

# mardi gras



[www.mardigrasmusic.it](http://www.mardigrasmusic.it)  
[info@mardigrasmusic.it](mailto:info@mardigrasmusic.it)

## BIOGRAPHY

**Liina Rätsep:** vocals  
**Fabrizio Fontanelli:** acoustic guitar  
**Alessandro Matilli:** piano & keyboards  
**Carlo Di Tore Tosti:** bass  
**Valerio Giovanardi:** drums  
**Fabrizio Del Marchesato:** electric guitar

As long as there are stories to tell, there will be music...

Rome based Mardi Gras is a rock act with a difference. Named after Creedence Clearwater Revival's last studio album, the band's musical journey is made of protest songs, poetry, prayers set to music, and a whole lot more. In May 2021 comes out with a new rendition of Elisa's song "Come speak to me". In 2020 Mardi Gras comes out with five new singles. In January the first one, "From Zero to One", produced by Stuart Epps (producer of Elton John, Led Zeppelin, Oasis, Robbie Williams, Zak Starkey, George Harrison, Bill Wyman, Chris Rea), in April a new version of the band's 2018 single "Shoes" and a cover of the Oasis' "Don't look back in anger". In June the band presents a new version of "Satellites and me" (originally from their album "Among the streams") and in September a new rendition of Paul Weller's song "You do something to me", again in collaboration with the producer Stuart Epps. In 2019 two singles, "Adam & Eve" and "Gingerman" are released in collaboration with Mark Geary, a noted Irish artist. 2018 marks a new start for the band with a new line up and a brand new voice. Three singles from that year: "One Guitar" (benefit single to raise funds and help the Light of Day Foundation for Parkinson's disease) was released in December, a pop/rock ballad "Tried" in July, and "Shoes", a groovy soul oriented track was the first single released with the new line up in spring 2018. Mardi Gras has released three albums so far: Drops Made (2006, Goodfellas), Among the Streams (2011) and last, Playground (2015), a record where ballads, rock, funk and acoustic pieces of music are the playground for the band with all their influences. Mundy, one of the greatest Irish songwriters, is a guest on the album that was mastered by Simon Gibson at Abbey Road Studios in London. As regular visitors in Ireland, the band has forged long-standing connections with some of the best Irish musicians, playing as the support act for The Frames and Glen Hansard, and sharing the stage with artists such as Mundy, Siobhan O' Brien, TKO, Micah P Hinson, Noah and the Whale, Billy Bragg or Jack Savoretti (not to mention the best Italian independent acts) to name a few. Liam O'Maonlai from the Hothouse Flowers features on the album "Among the streams" where a W.B. Yeats's poem is put into music. Two of Mardi Gras' songs, "The wait" and "Scarecrow in the snow" are listed on Neil Young's website "Songs of the Times" where protest songs from all over the world are chosen and listed by Neil Young in person. The band has also attracted attention internationally on European and US based radio stations. Mardi Gras' singles "Feel Alright" and "Your Constellation" charted in Italy and were included on the Hit Mania next vol 2 CD and heir instrumental piece "Alys" is the soundtrack for the eponymous Sci-Fi short film. In 2013 Mardi Gras had the privilege to play at the Sziget Festival in Budapest - one of the largest music festivals in Europe.

## DISCOGRAPHY



**Come speak to me**  
(Elisa)

Single independent release – 2021

“Come speak to me” music and lyrics by Elisa, english version of her song “Luce (tramonti a nord est)” from her album “Asile’s World” (2001). The song is about the need and desire to communicate between two people, to return to life through words. Meanwhile the moon tells stories. Produced, arranged and performed by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Valerio Giovanardi (drums) and Fabrizio Del Marchesato (electric guitar). Recorded and mixed by Valerio Cesaroni at Soundmakers Studios (Rome, Italy), mastered by Giovanni Versari at La Maestà Mastering (Italy). Photo by Mardi Gras. Artwork by Simone Dalena.

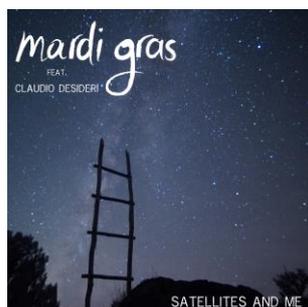


### **You do something to me**

(Paul Weller)

Single independent release – 2020

"You do something to me" is a cover of Paul Weller's song from his album "Stanley Road" (1995). The song is a dramatic and moving declaration of love - a feeling that changes you deeply and burns from inside out. Because love is something deep, it touches your emotions, your feelings. It changes your life, making your soul vibrate and your heart beat. A melancholic and intimate, yet energetic ballad. Produced, arranged and performed by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Valerio Giovanardi (drums) and Fabrizio Del Marchesato (electric guitar). Recorded and mixed by Valerio Cesaroni at Soundmakers Studios (Rome, Italy), mastered by Stuart Epps, music producer of Elton John, Led Zeppelin, Oasis, Robbie Williams, Zak Starkey, George Harrison, Bill Wyman, Chris Rea (London, UK). Artwork by Simone Dalena.



