Luca Piovesan - bio

I am a Brussel-based, Italian-born contemporary accordion player, sound practitioner, producer, and researcher with interest in participatory art methodologies, working at the intersections of art, social engagement, and climate justice.

I am engaged in green mobility projects as a bike mechanic in participative ateliers and as a bike trainer for newbies.

I am a deep believer in the power of words, of listening, of empathy, of ecology. I think that interconnection, interdependency, and reciprocity can just make our work as artists / humans stronger and impactful!



I hold a Master's degree in accordion at Conservatorio G. Verdi di Milano, a Bachelor's degree in Literature and Philosophy at Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia, a diploma in audio engineering at Audiofficine, and I am finishing a PhD at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, exploring horizontal processes of co-creation and challenging power-structures in contemporary music.

With my accordion I focus on the many possibilities of the instrument, holding space for possibilities to emerge with people with different lived experiences, exploring several repertoires and situations, sharing the joy and the energy of my kaleidoscopic instrument.

I am going through a process of deconstruction and unlearning of the musical world and practice I grew inside, questioning its verticality, self-referentiality, narcissism, and power structures: I acknowledge cultural variations through radical active listening, and my instrument serves to promote inclusivity and embrace communities and sites. I see performance as only one of the steps to encourage mutual understanding.

I developed a completely new instrument setup, the *Poliarmonica*, which helps me to reposition as a performer. It is made of (1) my accordion, which I hug since 30 years, (2) a set of analogue pedals and electronics tools which expands the sound and position it within a more current and vibrant sonic realm, all this in dialogue with (3) the field recordings from the community and the site I am living in.

With this set-up I have several planned residencies and collaborations in the upcoming months.

This short video might give a glimpse on the sound possibilities of this setup.

With this same instrument I am restructuring my regular collaborations with <u>Promenade</u> <u>Sauvage</u> (with Maarten Stragier, electric guitar, Belgium), <u>A few minutes to silence</u> (with Andrea Mancianti, electric guitars and electronics, Finland), <u>Sadie Fields</u> (Canadian/British violinist based in Brussels), <u>Ictus</u> (Brussels), and I am starting a brand new project with <u>Michelle Agnés Magalhaes</u> (Brazilian pianist and composer based in Paris).

Michelle and I are sharing a fertile instrumental and listening practice, and a deep reflection on our practice in which we question, deconstruct, and rebuild musical roles, themes, collaborations, interactions with communities, gender and decolonial approaches (given our different identifications and backgrounds).

Since we take inspiration from botanical elements, we decided to name our project Raiz(e) - meaning "roots" both in Brazilian and in my dialect - embracing this desire to re-join our original pleasure of making music and at the same time integrate it with our careers in contemporary music and our new approach to it.

I have performed in: Austria (Konzerthaus Wien, Wiener Festwochen); Belgium (Bozar, Brussels Philharmonic Orchestra, Théâtre National Wallonie Bruxelles, Ictus); Canada; France (Opéra de Lille, Théâtre National de Strasbourg, Théâtre de Montpellier, MC93); Germany (Bayreuther Festspiele); Italy (Teatro la Fenice, Teatro Massimo); Japan (Tokyo Opera City Hall, Yokohama Hall); Portugal (Teatro Nacional de Porto); România (University of Timișoara); Switzerland (Musical weeks in Lugano, La Via Lattea, Festival Archipel Genève); United States (Harvard University, Berklee College of Music, Boston University, Mata Festival NY, Minneapolis University, Metropolis Ensemble); The Netherlands.

You can listen to my latest albums <u>here</u> (Helsinki) and <u>here</u> (Palhaço, in solo), and my activity as a sound engineer and producer <u>here</u>. My website is <u>www.lucapiovesan.it</u>