



ITALY

# THE PINK FOLK

parallelozero



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Giro d'Italia  
AMORE INFINITO

IN ITS PURE FORM, CYCLING IS EPIC, AND IN ITALY CYCLING GOES HAND IN HAND WITH THE GIRO D'ITALIA. WHERE SWEAT AND SUFFERING ("NO TALK AND ALL BATTLE", SAID THE CYCLIST FELICE GIMONDI) ARE COMBINED WITH FOLKLORISTIC, WIDESPREAD CHEERING: THE ITALIANS COME DOWN TO THE STREET ALL ALONG THE PENINSULA DURING THE GIRO, TOUCHING AND CHASING THEIR HEROES, INCITING THEM AND PUSHING THEM - EVEN PHYSICALLY - TO THE FINISH LINE. WHEN SPEAKING ABOUT THE GIRO, THE ITALIAN POET ALFONSO GATTO WROTE: "IT IS A MARVELOUS HUMAN RACE, ITS FINISH LINE IS HAPPINESS".

THE GIRO IS HELD ANNUALLY IN LATE SPRING AND IS CONSIDERED THE HARDEST RACE IN THE WORLD: THIS YEAR ITS ROUTE CLIMBS AND DESCENDS ALONG 3,578.8 KILOMETRES DIVIDED INTO 21 STAGES, WITH ITS DEPARTURE IN THE CITY OF BOLOGNA AND ARRIVAL IN THE VERONA ARENA. BUT IT IS ALSO THE GEOGRAPHICAL AND SOCIAL MIRROR OF THE COUNTRY THAT IS FIVE TIMES AS LONG AS ITS WIDTH, ITALY: "NEAPOLITANS AND TURINESE, THOSE FROM LOMBARDY AND LAZIO, VENETO AND EMILIA, ALL ITALIANS, SEE THE GIRO EACH YEAR AS A MIRROR IN WHICH TO RECOGNISE AND SMILE AT THEMSELVES" WROTE THE LEADING ITALIAN SPORTS NEWSPAPER LA GAZZETTA DELLO SPORT WHEN PRESENTING THE 1946 EDITION, THE FIRST AFTER THE WAR.

THIS YEAR WILL BE THE 102ND ANNUAL GIRO, BUT IT HAS NOT CHANGED: THE RACE STILL TURNS ITALIANS INTO CHILDREN, WHO ARE STILL EXCITED TO COME DOWN TO THE STREETS WEARING PINK (THE SAME COLOR OF LA GAZZETTA DELLO SPORT WHICH INVENTED THE RACE IN 1909), EXCITED FOR THE ESCAPE FROM THE DAILY GRIND AND READY TO SHOUT, "FORZA MARCO PANTANI" AGAIN. PANTANI WON THE GIRO D'ITALIA AND THE TOUR DE FRANCE TOGETHER TWENTY YEARS AGO, AND SAID: "FOR ME, FATIGUE IN THE MOUNTAINS IS LIKE POETRY".



PIAZZA DELLA REPUBBLICA, FOLIGNO.  
FROM ABOVE PALAZZO TRINCI.



FOLIGNO. A PASSIONATE SUPPORTER  
TRIES TO DEPICT HIMSELF AND  
THE CYCLIST ABOUT TO ARRIVE.