### **Satellites and me**

(Fontanelli/Matilli)

Single independent release – 2020

“Satellites and me” (© Fontanelli/Matilli), a new version of the song from our album “Among the streams” (2011), performed feat. Claudio Desideri, during the lockdown caused by coronavirus. Produced, arranged and performed by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Valerio Giovanardi (drums) and Fabrizio Del Marchesato (electric

guitar). Special guest Claudio Desideri. Recorded and mixed by Valerio Cesaroni at Soundmakers Studios (Rome, Italy), mastered by Stuart Epps.



### **Don't look back in anger**

(Noel Gallagher)

Single independent release – 2020

“Don't Look Back In Anger”, written by Noel Gallagher, is a cover of Oasis' song from the album “(What's the story) Morning glory?” (1995), performed during the lockdown caused by coronavirus. Produced, arranged and performed by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Valerio Giovanardi (drums) and Fabrizio Del Marchesato (electric guitar). Recorded, mixed and mastered by Valerio Cesaroni at Soundmakers Studios (Rome, Italy).



### **Shoes “Home Edition”**

(Demontis/Di Tore Tosti/Fontanelli/Matilli/Rätsep/Sammarone)

Single independent release – 2020

"Shoes (Home Edition)", a new version of our single “Shoes” (2018), performed during the lockdown caused by coronavirus. Produced, arranged and performed by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Valerio Giovanardi (drums) and Fabrizio Del Marchesato (electric guitar). Recorded, mixed and mastered by Valerio Cesaroni at Soundmakers Studios (Rome, Italy).



### **From zero to one**

(Matilli/Rätsep)

Single independent release – 2020

Song produced by Stuart Epps (music producer of Elton John, Led Zeppelin, Oasis, Robbie Williams, Zak Starkey, George Harrison, Bill Wyman, Chris Rea). Written by Alessandro Matilli and Liina Rätsep. Performed by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Valerio Giovanardi (drums) and Fabrizio Del Marchesato (electric guitar).

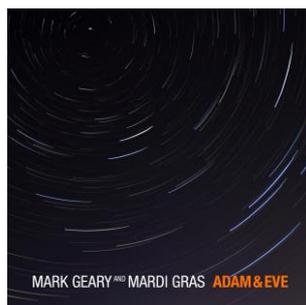


### **Gingerman**

(M. Geary)

Single independent release – 2019

Song written by Mark Geary and taken from his first album “33 1/3 Grand Street” (2002), based on a novel “Gingerman” by Irish writer J.P. Donleavy. Produced, arranged and performed by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Mark Geary (vocals & acoustic guitar), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (electric piano & keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Valerio Giovanardi (drums) and special guest Alessandro Cicala (electric guitar).

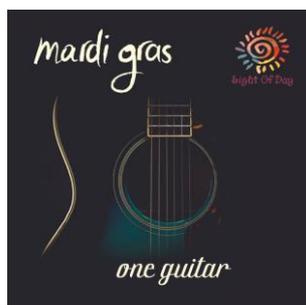


### **Adam & Eve**

(M. Geary)

Single independent release – 2019

Song written by Mark Geary and taken from his first album “33 1/3 Grand Street” (2002), it was also the first single of the same album. Written from the point of view of departing. To long goodbye, to hurt and the turning away and to the sea and air we travel. You might never go back but you always look back. Produced, arranged and performed by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Mark Geary (vocals & acoustic guitar), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Valerio Giovanardi (drums) and special guest Alessandro Cicala (electric guitar).

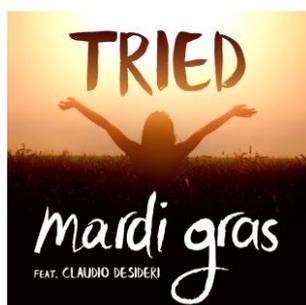


### **One Guitar**

(Frank Joseph Lee/Willie Nile)

Single independent release – 2018

Written by Frank Joseph Lee and Willie Nile, winner of the Independent Music Awards in 2013 - Best Social Action Song. We had the pleasure of performing in Italy as part of the "Light of Day" tour, sharing the stage with Bruce Springsteen's musicians (Jake Clemons, Eddie Manion, Vini Lopez) to raise money and awareness for Parkinson's disease. Willie Nile then gave us his permission to cover his anthem "One guitar" which we've decided to release as a benefit single to raise funds and help the Light of Day Foundation. Produced by Sante Sabbatini and Mardi Gras; performed and arranged by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Simone Sammarone (electric guitar) and Rodolfo Demontis (drums).



