

ARTISTIC BIOGRAPHY



GIUSEPPE PARADISO **Drummer, percussionist, composer**

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Giuseppe was born in Santeramo in Colle (Bari, Italy) in 1983 and started his musical studies on drums at the age of six years old.

In 2007 he **graduated with full marks and honours from the Italian Conservatory "N. Piccinni" of Bari**, in percussion instruments, studying with professor Beniamino Forestiere, who later dedicated a composition for solo marimba to Giuseppe Paradiso. At the conservatory he had the opportunity to study mallets (marimba and vibraphone) and often performed as a mallet player (marimba-vibraphone); in 2003 he participated as a soloist at the "International Marimba Competition" at the Superior National Conservatory of Paris, one of the most prestigious mallet's competition in the world, performing in front of a jury of top exponents.

At the same conservatory, he received the 5 year Composition Certificate "Compimento Inferiore", part of the Contemporary and Experimental Composition program, as well as classical piano for 8 years.

As well as his classical training at the conservatory, he attended several jazz and contemporary music workshops and master classes such as "Siena Jazz" Summer Workshop (Italy), "Les journées de la percussion" (Paris, France), "Berklee Summer School at Umbria Jazz" clinics, where he received a Berklee Scholarship for a full-time program of four years at BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC in Boston. He also attended clinics led by international re-known musicians such as Evelyn Glennie, Elvin Jones, Ron Carter, Danilo Perez, Peter Erskine, Antonio Sanchez, Benny Golson, Jimmy Cobb, Victor Mendoza, Massimo Manzi, Ettore Fioravanti amongst others.

In 2008 he moved to Boston (United States) to study at **Berklee College of Music, where he graduated in 2011 with Magna Cum Laude** in Drums/Performance as a recipient of several scholarships. At Berklee College, he had the opportunity to study with some of the finest musicians and educators in the world such as Ian Froman, Ralph Peterson, Terri Lyne Carlington, John Hazilla, Mark Walker, Ed Saindon, Dave Samuels, Victor Mendoza, Dave Santoro, Jamey Haddad, amongst others. He also worked, as a rhythm section player for the Strings department, Guitar department, Voice Department, Piano Department, Ensemble department, Special programs of 2010 and 2011, Arranger/Composer Workshop, for several visiting artists and Berklee concert series.

He has **performed internationally** and had the pleasure to work both as a sideman and leader with several artists, groups and orchestras from all over the world, including a large variety of musical genres. His performances include multiple festivals, major venues, universities and events, to name a few: "Newport Jazz Festival"(Newport, RI - USA); "Les Journee de la Percussion" at Conservatoire Superior de Paris (Paris, France); several appearances at Berklee Performance Center (Boston, MA); "Festival Duni" (Matera, Italy); "Festival Paleariza" (Reggio Calabria, Italy); "Le Giornate Della Percussione" at the Conservatory "G.B.Pergolesi" (Fermo, Italy); Northeastern University (Boston, MA); Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum of Boston (USA); Berklee Summer Series in the city of Boston, MA; Dante Alighieri Society of Boston; The Austrian-Canadian Cultural Centre (Calgary, Canada); Ryles Jazz Club, (Cambridge, MA); Something Jazz Club (New York City, USA); Gregory's

Jazz Club (Rome, Italy); Ueffilo Jazz Club (Gioia del Colle, Italy), Wally's Jazz Club (Boston, MA); Hard Rock Café of Boston, Regatta Bar (Cambridge, MA), amongst many others.

TV appearances and radio programs include Spanish TVE LA2 "Entre Dos Aguas"- documentary produced by 7 times Latin Grammy Award winner Javier Limón; "Boston Strong" video campaign on NECN (United States); FOX 25 (United States); "The New Edge" radio program on WMBR 88.1FM Cambridge public radio (United States); "L'Italia chiamo" radio show (Boston, USA), as well as several appearances on Italian different TV channels.

Discography - As a band leader, he recorded in 2012 the "Otherness Collection" album with his international band "Meridian 71" based in Boston, which includes only his original music, where he is the composer, arranger, drummer and producer. His original work with "Meridian 71" is the result of a research into different musical styles, traditions, and cultures, melded together by using the jazz key. This project aims also at exploring the ethical implications of the encounter between the practice of world jazz music and the philosophical concept of *otherness*, involving the collaboration of philosopher Francesco Paradiso. As a sideman, he has recorded on several albums covering a wide diversity of music genres and styles, ranging from Jazz to Pop. To name a few: "Octave" Jazz Revelation Records 2011 - Cettina Donato group; "Crescendo" - Cettina Donato Orchestra (Jazzy Records); "Radici" - Stefano Marchese; Senegalese griot Paa Seck Diery, amongst others in Europe and United States.

As an **educator**, he has taught music and drums for different projects promoted by the Italian association "Linea Azzurra" (Italy), in Massachusetts (USA) for different private schools such as The Music Place (Reading, MA), Commonwealth Music School (Hull, MA), Merry Melody Music Academy (Norwood, MA) and as a private instructor, in his personal studios, for a large number of students in Italy and Massachusetts (United States).

In 2013 he **founded the IN MOMENTUM Concert Series** with vocalist Gabriela Martina and vibraphonist Andria Nicodemou at Outpost 186 in Cambridge, MA (USA), a series based on free improvised and creative music. In Momentum has involved collaborations with a large number of local and international musicians, growing a strong community and a unique environment to enhance freedom in music creation. Currently Giuseppe and Gabriela lead the series on a bi-weekly basis alongside activities and workshops on free improvisation.

AWARDS:

- Umbria Jazz 2007 (Perugia, Italy) - Berklee Scholarship for a full time program in Boston
- "Movin'up 2008" GAI - Giovani Artisti Italiani with the support of the Italian Government
- Berklee International Grant (Berklee College of Music)
- "James David Harber Award" (Performance Division and Percussion Department of Berklee College of Music)
- Berklee outstanding scholarship
- Dean's list of Berklee College of Music