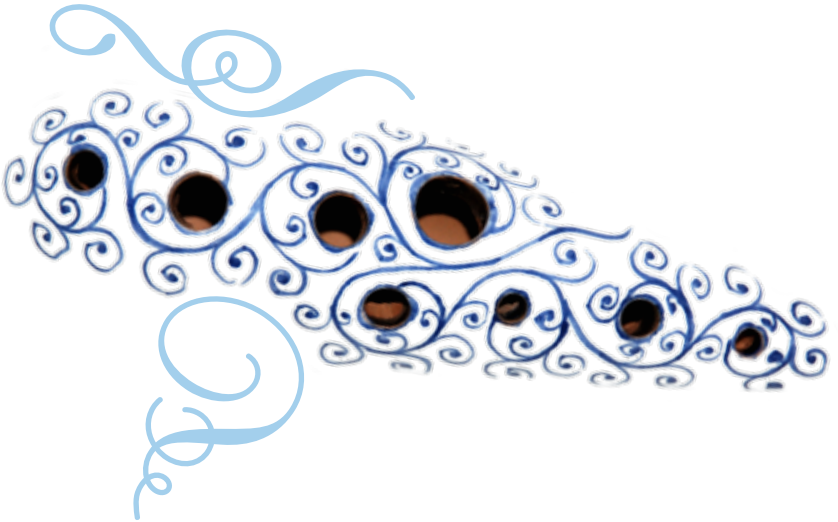


# Fabio Galliani Ocarinamania



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# Ocarinomania

Clay flutes are as old as the history of man but the modern *ocarina* was born in Northern Italy and to be precise, halfway through the 19<sup>th</sup> century in the town of Budrio near Bologna.

It then spread around Europe and after that throughout the world, due to the incredible success of the first group of seven ocarina players *I Montanari dell'Appennino*. A very inspiring name but in actual fact quite strange as Budrio is situated in the middle of low lying land!

In Budrio today there are still groups of ocarina players who carry on this ancient tradition.

Although it has a simple form, the ocarina is a real musical instrument and can be used to perform both traditional and modern music.

**THIS CD** has been divided into two parts: in the first part (up to no 11) there are traditional solo pieces

for ocarina accompanied by the piano; in the second part there are more or less famous pieces from all over the world accompanied by piano and guitar.

**THIS IS** a resumé of the musical pieces present on the CD.

*Vieni al mar*", *L'abbandono*", *Pei campi* and *Eucaliptus* are original pieces arranged for solo ocarina and piano, published at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by Cesare Vicinelli, an ocarina maker. This is music which evokes the musical taste of the period, at times containing a rhetoric naivety, although at the same time capable of a certain elegance.

The *Studi* have been taken from musical scores which were fortunately found during a house removal in Budrio a few months ago by an old friend of mine. They are pieces composed by Cesare Testi, conductor of the *Montanari* group up to 1915 and re

vised by his pupil Alfredo Baratttoni in 1929. This seemed to me to be a sign of destiny which couldn't be ignored.

The harmonization present, which gives added value to these beautiful pieces, is the work of Maestro Roberto Bonato, one of Budrio's greatest musicians and a great friend of mine.

In order to interpret the pieces in a philological manner they were performed using original ocarinas made by Giuseppe Donati (1836-1936), Cesare Vicinelli (1841-1920) and Alberto Mezzetti (1843-1906).

*La chiacchierina* is a polka composed by my friend Giampiero Lucchini (a great solo player of the ocarina) to emphasize the extraordinary musical possibilities of this instrument.

**THE OTHER PIECES** performed on the CD were a surprise, above all for me. In Budrio ocarina music has always been related to the traditions of the first group, which means a group of *seven players* with occasional solo performances of dance music. It has been an interesting experience (together

with Elio Pugliese, a great improviser, friend and fellow performer in the *Cavranera* group) playing music of other genre and musical traditions, like jazz, pop and Latin American music so we could introduce some new ideas in the second part.

*Buonasera signorina*, *Un bacio a mezzanotte*, *Tu vo' fa l'americano* and *Quando quando quando* are famous Italian songs of the fifties and sixties.

*Gabriel's Oboe* is from the sound track of the film *Mission* while *Pi-nocchio* is the popular music (in Italy) from the TV serial of the same name, broadcast many years ago. A leap over to Brazil with *Chorino*, *A banda* and *Tristeza* and then a handful of standard American jazz pieces. .

**I HOPE** that this CD will help to create a new image for our friendly little instrument and forge once again the popularity that accompanied it in the past.

**FABIO GALLIANI** was one of the first pupils of Paolo Scazzieri who was a member of the previous Ocarina group in Budrio and founder of the musical tradition (the roots of which go back to the teachings of Maestro Alfredo Barattoni 1882-1948) and in 1977 founded the Municipal Ocarina School in Budrio.

At the present time Fabio plays with *Gruppo Ocarinistico Budriese*, *Ocarina Ensemble* and *l'Ensemble Novecento*. In particular he has recorded 5 CDs with Gruppo Ocarinistico Budriese and taken part in tours with them in Australia, South America, The USA and most European countries.

As leader of the group he has participated in various radio and television programmes in Italy and abroad. He was one of the writers who compiled the book *1853-2003: The sound of Clay: The ocarina from Budrio 150 years on*. This book is the only existing one in Italy today about the story of the ocarina.

He plays the ocarina, clarinet and recorder in *La Mandragola Quartet*

a group which performs ancient folk dance music from Italy and France and he plays ancient folk music from North and central Italy with the "Cavranera Quartet" who also arrange the music.

In 2006 he helped to create the new displays in the *Ocarina Museum in Budrio*.

He was the promotor of the first edition of the *Ocarina Festival* in 2003 and was the artistic director for the following ones in 2004, 2005 and 2007.

When he is not involved in playing a musical instrument he sings medieval, baroque and contemporary music (*Città di Bologna choir group, Heinrich Schutz choir group, San Giacomo Cathedral Choir, Vincenzo Bellini Choir, Budrio*).





*Per contattare Fabio Galliani:*  
**[ocarinafestival@hotmail.com](mailto:ocarinafestival@hotmail.com)**