## Francesco De Gregori - Vivavoce (2014)



CD1: 1. Alice 2. Atlantide 3. Un guanto 4. La leva calcistica della classe '68 5. Niente da capire 6. Gambadilegno a Parigi 7. Finestre rotte 8. Generale 9. Il panorama di Betlemme 10. Renoir 11. Natale 12. Caterina 13. Vai in Africa Celestino 14. Battere e levare CD2:

1. Il futuro 2. Il '56 3. La ragazza e la miniera 4. Il bandito e il campione 5. Buonanotte fiorellino 6. Santa Lucia 7. Il canto delle sirene 8. Stelutis alpinis 9. Titanic 10. La donna cannone 11. Viva l'Italia 12. La storia 13. Per le strade di Roma 14. Fiorellino # 12&35

Born in 1951 in Rome, singer/songwriter Francesco De Gregori grew up listening to and being inspired by American musicians Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen as well as Italian artist Fabrizio De André. It was the latter who heard De Gregori recording songs at a famous studio in Rome, and was impressed enough to began helping the young singer. In 1972, after De Gregori signed to IT, Theorius Campus, an LP with Antonello Venditti, was released. Unfortunately, critics were unimpressed with the album, a sentiment that continued through De Gregori's 1973 solo debut, Alice Non Lo Sa, and its 1974 self-titled follow-up. Success finally came with the next year's Rimmel, which showed off the musician's maturing, reflective, and intelligent lyrics over musical help from Lucio Dalla, among others.

In 1976 Bufalo Bill was released, but while touring in Milan in 1977, De Gregori was verbally attacked by a group of extreme left-wingers who accused the artist of encouraging capitalism and selling out. Leaving the stage in tears, he stopped recording, choosing to work instead as a bookseller, but in 1978 he returned to the Italian music world with De Gregori, an album that included "Generale," a track that would become among his most beloved and one which the composer felt was too good to not present to the public. A tour with Dalla and a then-unknown Ron produced the 1979 album Banana Republic. The next 15 years saw the release of a handful of new studio records, including the 1982 masterpiece Titanic and 1992's Canzoni d'Amore.

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After spending the next few years as a journalist for the newspaper L'Unità, De Gregori, who was nicknamed "Il Principe," or "The Prince," for his introverted, sometimes haughty manner of dealing with the press, came back to music with Prendere e Lasciare in 1996 and the critically acclaimed Amore Nel Pomeriggio in 2001. In 2002 he participated in a tour with Pino Daniele, Ron, and Fiorella Mannoia and also collaborated with folksinger Giovanna Marini on Il Fischio del Vapore, a collection of old Italian popular and protest songs. Three years later the rock-oriented Pezzi was released, and Calypsos came in 2006. --- Marisa Brown, Rovi

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