### **Tried**

(feat. Claudio Desideri)

(Demontis/Di Tore Tosti/Fontanelli/Matilli/Rätsep/Sammarone)

Single independent release – 2018

A love song with an unwritten end that speaks about feeling free to be ourselves in every possible way. Making mistakes but living fully because only those who fall can rise and shine again. And we can be as light as feathers with no burden on our shoulders. Produced by Sante Sabbatini and Mardi Gras; written, performed and

arranged by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Simone Sammarone (electric guitar) and Rodolfo Demontis (drums). Special guest Claudio Desideri.



### **Shoes**

(Demontis/Di Tore Tosti/Fontanelli/Matilli/Rätsep/Sammarone)

Single independent release – 2019

"Shoes" is the band's brand new single, a rock soul track with enthralling groove. Produced by Sante Sabbatini and Mardi Gras; written, performed and arranged by Liina Rätsep (vocals), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (keyboards), Carlo Di Tore Tosti (bass), Simone Sammarone (electric guitar) and Rodolfo Demontis (drums).



### **Playground**

Album - 2015

Aereostella

1. **I say yes** (Fontanelli/Matilli)
2. **Never** (Fontanelli/Loddo)
3. **Road song** (Fontanelli/Matilli)
4. **I have a dream** (Fontanelli/Matilli/Sammarone)
5. **Painlover** (Fontanelli/Matilli/Sammarone)
6. **Another place** (Loddo)
7. **Before I die** (Fontanelli/Matilli)
8. **Sarah and the three roses** (Fontanelli/Sammarone)
9. **Mine** (Loddo/Matilli)
10. **Are we ready for the sun?** (Loddo)
11. **Snakes and bones** (Fontanelli)
12. **Alys** (Fontanelli/Matilli)
13. **Superfriends** (Fontanelli/Matilli)

#### 14. **Kiss the night** (Fontanelli/Matilli/Sammarone)

There is an open space where children can play freely and where the adults can return for a while to the days of their youth, living once again the flavours and colors of the most beautiful and precious memories. In English, “play” has got a double meaning and we wanted to emphasize this. Written, arranged and performed by: Claudia Loddo (vocals), Andrea Casini (bass), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Mauro Lopez (drums), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards), Simone Sammarone (electric guitar); Other guests: Emanuele Cefali (electric Guitar) and Danilo Filippino (drums) on "Are we ready for the sun?" and “Alys”. Featuring Mundy in “Road song”, one of the finest and best known Irish Songwriters.

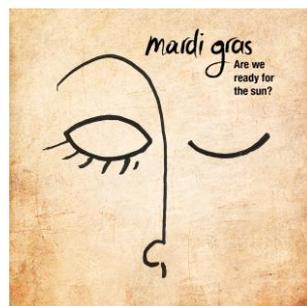


#### **Alys**

(Fontanelli/Matilli)

Single independent release – 2013

Inspired and composed for the "Alys" short film by Sante Sabbatini CSC Productions (Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia, Roma), it's Mardi Gras first original soundtrack. Produced, arranged and performed by Mardi Gras this is the fourth song under the 2013 line up: Claudia Loddo (vocals & acoustic guitar), Andrea Casini (bass), Emanuele Cefali (electricguitar), Danilo Filippino (drums), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar) and Alessandro Matilli (piano).



#### **Are we ready for the sun?**

(Loddo)

Single independent release – 2013

"Are we ready for the sun?" is Mardi Gras green anthem, the rockiest tune they ever performed. You can even hear an excerpt of the Severn Cullis Suzuki speech at the UN conference back in 1992 when the activist was only 12, asking for a better world and action to save our world. Severn Cullis Suzuki is the "Girl who silenced the world for 5 minutes" since then. Produced, arranged and performed by Mardi Gras. This is the third song under the 203 line up: Claudia Loddo (vocals & acoustic guitar), Andrea Casini (bass), Emanuele Cefali (electric

guitar), Danilo Filippino (drums), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar) and Alessandro Matilli (keyboards & synthesizers).

