

Caterina Barbieri

Since her breakthrough album *Patterns of Consciousness* (Important Records, 2017), Italian composer Caterina Barbieri has worked with vivid modular synthesis and expanded electro-acoustic formats to explore the physical and metaphysical effects of sound on the listener. Her music investigates the creative potential of computation and complex generative techniques to explore themes related to memory, time, and phenomenology of perception, often interrogating states of trance, altered consciousness, and emotional intensity.

Barbieri's albums have been met with growing critical acclaim: the razor-sharp contemplations of *Ecstatic Computation* (Editions Mego, 2019), named one of the best albums of the year by many international magazines; *Spirit Exit* (light-years, 2022), described by NPR as "deeply psychedelic and, by extension, subversive"; and *Myuthafoo* (light-years, 2023), "an instrumental set of controlled abandon and rapturous minimalism" (Pitchfork).

Her practice, informed by an education in classical guitar and electro-acoustic composition at the Conservatory of Bologna and Stockholm's Elektronmusikstudion, relies on live performance as a means of compositional development. She has performed at prestigious festivals including Unsound, Atonal, Primavera Sound, and Sonar, and presented work at venues including London's Barbican Centre, Biennale di Venezia, IRCAM, Berliner Festspiele, and Philharmonie de Paris.

In 2021, Barbieri founded her own label light-years, creating a platform for avant-garde spirits focused on deep listening and the transformative power of music. In 2024, she participated in the Venice Art Biennale and premiered her new work *Womb* at IRCAM. She was recently appointed Artistic Director for the Venice Music Biennale and composed the sound installation "Nest of Silence" for Expo 2025 Osaka. She is currently working on a commission by La Philharmonie de Paris with the ONCEIM orchestra, presented in April 2026.