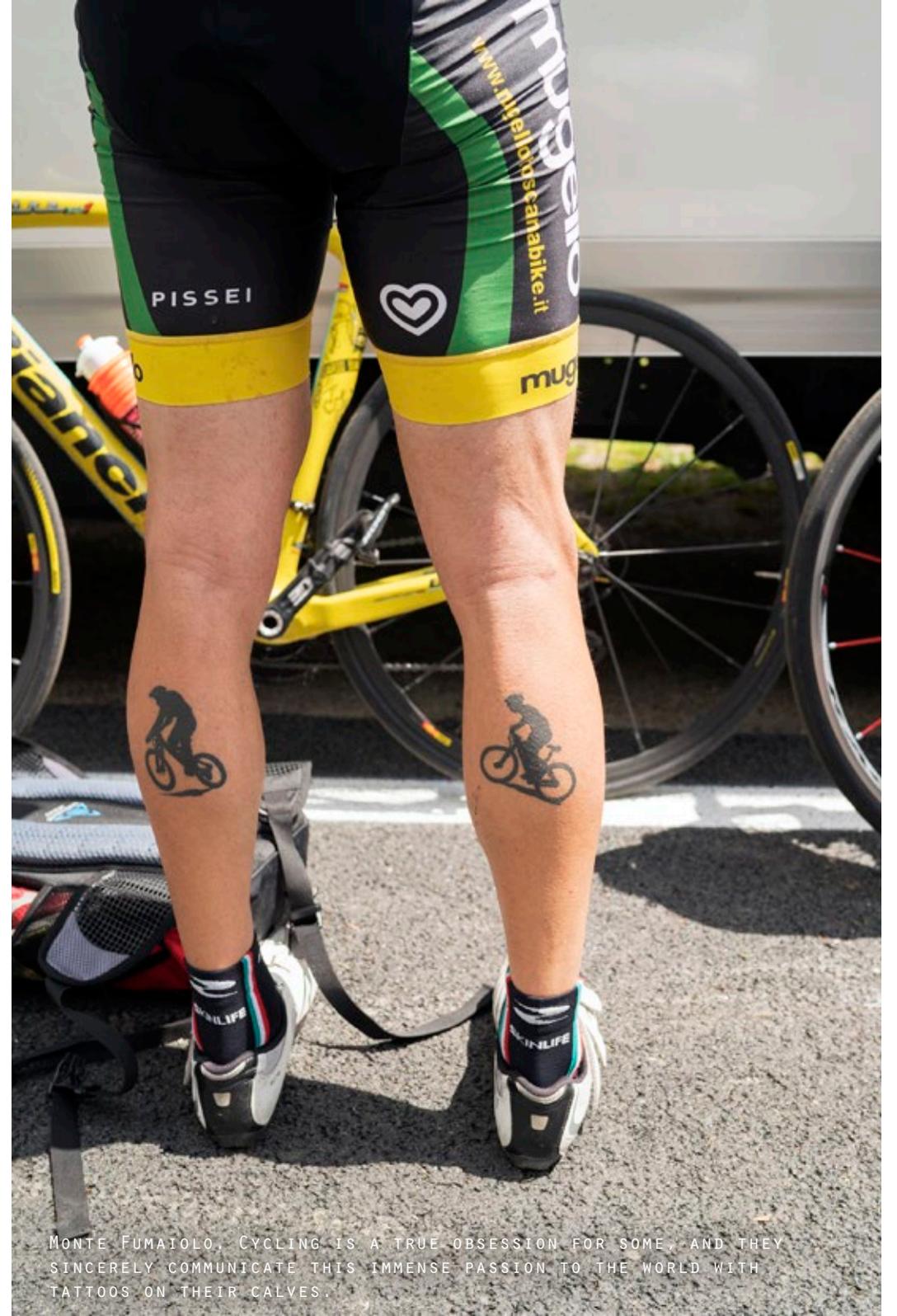


PIANCAVALLO. THREE FANS  
DRESSED UP FOR THE EVENT.

ONTENERO DI BISACCIA.  
FUN AT THE END OF THE RACE.



FOLIGNO. A FAN NOTES THE CYCLISTS' TIMES AND RECORDS THEM ON A PIECE OF PAPER.



MONTE FUMAIOLO. CYCLING IS A TRUE OBSESSION FOR SOME, AND THEY SINCERELY COMMUNICATE THIS IMMENSE PASSION TO THE WORLD WITH TATTOOS ON THEIR CALVES.



MONTE FUMAIOLO.  
TWO FANS REST ALONG THE SIDE OF THE ROAD.



