



LILI REFRAIN (ITALY)

vocals, guitars, taiko, synth, percussion, loop stations

SHORT BIO



Lili Refrain is a multi-instrumentalist, composer and performer based in Rome, Italy. Her solo project was founded in 2007. She uses electric guitar, vocals, percussions and synthesizers, overlapping them in real time through loop stations. The atmosphere she evokes cover a wide swath of sonic territory that combines minimalist, folk, psychedelic, blues, metal, lyrical opera textures, without using any computer or pre-recorded tracks. Her songs are embedded with ritualistic energies and her live performances are a visceral and cathartic experience that lead the listener through an unforgettable mesmerising act.

Since the release of her 5th album "**MANA**" (Subsound Records - 2022), Lili Refrain landed on the stages of the most prestigious European festivals such as **Roadburn**, **Hellfest**, **Desertfest**, **Inferno** and many more, revealing herself as the rising star of archetypal rituality.

Between 2022 and 2023 she toured Europe and the UK as an opening act first with **Heilung**, then with the legendary **The Cult** and then ended the year with "40 years tour" of **Death Cult**.

LONG BIO

Lili Refrain is a multi-instrumentalist, composer and performer based in Rome, Italy.

Born in **2007**, the solo project "Lili Refrain" operates with **electric guitar, voice, percussion and synthesizers**, overlaying them in real time through loop stations. The atmosphere she evokes covers a wide sonic range that combines minimalist, folk, psychedelic, blues, metal and opera textures, without using any computers or pre-recorded tracks.

Her songs are embedded with ritual energies and her live performances are a cathartic experience capable of leading the listener into an unforgettable act beyond the boundaries of any genre.

She marked since her early days with an innovative act, with a sound that is certainly not mainstream nor "repeatedly electronic".

Instead, she finds herself among the few acts that rely on massive use of loops over an "analog" project. As these usually look elsewhere with their musical approach, she is often mentioned by other musicians on interviews and reviews as a source of inspiration with her way of using the magic of repetition.

The response from the audience is positive and the live performances manage to reach very **deep** levels of engagement, showing expressive strength and capability to gather attention and curiosity.

On the top of it, not using semantic verbal language leads her to have no linguistic boundaries and allowed the sound not to have any geographical limits or conditioning.

Her first works "**LILI REFRAIN - 2007**", "**9 - 2009**" and "**KAWAX - 2013**", are very focused guitar and voice, remaining outside any genres and enveloping, at the same time, a multitude of styles in her sound.

All these rich references and imagery are a prelude to an artistic journey that will cross very different territories over the years, walking the same shoes to the creation of an increasingly assertive expressive range: an endemic example of growth and development of a musical identity.

"Early Lili Refrain and I are not that different people: even tho 15 years have passed and a great deal of experience and changes in between, I have never abandoned my roots.

I know where I come from and what brought me here."

Lili Refrain

In 2020, **ULU** was released (again sealing the ironclad alliance with SubSound Records): a 22-minute EP split in three acts.

The album presents itself as a sort of bridge: together with the guitars, Lili Refrain's favorite instrument, a gradual integration of floor tom and synth is engaged.



These are the first steps towards the creation of Mana, all always accompanied by the 6 "original" strings and the hypnotic power of notes repeated endlessly, reflected and refracted on overlapping structures.



"**Mana**" (Subsound Records) is released in April 2022 and produced in collaboration with *Stefano Morabito*, sound engineer at the 16th Cellar Studio in Rome, is a totally different work from the previous ones.

if in the first 4 albums guitars and voices have always been in the center, in this latest work Refrain explores lower frequencies and instruments that allow her to delve into the low-end realm, introducing synthesizers and percussion like **Taiko**: a Japanese percussion that combines two of her greatest passions, music and martial arts.

The use of various types of percussion and the deep drones of the synth also allowed her to expand her vocal techniques, from throat singing

to opera, leaving her more freedom to move melodies and harmonies.

Considered by many to be a true revelation, she has played and left her mark at many international festivals as **Roadburn** (Netherlands), **Hellfest** (France), **Desertfest** (Belgium), Motocultor (France), Inferno Fest (Norway), Mystic Fest (Poland), Dunk Fest (Belgium), Midgardsblot (Norway), Kilkim Zaibu (Lithuania), AmFest (Spain), Fekete Zaj (Hungary), Ascension Festival (Iceland), Sonic Rites (Finland), Extramuralhas (Portugal), to name a few.

