



## RAPHAEL GUALAZZI

**Raphael Gualazzi** is an Italian **Platinum** selling **jazz, soul, swing, and pop artist** known internationally for his **unique style of playing piano** which merges **influences** from **classical** music, **stride piano** and **ragtime**. A multi-faceted musician, Raphael is a **singer, songwriter, pianist, musician, composer, band leader, arranger, and producer**.

Raphael's career began with fast-rising popularity in the **jazz scene** in **Italy** and **France**, and in **2011**, he **won** Italy's prestigious national song contest **Sanremo** for his song *Follia d'Amore*: a fusion of and homage to **Italian melodic** and **American swing**. That year he won the **Mia Martini Critics Award**, the **Radio and TV press room Award**, and the **Assomusica Award** for **best live performance**. He then went on to claim **second place** at the **Eurovision Song Contest** and **toured extensively** throughout **Europe**. He returned to **Sanremo's** Ariston Stage three more times with immense public and critical success, in 2014 **winning second place** for *Liberò o No* in collaboration with **The Bloody Beetroots** for their original project that fused *jazz, electronic, blues, and gospel* music.

Raphael has collaborated on stage and in the studio with international artists like **Melody Gardot, Andrea Bocelli, Gregory Porter, Tommy Lee, Gilles Peterson, Suzanne Vega, Pedrito Martinez, Camille, Stefano Bollani, Metropole Orkest, WDR Big Band, The Bloody Beetroots, Mario Biondi, Puppini Sisters, Renaud Letang, Simona Molinari, China Moses, Paolo Fresu, Fabrizio Bosso, Vince Medoza, Margherita Vicario, Edoardo Zosi, Andrea Obiso, Danilo Rossi** and many others.

**Raphael** has performed on some of the **world's most prestigious stages**, including *Saint Germain Jazz* in **Paris**, *Il Teatro alla Scala* di **Milano**, *Nancy Jazz Pulsations*, *Jazz In Marciac*, *Madrid's Día della Musica*, *Jazz a Carthage Tunisia*, the *Italian Innovation Day* in **Brussels**, *Montreal en Lumière* and many others. He has also toured in **Japan, Indonesia, USA, Canada, UK, South Africa, and Argentina** and has performed live on numerous **television and radio** networks throughout **Europe**.

Raphael has released **seven studio albums** and **three EPs** with **Sugar Music** and has **two platinum records** and **three gold records** for his studio albums *Reality and Fantasy*, *Happy Mistake* and *Love Life Peace*. Due to his popularity in **Japan**, a **Best of Album** was released in 2018 which was presented with a **sold-out** performance at **Blue Note, Tokyo**.

His work as a **songwriter** includes *Vertigo* which was featured in **Andrea Bocelli's Grammy nominated** album, *Si* and he wrote **the Giro D'Italia's 2024** anthem *Il Giro*. His music has appeared in international commercials (*Adobe, Lipton, Telecom, Fiat, Costa, ENI*) and he has scored music for several **film soundtracks** including *Un Ragazzo D'oro* (**Pupi Avati**), *Manuale D'Amore* (**Giovanni Veronesi**) e Netflix Series *Summertime Mi Pequeño Chet Baker* (**Mauro Diez**). He performed on the **Jazz loves Disney** album (**Blue Note Records**), recording in **New York** and duetting with **Melody Gardot**.



In 2017 Raphael **arranged** and **directed** the esteemed and **hugely popular** traditional musical festival ***La Notte della Taranta***, which celebrates the musical traditions of the historic **Salento** region, performing in front of an **audience of 200,000** people, **broadcast live** on **national television**.

Since studying at the Classical ***Conservatory Gioachino Rossini***, Raphael has always experimented with a wide range of musical styles. As a **musician** and **songwriter**, Raphael merges **diverse musical genres**, creating a *uniquely personal style* which **combines** his passion for both **modern** and **classical** and fuses **Italian melodic traditions** with his love for **African-American** music, simultaneously celebrating and transcending all genres.

Raphael's latest album project, ***Dreams***, released by **CAM Sugar**, presents a hybrid of musical styles, from **classical music** to **Afro-funk**, **new soul**, and **jazz**. His use of **analogue synthesizers** and **vintage keyboards** in some of these compositions alludes to the **Italian 70s' and 80's electronic scene** he was born into, while his choice of **tribal percussions**, **soulful vocals**, **orchestrated ballads**, and **acoustic love songs** really demonstrate the vast and **eclectic** breadth of Raphael's love for **experimentation** and pushing musical expression beyond genre borders.

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