FOLIGNO. WAITING FOR THE CYCLISTS TO PASS.

PIANCAVALLO. TWO COLOURFUL  
AND EXTRAVAGANT VENETIAN FANS.



MONTENERO DI BISACCIA. SPECTATORS  
OF ALL AGES AND NATIONALITIES  
EXULT AT THE ARRIVAL OF THE CYCLISTS.





PIANCAVALLO.  
ON A SINGLE WHEEL ON THE COURSE.



PIAZZA DELLA REPUBBLICA, FOLIGNO.  
WORKERS AT THE VARIOUS GIRO STANDS  
WORK NON-STOP DURING THE RACE.



PIANCAVALLO.  
THE PUBLIC AWAITS THE CYCLISTS' ARRIVAL.



MONTENERO DI BISACCIA.  
A GIRO FAN DRESSED AS GARIBALDI.



FOLIGNO. A FAN'S POST  
ON THE SIDE OF THE ROAD.

MONTENERO DI BISACCIA.  
CYCLISTS FROM THE AREA TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS.





FOLIGNO. THE PINK JERSEY  
DURING THE INDIVIDUAL TIME TRIAL.

PIANCAVALLO. A FOUR-LEGGED FAN WATCHES THE RACE FROM THE WINDOW OF HIS HOUSE.





THE FALCONERS OF THE CORTE DELL'ASTORE.



MONTENERO DI BISACCIA. A CHILD KEEPS BUSY  
READING AND PLAYING ON A PHONE WHILE  
WAITING FOR THE CYCLISTS TO ARRIVE.



MONTE FUMAIOLO. THE STEEP CLIMB TIRES  
A WOMAN WHO STOPS TO REGAIN HER STRENGTH.

MONTE FUMAIOLO.  
ALONG THE WAY, MANY PREPARE  
DECORATIONS AND FLAGS TO WAVE  
AT THE CYCLISTS AS THEY PASS.





ALBEROBELLO.  
A RAI OPERATOR ON A BIKE.



CASTELLANIA, CHILDREN PLAY  
NEAR THE START OF THE RACE.



MONTE FUMAIOLO. A FAN WAITING FOR THE GIRO. HIS T-SHIRT HAS A PICTURE OF PANTANI.



MONTE FUMAIOLO. FANS WAITING FOR THE GIRO WITH THEIR MOUNTAIN BIKES.



Il Giro d'Italia  
AMORE INFINITO



PIANCAVALLO. A FAMILY CHEERS ON THE GIRO.

FOLIGNO, VIA XX SETTEMBRE.  
WAITING FOR THE CYCLISTS.





Eremo S. Spirito 1.30  
Decantra 4.50  
Carmaneto Terme  
Bisaccia Ponte  
Bisaccia Ponte  
S. Maria

MONTENERO DI BISACCIA. A FAN  
AWAITS THE CYCLISTS' ARRIVAL.



MONTEFALCO. AN AMATEUR CYCLIST VISITS ONE OF THE CITY'S MANY LATE-MEDIEVAL CHURCHES.



PIAZZA MUNICIPIO, MOLFETTA. THE ARTISTIC INSTALLATION  
"LA VIE EN ROSE" DEDICATED TO THE GIRO D'ITALIA.

MONTE FUMAIOLO. SOME FANS CALL THEMSELVES "GIRO PROFESSIONALS".  
THEY LEAVE AT DAWN, LOADING THEIR CARS WITH LOTS OF FOOD,  
DRINKS, TABLES AND CHAIRS TO GRAB THE BEST SPOTS.





AN AUSTRIAN SUPPORTER IN THE ALLEYS OF CASTROVILLARI.