In the beginning of **2023**, a three-month tour begun with Lili travelling throughout Europe and the UK as support act for the mighty **HEILUNG**, which fell in love with her and her live performances.

Immediately after, she followed the legendary **THE CULT** as a support act on their European and UK tour and in November she joined **Death Cult** for their UK/Ireland 40 years commemorative tour.

Lili Refrain has released 5 albums, and is currently on tour to promote her latest album: "MANA" (2022 – Subsound Records).

The list of her collaborations is very long, as are the bands and musicians with whom she shared the stage, some of the most relevant are: Heilung, The Cult, Meshuggah, Ben Frost, Steve Vai, Current 93, Sieben, Cannibals Corps, Megadeath, Napalm Death, Anna Von Hausswolff, Lingua Ignota, Author and Punisher, Alcest, Oranssi Pazuzu, Testament, Gojira, Godflesh...

QUOTES

*"A combination of Anna Von Hausswolff and 'Burning World'-era Swans"
Walter Hoeijmakers*

*"the strong point of having a solo project is that you don't have to agree with anyone other than yourself to decide everything... but the critical issue is the same, you have to do everything alone and sometimes it's not easy at all..."
Lili Refrain*

DISCOGRAPHY

<https://www.discogs.com/it/artist/1604938-Lili-Refrain>

2007 "LILI REFRAIN" - self pub.
2009 "9" - Trips Und Träume, Three Legged Cat
2013 "KAWAX" - Subsound Records
2020 "ULU" - Subsound Records
2022 "MANA" - Subsound Records

LINKS / NETWORK

<https://www.facebook.com/lilirefrain>
<https://www.instagram.com/lilirefrain>
<https://www.youtube.com/@shippinghead>
<https://lilirefrain.bandcamp.com>
<https://open.spotify.com/artist/4OjyNzJrkhPCGDa1oSEcoL>
<https://subsoundrecords.bigcartel.com/artist/lili-refrain>

<https://www.lilirefrain.com>
<https://www.lilirefrain.com/epkLR>
<https://linktr.ee/lilirefrain>

BOOKING: haydn@northernmusic.co.uk
EMAIL: management@lilirefrain.com

VIDEO

LILI REFRAIN – EARTHLING [Official Video]

- <https://youtu.be/A3ooio9-r-E>

LILI REFRAIN - AHI TAPU [Official Video]

- <https://youtu.be/1jtjUID63VQ>

LILI REFRAIN - GLASGOW BARROWLANDS 22/01/2023

- <https://youtu.be/ApDrw0gNkNk>

LILI REFRAIN - LIVE AT ROCK IN BOURLON 2022

- <https://youtu.be/BrG8SqhV1BM>

PHOTO

- <https://www.lilirefrain.com/epkLR/lili-refrain-hires-photo.zip>

LOGO

- <https://www.lilirefrain.com/epkLR/LILI-REFRAIN-LOGO.zip>

TECH RIDER

- <https://www.lilirefrain.com/epkLR/01-LILI-REFRAIN-TECH-RIDER-BY-PLANE.pdf>
- <https://www.lilirefrain.com/epkLR/02-LILI-REFRAIN-TECH-RIDER-BY-CAR.pdf>
- <https://www.lilirefrain.com/epkLR/03-LILI-REFRAIN-TECH-RIDER-TAIKO.pdf>

RIDER

- https://www.lilirefrain.com/epkLR/LiliRefrain_RIDER.pdf

INTERVISTA (ITA)

- <http://www.metalhammer.it/interviste/2022/12/08/lili-refrain-oltre-ogni-confine>

INTERVIEW (ENG)

- <https://sun-13.com/2022/05/23/lili-refrain-interview-everything-that-is-part-of-my-life-also-becomes-part-of-my-music/>
- <http://africanpaper.com/2013/10/26/a-powerful-channel-of-catharsis-an-interview-with-lili-refrain/>

INTERVIEW (ENG-FRA)

- <https://mad-breizh.com/interview-lili-refrain/>



*"Remember that you only have one life and make every choice with this awareness."
Lili Refrain*