

RAOUL CASADEI, born on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1937, is the inventor of LISCIO a certain kind of Italian dance style, LISCIO (ballroom dance) is a word invented by him in the early 70's, entered nowadays in the Italian Language and vocabulary.

Named by the press as THE KING OF LISCIO, he is songwriter of many Italian hits that has become famous worldwide: Ciao Mare, Simpatia, La Mazurka di Periferia, Romagna e Sangiovese, La mia Gente, Romagna Capitale, etc.

Known from OVER the 90% OF ITALIANS (Abacus poll), the name "Casadei" is mentioned in several songs by many young pop artists, just like Caparezza *"Io vorrei che i Backstreet Boys fossero gay, che le teenager amassero Casadei."* Articolo 31, *"Tutto fila liscio come con il Casadei."* Gabri Ponte *"Siamo figli di Pitagora e di Casadei, di Macchiavelli e di Totò"*, Paolo Belli *"Lunga vita ai D.J. a Pino, a Casadei, a Jack & Elwood, ai dischi di Battisti..."*, J-AX *"Nelle balere metteremo i dj, l'orchestra Casadei suonerà i Green Day"* ed i Ridillo *che cantano "Da piccolo in macchina coi miei sentivo un misto fra la dance e Casadei"*.

THE LISCIO (Ballroom dance) is a kind of music become synonymous of cheerfulness, light heartedness and optimism and its music has been conspiratorial for many friendships, engagements and marriages, but often the theme of funerals for fans who often wanted as per their last will the LISCIO during their last journey.

During the 70's his songs were on the tops and Raoul Casadei attended the most important Italian music Festivals and events (Sanremo Festival -1974, Festivalbar 1974, Disco per l'estate -1975, Giro d'Italia -1976) but also the most important television programs of the last 50 years.

Raoul Casadei has always been cheerful, optimist and a creative talent and has always created events linked to his musical career: In 1976 built the biggest Italian ballroom Disco dance in Ravenna – the "Cà del Liscio" – and in 1984 spread out his music all over Emilia Romagna beaches with the idea to create a floating disco-dance on a motor vessel for tourists – "la Nave del Sole". Then he has invented a great world dance Festival – "The Balamondo 1998" – which has been attended by the most famous international dance music artists on the same dance-floor (from Gloria Gaynor to Tito Puente, ethnic African and Latin and Reggae and Blues bands). Fr that event Raoul Casadei wrote a song together the king of Mambo Tito Puente.

Ha has written hundreds of songs and his long playing have been sold in millions of copies. He has acted in several films; he has been the star of documentaries, foto-stories and TV shows. In 2006 took part to the program "Isola dei Famosi – The Isle of Vips" and in 1996 attended the Sanremo Festival as guest together with "Elio e le Storie Tese" and the song "La Terra dei Cachi", reaching the tops with his dance version of the Sanremo song by Elii.

In 1980 Raoul Casadei has finally left his career but attending advertising activities and in the new millennium passed the baton of CASADEI ORCHESTRA to his son MIRKO, who has exported CASADEI music abroad.

For 17 years he has been teacher in the primary school: from children he learnt to be spontaneous and people oriented. He has taken all those characteristics into his songs and in the way of approaching people all over the world. In the early 60's he was been playing rock and swing in his "Little Band" and was been used to write poetries and songs. His uncle Secondo – founder of Casadei Orchestra (since 1928) put into

his vinyls 78 R.P.M. In the middle of the 60's he became member of Casadei Orchestra together with his uncle Secondo. They both wrote so many songs and played on so many famous stages that his uncle Secondo gave the Orchestra the name of Secondo and Raoul Casadei Orchestra.

His first song, written together with his uncle Secondo, "Io cerco la morosa" during the 60's was on Radio Rai program "ad Alto Gradimento" by Renzo Arbore and it had come to one of the first editions of Festivalbar.

In 1971 after the uncle's death, Raoul had to leave the teaching in order to go on with the Casadei Orchestra.

There was only 1 year left for his retirement, but Raoul never cared about money. He has always listened to his intuition and he was really right.

From that moment LISCIO fever overflowed: more than 365 concerts per year, millions of Km covered on a big coach with café and bunks which got to all Italian cities while his famous songs were in the air.

His career is very rich of events, awards and very special ideas. He has been a clever inventor and groundbreaking man, able to invent new words entered into the Italian Language and in 1972 established the first music cooperative.

He took part in the following films: "Di che segno sei" together with Adriano Celentano and Mariangela Melato, 1975 by Sergio Corbucci, and in 1976 "Vai col liscio" together with Alberto Sordi, Renato Pozzetto, Adriano Celentano and Fred Astaire. In 1987 the film "Rimini Rimini Rimini" by Sergio Corbucci, together with Paolo Villaggio and Serena Grandi and further films were inspired by his career: "La nottata" 1974 direction by Tonino Cervi, "Ogni volta che te ne vai" production by Fandango in 2004 with Fabio De Luigi, "Liscio" by Claudio Antonini with Laura Morante.

In 1996 took part in Sanremo Festival as guest with "Elio e le Storie Tese" and the song "La Terra dei Cachi", with his dance-style version of Elia.

Raoul has been also star in several spots (Barilla and Biancosarti), film and photo-stories; he wrote the themes of some TV programs ( *...E viene sabato, e poi domenica* for the TV program *Domenica In* in 1977 and *Rimini Rimini Rimini* edition 1991 of the TV program *Stasera mi butto*) and the theme of SOAP-OPERAS.

Thousands of Italian Orchestras and many musicians followed his kind of music and Casadei created many and many dance-schools all over Italy.

During the 80's because of the tourism, he reinvented his "liscio" (ballroom dance) by creating a new slogan, Musica Solare ("cheerful music"). At the end of the 80's he invented the Latin-Romagnolo music, because of the upcoming Caribbean music.

During the 90's invented the Ballo Globale (The Global Dance), together with a play about dance with more than 250 international songs, sold in kiosks.

He sung about his country, Italian traditions, the suburbs and the importance of Italian family, of love and friendship, through words and melodies easy to be reminded reaching for all the common people.

Raoul Casadei during the 80's set his company as a family, it is still nowadays named "Casadei Produzioni" (Casadei Production), managed by his three children. Record labels, Artistic productions, Music Publishers, and management and organization of events and shows.

Married with Pina, Neapolitan teacher, one love of his life, known in Puglia Region during the years working for school have recently celebrated 50 years of marriage. They have three children Carolina, Mirna and Mirko, the youngest one, since

December 2013 has become grandfather at the age of 40, and Raoul and Pina have become the happiest great grand -father and great- grandmother. This is a close and a cheerful family, despites of the career of Raoul always on tour all over Italy.

Nowadays Mirko oggi through his pop-folk music is going on with the very famous brand "Casadei".

A page of the folk Italian music and dance.