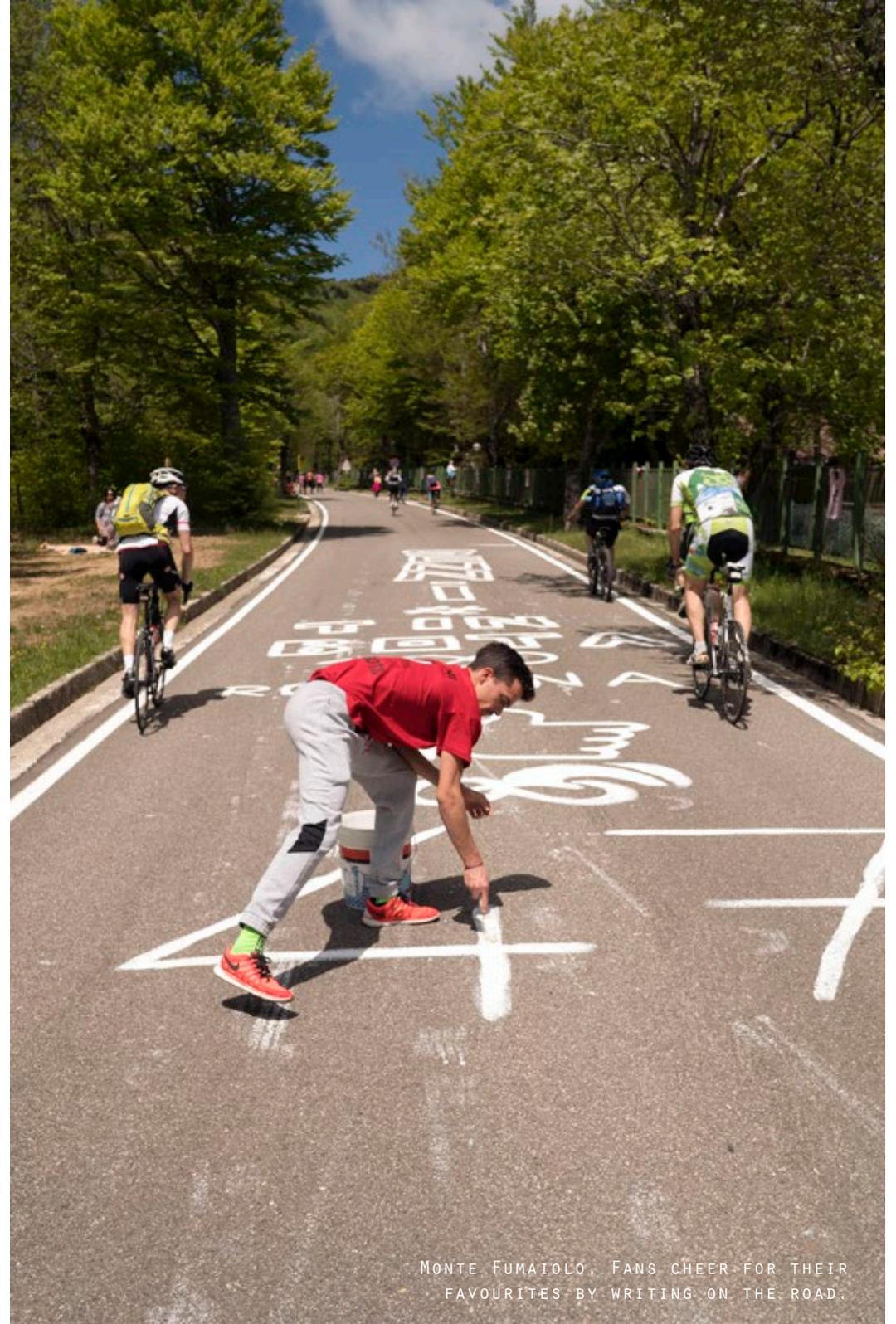
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MONTENERO DI BISACCIA.  
A SPECTATOR WAITS FOR THE CYCLISTS TO ARRIVE.



MONTENERO DI BISACCIA. PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AWAIT THE CYCLISTS' ARRIVAL.



