

## Meet Julia!



Greetings from  
**Bensonhurst,  
Brooklyn**

**SANTA ROSALIA**

Ciao a tutti!

I am Julia, and I'm so excited for you to join me on a voyage to Sicily, the beautiful island at the southern end of Italy. Sicily is known for its bright sun, blue seas, fishing, and delicious tomatoes and olives. Our folk songs express our deepest feelings, and we love to come together to sing and share in life's joys and sorrows. I can't wait to share some of these songs with you

Ciao!  
Julia

Leaving from  
**Sunset Park, Brooklyn**



Musical Explorers  
c/o Carnegie Hall  
881 Seventh Avenue  
New York, NY 10019

## We asked Julia ...

### What is one of your favorite Sicilian traditions?

When I was small in Sicily, I always looked forward to the time when l'opera di puppi—the traveling puppet theater—came to Scoglitti, where I spent the summers with my grandma. They traveled from town to town performing shows from the back of a wooden cart, using puppets and songs to tell stories. It's a very old tradition!

### What is your earliest musical memory?

I remember my Uncle Paolo playing guitar on the beach with my whole family joining in to sing along with him. It wasn't until I was 28 years old that I learned to play the guitar myself!

### What are your favorite Sicilian foods?

Anything with sun-dried tomatoes or tomato sauce. Every summer all the women in my family make tomato sauce and preserve it to eat all winter long.

### Is there a special game played in Sicily?

Bocce, a ball game traditionally played with wooden balls, where you try to bowl the balls so that they land as close as possible to the smallest ball, called the bocchino.



**l'opera di puppi**



**sun dried tomatoes**



**bocce**



Arriving at  
**Bensonhurst, Brooklyn**