

Suonabanda

Suonabanda starts in Modena in 1983 encouraged by previous research experiences on oral tradition in the provinces of Modena, Reggio Emilia and Bologna. The group mission is to stimulate interest in a jolliness culture, perceived as socialization and popular expression, in situations where protagonist is traditional dancing.

Suonabanda especially focuses toward Emilian area folk traditional dance music known as "staccati" (detached), in use before "liscio" dance and being used during popular feasts.

Following previous researchers work indications, a new survey in Modena, Reggio Emilia and Bologna Provinces was conducted. The research led to discover a considerable amount of ancient dances and associated music, and this heritage, thanks to the performances and indications learned from old musicians and dancers, was revived by Suonabanda in form of shows, animations, and courses.

Revitalized tunes are different traditional dances, normally they are performed by a group of couples who are forming precise figures. For each dance name (giga, manfrina, frulana, etc..) there is a specific combination of basic steps: "spasso" (walking), "tonda" (round), "braccia" (arms), "balletto" (ballet), all steps and movements are then enriched by dancers inventiveness and creativity.

The group collection includes also traditional dance music from different European origin to enable a broad participation of public in situations of parties and festivals.

Suonabanda has always sought out old traditional musicians and dancers direct contact, trying to give its contribution to the continuation of still living traditional realities. In this framework, the Suonabanda participation to the last editions of "Maggio delle ragazze" (May of girls) in Riolunato village led to a CD production and to a concert theme proposal "La bella è entrata in ballo" (Belle came into dance).

After first self-production of 1984, "Musica tradizionale da ballo dell'area emiliana" (Emilian area traditional dance tunes) came out:

- "Balli staccati della tradizione emiliana" (Detached traditional Emilian dances) CD RoMilia 2003

- "La bella è entrata in ballo - Tradizioni musicali a Riolunato" (Belle came into dance - Musical traditions in Riolunato) CD FolkClub Ethnosuoni 2009.

There are also a number of partecipations:

- "Canti e balli della tradizione popolare italiana" (Italian traditional folk songs and dances) CD Idyllium 2006 (live)

- "Le musiche e i canti dei burattini dell'Ocarina Bianca" (White Ocarina puppets music and songs) CD 2007 Nostradamus Villa

- "Con la guazza sul violino - Tradizioni musicali nella Provincia di Modena" (With dew on the violin - Musical traditions in Modena Province) Book with 2 CDs by Fabio Bonvicini - Squilibri Editore 2009

Current proposals:

- "La bella è entrata in ballo - Tradizioni musicali a Riolunato" (Belle came into dance - Musical traditions in Riolunato) Concert by Suonabanda with singers of Frassinoro's May;

- "L'Appennino vien danzando" (Apennines comes dancing) show dedicated to ancient Emilian traditional dances "staccati".

by Suonabanda with dancers of "Teamballo" group from Casalecchio di Reno (BO)

- Courses and workshops on traditional Emilian dances with live music

Group members:

Pierpaolo Bergamini-fiddle

Maurizio Berselli-diatonic accordion

Fabio Bonvicini- acoustic bass and ocarina

Maurizio Loschi- acoustic guitar

Claudio Vezzali-fiddle and mandolin

Info and contacts:

info@suonabanda.it

<http://www.suonabanda.it>

<http://www.myspace.com/suonabanda>

facebook: Suonabanda