Tenco Prize**. This work already showcased her talent for crafting intense lyrics and telling universal stories through a deeply personal lens.

In 2016, her second album, **Piena di(s)grazia** (Full of (Dis)Grace), was released. Passion, anger, and faith were sung in a theatre of hypnotic riffs and sumptuous arrangements, marking a turning point in her musical journey. The album, produced by Cesare Basile, was among the finalists for the **Tenco Prize** that same year. Later, she collaborated with Basile on his project *U fujutu su nesci cchi ffa?* (The Fugitive Comes Out to Act).

Having moved to England at the end of 2016, Roberta fell silent for a while, gathering material for new compositions. Her latest album **A ccu appartenì** (Whom Do You Belong To), which reached the **World Music Charts Europe Top 10** in 2025, brings her back to the stages with a powerful acoustic trio exploring themes of belongings and diaspora through contemporary folk.

Ref: **Womex** 2025 Showcase Selection (Standby List) - Alkantara International Folk & World Fest (IT) - International Folk Fest Sofia (BG) | European Jazz Expo Cagliari (IT) | Taranta Fest (HU, IT)

TOURS - Destini coatti (IT) 2012/2013 | Piena di(s)grazia (IT) 2016 | U fujutu su nesci cchi ffa _ (IT) 2017 | A ccu appartenì (IT) 2025



Band:

Roberta Gulisano >voice, frame drums

Lu Brunicardi /Michele Picione > guitars, hurdy

gurdy, electronics

Giorgio Maltese > traditional flutes, mandolin, jaws
harps, bagpipe, accordion

A ccu apparteni ? Songs for the uprooted

A hypnotic and captivating musical performance, rhythmic and evocative. Gulisano's "songs for the uprooted" take shape on a rugged terrain of distortions and synths, where drums and jaw harps introduce their obsessive rhythm, leading the listener to a precise geographic latitude: the South, the state of the soul.

A concert dedicated to the loneliness and resilience of expatriates, and to the dignity of resistance.

→ [Live video 1](#)

→ [Live video 2](#)

→ [Live video 3](#)

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Roberta Gulisano



A ccu apparteni

A ccu apparteni

Listen Lyrics

- 1_ A' surfarara
- 2_ TravagghiaTuri
- 3_ Muscia'
- 4_ Amuri ca ppi ttia
- 5_ A ccu apparteni
- 6_ U cuntu
- 7_ A' liunfurtisa

>Contact



Info, booking & management
lagulisano@outlook.com

Publisher Label
Mhodí Music Company



Booking Assistance & Outreach Support

Eric E. van Monckhoven
music4you.net@gmail.com
MUSIC4YOU

Reviews

"Roberta Gulisano has long grappled with the roots of her land, Sicily, in an eternal relationship of love for her origins and combative anger over how they are and have been mistreated. Her new album, produced by Cesare Basile, is an explicit and deliberate homage to her roots. Musically, it embraces tradition with ancient instruments and the spirit of Rosa Balistreri surfacing frequently, but there's also plenty of experimentation, highlighting that we are dealing with a living, vibrant material that renews itself with freshness and strength. It demonstrates how old stories remain relevant and how important it still is to tell them, in the local language, emphasizing the role of daily life experiences. An intense album, raw yet elegant and refined at the same time."

[LINK 1](#)

"Roberta Gulisano's Sicily is a restlessness of the soul. It is an emotional force constantly against the wind, bearing roots and scars on skin burned by a domineering sun. In her lyrics, there is a powerful poetry, a Sciascian sentiment that smells of scorched earth. Every note, every nuance is a pinprick on the skin, a sweet lullaby, yet also a cry of liberation, a child's smile, the strength that evokes a memory. Everything in this musical journey is authentic. Every melodic breath, every harmony is a step on a path built from a life of struggles."

[LINK 2](#)

"But what really marks the LP out is her willingness to take those traditions and influences and give them a twist or ten, and the LP gets increasingly twisted as it progresses. Starting off with the subtlest of electronic augmentation, it's not long before spoken and instrumental samples are less subtly dropped, looped or layered. Arrangements become looser and even borderline unhinged. The electronic twists become more pronounced, the songs nod to native, Baltic Mestizo, Arabesque and even the Scottish highlands courtesy of some bagpipes. A jew's harp is flown in from Siberia, seagulls fly through the studio, drones refuse to die and found sounds are everywhere, with the songs ranging from desert laments, folktronic ballads, wedding jigs and psychedelic folk futurism."

[LINK 3](#)