MONTE FUMAIOLO. FANS CHEER FOR THEIR FAVOURITES BY WRITING ON THE ROAD.



MONTENERO DI BISACCIA.  
SPECTATORS OF THE RACE.





MONTE FUMAIOLO. LA GAZZETTA DELLO SPORT, A RACING BIKE AND THE ASPHALT IMMEDIATELY CREATE THAT RACING ATMOSPHERE THAT IS SO LOVED BY THE ITALIAN PEOPLE.



**IL GIRO A BIELLA**  
OROPA - MONTAGNA PANTANI  
DARVELLA - OROPA VAL DENNO - BIELLA

MUSEO  
BIELLA

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CHILDREN PLAY IN THE  
STREETS OF BIELLA.

MONTENERO DI BISACCIA.  
WAITING FOR THE CYCLISTS TO ARRIVE.



MONTE FUMAIOLO. "PANTANI LIVES", A BILLBOARD  
HANGING ON TREES THAT COMMEMORATES THE  
CYCLING IDOL WHO DIED IN FEBRUARY 2004.





FOLIGNO. NEAR THE HISTORIC CENTRE.

THE MUSEUM DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF FAUSTO COPPI  
IN CASTELLANIA, THE GREAT CYCLIST'S BIRTHPLACE.







PIANCAVALLO. EVERYONE BACK HOME AFTER THE RACE.  
ALL THAT'S LEFT IS A TOUCH OF COLOUR.



A CHURCH OUTSIDE OF MONTE FUMAIOLO IS DECORATED PINK IN HONOUR OF THE GIRO.



REGGIO EMILIA. A GIRO FAN IN VINTAGE CLOTHES.



BIELLA.  
WAITING FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE GIRO D'ITALIA.

BIELLA.  
WAITING FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE GIRO.





FOLIGNO. A PHARMACY IN THE HISTORIC CENTRE DECORATED FOR THE GIRO D'ITALIA.



VIA XX SETTEMBRE, FOLIGNO.  
CYCLISTS TRAVEL THROUGH THE STREETS  
OF THE UMBRIAN CITY'S HISTORIC CENTRE.



CASTELLANIA. A GROUP OF YOUNG FANS.





MONTE FUMAIOLO. WAITING FOR THE PASSAGE OF THE GIRO IN THE WOODS.



MONTE FUMAIOLO. MANY FANS TRY TO EMULATE THEIR FAVOURITES, UNDERESTIMATING THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE ROUTE.



MONTE FUMAIOLO.  
A GROUP OF FANS EAT IN THE GARDEN OF A  
VILLA ALONG THE ROAD LEADING TO THE SUMMIT.

THE GIRO D'ITALIA IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT SPORTS COMPETITIONS IN THE WORLD; NOT ONLY ITALIANS FOLLOW THIS EXHAUSTING CYCLING RACE, BUT ALSO FOREIGNERS WHO ARE FANS OF THE SPORT. A RUSSIAN FAN AT THE EDGE OF THE ROAD, AT THE BEGINNING OF WHAT WILL BE ONE OF THE MOST CHALLENGING PASSES OF THE ENTIRE GIRO.





MONTE FUMAIOLO,  
POST ALONG THE SIDE OF THE ROAD.



MONTENERO DI BISACCIA.  
A FAN WAITING FOR THE CYCLISTS.

MONTENERO DI BISACCIA.  
LITTLE GIRLS PLAY NEAR  
THE RESTAURANT AREA.





BANCA SELLA

GIRO A BIELLA  
MONTAGNA PANTAN  
VALDORCO-BISSONE  
viaggia, con voi





MOSTRA  
DEL  
TRULLO

al "POZZO  
ILLUMINATO"

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LI FACCIAPIU  
NOI S'ATE  
A NARDE

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Liquore di mandorle € 1,00  
Liquore di mandorle € 1,00

ALBEROBELLO.  
TRULLI LIT UP IN PINK FOR THE GIRO.

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