

# FRANCESCO LUCARELLI

Francesco Lucarelli, an Italian singer-songwriter from Rome, played his first gig on the small stage of legendary Folkstudio, the tiny club where Bob Dylan performed in the early 60's. Francesco's musical debut was attended by the prince of Italian singer/songwriters, Francesco De Gregori.

In 1990 FL recorded a demo-tape of original songs which was favourably reviewed by Italian rock mag Buscadero. Elliot Roberts, historical manager of Neil Young and other great artists such as Joni Mitchell, Tom Petty, David Crosby and Tracy Chapman, was so impressed by Francesco's songwriting to offer him a publishing deal.

His love for the music of Neil Young and Crosby, Stills & Nash has been rewarded by some special moments: while on tour in Europe, back in 1992, Crosby Stills & Nash invited FL on stage to sing with them on the encore of their concert in Francesco's hometown; between 1988 and 1997, on several occasions FL played with members of Crazy Horse (the famous band of Neil Young) performing in Los Angeles and other towns of Southern California. During rehearsals for these gigs, FL recorded some of his original songs with Crazy Horse as backup.

Over the years, FL has been performing with many different bands, playing both original songs and performing covers, mainly focusing on West Coast music: Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, Jackson Browne, Eagles. He has played more than 300 concerts and has opened shows for several American singer-songwriters including Jimmy La Fave, Ben Vaughn, John Wesley Harding, Joe Henry and Eric Andersen. In 2002 he was invited to perform at a Neil Young tribute concert in London and in 2005 he organized a "Neil Young 60<sup>th</sup> birthday" tribute-party in Roma, where he performed with Billy Talbot.

After a couple of shows with Young & Old, a Neil Young tribute-band based in Rome, in 2004 FL completely focused on his own original music. With the contribution of Daniele Cialente (drums), Gianluca Galletti (lead guitar), Giorgio de Caroli (bass) and Luisa Capuani (vocals), he has crafted a very personal sound, balancing his singer-songwriting skills mixed with elements of rock and some blues.

From December 2004 to the end of January 2005, FL made several guest appearances on the theatrical show 'Liberteatro' at Teatro Politecnico in Rome, performing some of his own tunes.

In January 2005, FL and his band played their first gig at Alpheus, one of the foremost clubs in Rome, showcasing a full set of original songs sung in Italian. In August of the same year, the band was invited to perform in Hungary. In November 2005, FL opened the Italian shows of Billy Talbot, sharing the stage with him during the encores of Talbot's set.

In August 2006 FL and his band are on the bill of Subiaco Rock Blues Festival, sharing the bill with Popa Chubby. At the same time FL's song "Echoes of War" is selected as one of the "Songs of the Times" and added to Neil Young's official website along with more than 300 tunes by major artists like Steve Earle, Bright Eyes, Crosby & Nash, Nils Lofgren, Kris Kristofferson. "Echoes of War" climbs the charts until #26.

Currently, FL is working on a recording project featuring some of his original songs in English. So far the sessions have included many prominent musicians such as Kenny Passarelli (bass for Elton John, Joe Walsh, CSN), Jeff Pevar (guitar with David Crosby, Ray Charles, James Taylor, Rickie Lee Jones), James Raymond (piano & keyboards with David Crosby, CSN, Warren Zevon) and Stefano Senesi (keyboards with Francesco De Gregori, Renato Zero). One of the songs from the album and a couple of original instrumentals appear on the soundtrack of the Italian short movie "La Trentunesima Ora".

More details, music and photos: [www.francescolucarelli.com](http://www.francescolucarelli.com)