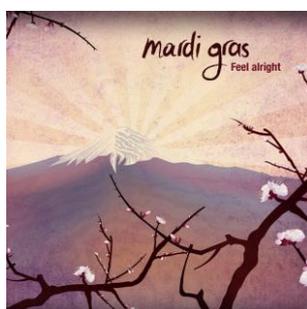


### **Your constellation**

(Fontanelli/Loddo/Matilli)

Single - Hit Mania 2013 Cd Next Vol. 2 – Universo/Universal – 2012

A déjà vu song produced, arranged and performed by Mardi Gras. The track is written by Claudia Loddo and Fabrizio Fontanelli (lyrics) and Alessandro Matilli (music). This is the second song under the 2012 line up: Claudia Loddo (vocals & acoustic guitar), Andrea Casini (bass), Alessandro Fiori (drums), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (electric piano & synthesizer) and Paolo Strina (electric guitar). Artwork: Chiara Arnone. The song is included in the cd next volume 2 Hit Mania 2013 (Universo/Universal).

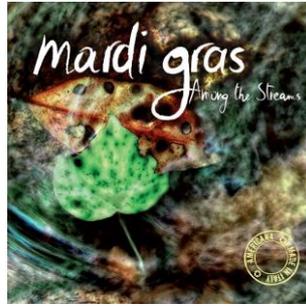


### **Feel alright**

(Fontanelli/Matilli)

Single - Hit Mania 2013 Cd Next Vol. 2 – Universo/Universal – 2012

A renaissance song produced, arranged and performed by Mardi Gras. The track is written by Fabrizio Fontanelli (lyrics) and Alessandro Matilli (music). This is the first song under the new line up: Claudia Loddo (vocals & acoustic guitar), Andrea Casini (bass), Alessandro Fiori (drums), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards) and Paolo Strina (electric guitar). The song is included in the cd next volume 2 Hit Mania 2013 (Universo/Universal).



### **Among the streams**

Album - 2011

Route 61 Music

1. **Song from the end of the world** (Fontanelli/Matilli)
2. **Scarecrow in the snow** (Fontanelli/Matilli)
3. **Men improve with the years** (W.B.Yeats/Fontanelli)
4. **What comes what goes** (Fontanelli/Matilli)
5. **Sister i know** (Fontanelli/Matilli)
6. **Land of hope and dreams** (B. Springsteen)
7. **Shine** (Fontanelli/Matilli)
8. **Hard to believe** (Fontanelli)
9. **Ballad of love** (Fontanelli)
10. **Satellites and me** (Fontanelli/Matilli)

Ten different songs, ten different journeys. In this album have played Claudia McDowell (vocals), Alessandro Cicala (electric Guitar), Alessandro Fiori (drums), Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar), Alessandro Matilli (piano & keyboards) and David Medina (Bass). The songs talk about how we feel as a band among the streams within the music spell. The first song of this album talks about the great power of love and it ends with an hymn to youthness. On track #6, called "Land of Hope and dreams", we pay tribute to Bruce Springsteen, and on "Shine" to June Carter Cash (Johnny Cash's wife). Liam O' Maonlai from Hothouse Flowers is the special guest on "Men Improve with the Years".



### **Drops made**

Album – 2006

Goodfellas

1. **Conversation** (Fontanelli/Olivares)

2. **Untitled** (Olivares)
3. **Home again** (Fontanelli/Olivares)
4. **High alive** (Fontanelli/Olivares)
5. **The wait** (Fontanelli/Olivares)
6. **Another day** (Fontanelli/Olivares)
7. **Conversation Alt. Ver.** (Fontanelli/Olivares)

An out of focus record, a black and white landscape featuring six songs written by Silvia "Six" Olivares (vocals & acoustic guitar) and Fabrizio Fontanelli (acoustic guitar). In this album have also played Alessandro Fiori (drums) and Davide Iacoangeli (double bass). "The wait" is listed on Neil Young "songs of times" a special section of his website where peace and protest songs are listed.

## PRESS

<https://www.mardigrasmusic.it/press>

## VIDEO

### **Mardi Gras Playlist YouTube**

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxHosDO\\_xN4L9P66R7U9KlovilbUSIN\\_X](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxHosDO_xN4L9P66R7U9KlovilbUSIN_X)

## CONTACTS

[www.mardigrasmusic.it](http://www.mardigrasmusic.it)  
[info@mardigrasmusic.it](mailto:info@mardigrasmusic.it)  
+39 328 3188769

### **For italian booking:**

[www.altererebus.com](http://www.altererebus.com)  
[booking@altererebus.com](mailto:booking@altererebus.com)

### **For international booking:**

Eleonora Iannotta  
Artist Director and Program Manager  
AGENCY IICI CONSULTING  
[eleonora@iiciconsulting.com](mailto:eleonora@iiciconsulting.com)  
+ 20 109 1590086