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## BLUE JEANS AND SHORT SKIRT:

Trieste '45-'54

Treatment for a history documentary of 52'

Renzo Carbonera

Between 1945 and 1954 the city of Trieste and the surrounding area between the mountains and the sea were a "Free Territory" protected by the newly-formed United Nations.

It was an uncertain, difficult time, caught between the Allied Occupation and the bogeyman of Tito's Yugoslavia.

But is was also a time of strong ties with the United States; a mirror for American dreams lived or shattered; a time of boogie-woogie, blue jeans, short skirts and American cigarettes.



The army day parade in Trieste, made to increase the sense of security in the civilian population





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hedonistic character even with the passage of time. In some ways, the city seems lively and animated, with crowds of people and traffic filling the centre, but this impression alternates with the decadent charm of the only partially restored 19th century buildings, the perennially underused port, the old quarters of Cavana and Cittavecchia and the air of melancholy of a fallen empire (the Austrian-Hungarian empire that made the city what it is). In the end, it can also seem rather intimidating, with its many "rationalist" buildings and others clearly dating from the Fascist period. The tracking shot terminates at the end of the climb up Via della Madonnina, in front of the "Salone America", once the Americans' barbershop and the hairdresser of choice for Trieste girls who wanted to look like American girls during the AMG (Allied Military Government).

We are on the San Giusto hill, near the castle originally built as a Roman fortress, which later became the general headquarters of the Wehrmacht.

View of Trieste from the San Giusto hill today, zooming in with the TV

camera and starting from the industrial port, up to the seafront, to the Old Port and the Victory lighthouse. Wide-angle shots of some of the streets in the city centre, traffic and the noises of city life, medium close-ups and close-ups of old pastry shops, elegant 19th century buildings, markets and fish restaurants. Medium shot of Piazza Unità with people strolling around and stopping at the bars. The atmosphere of Trieste is still muffled, as if wrapped in what the writer **Jan Morris** called that "sweet tristesse", but at the same time the city has maintained its multicultural and vaguely





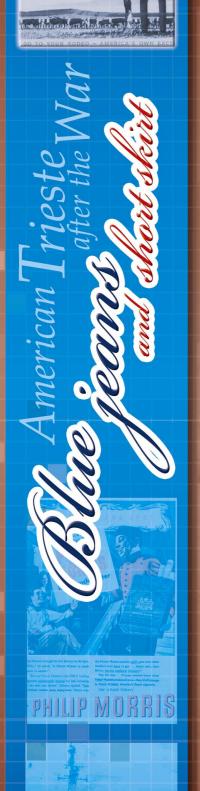
## TREATMENT

Piazza Unità. It is 12th June 1945. The city of Trieste has just endured forty days of occupation by the Yugoslav forces, largely made up of semi-regular troops and partisans who distinguished themselves by fighting a heroic resistance against the German troops in the Balkans. In the Trieste and Venezia Giulia areas they were supported by partisans and groups connected to the Italian Communist Party. The years of war and the long Nazi-Fascist occupation, which considered Trieste part of the Reich rather than occupied territory, began on 8th September 1942, the same day as the armistice with the Allies. The German occupation created the OZAK Operationszone Adriatisches Küstenland (historical map of the OZAK) headed by the mayor of Klagenfurt, which included Trieste. But on 2nd May 1945, the Germans and Austrians stationed in the city, perhaps unaware that Hitler had taken his own life, surrendered to the New Zealand troops, lowering the drawbridge and emerging from the "Kommandantur" of the castle of San Giusto. From then on, for 40 long days, the Allies and Tito's troops endured an uneasy co-existence in the city, paralysing the administration and creating further nightmares for the local population (historical footage of the last days of the war, Tito's troops and the New Zealanders in the city). It seems that in those dramatic days the only person able to keep things under control and mediate between the unique kaleidoscope of Yugoslavs, pro-Yugoslavs, Italians, Germans, Istrian refugees and Allies was the Archbishop, Mons. Santin.

One of the saddest memories of the occupation in Trieste and the surrounding area is that of the "foibe" or dolines, the deep karstic caves and grottoes transformed into communal graves by the Yugoslav partisans (historical and contemporary footage of the "Foibe"). Jan Morris takes us there. These memories still scar relations along the border (extract from the Friuli-Venezia-Giulia regional news, TG3, reporting on a row in April 2007 between Riccardo Illy, President of the Friuli-Venezia-Giulia Region, and the President of Croatia, who on the one hand urges Italians to put their hard feeling behind them, and on the other hand denies any responsibility on the part of Yugoslavia). The wounds still run deep, and probably only Berlin endured a post-War period as uncertain and as long as that of Trieste, where in some ways it was more dramatic and exciting.

The handover of power to the Allied authorities began a new phase for Trieste, and was accompanied by celebrations and demonstrations of affection towards the Anglo-American troops (historic footage), but also clashes and growing political tension. There were widespread feelings of uncertainty and disappointment that Trieste had not been returned to Italy. The population in the hinterland and the Carso, on the other hand, was largely Slav and ardently wished to be annexed to the newly formed Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia. Ernie Large, a Military Policeman with the British BETFOR forces in Trieste, underlines how precarious the situation was and how fragile the borders, which were often moved or disputed. Various documents from the time reveal that the solution agreed upon in 1946 was regarded as temporary. Almost all of Istria, Pola, Fiume and Zara was ceded to the Republic of Yugoslavia, while Gorizia and Monfalcone remained Italian. This caused a flood of over 500,000 Italian refugees over the years from the area ceded to Yugoslavia (dramatic





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footage from the time). The Trieste and Capodistria area, on the one hand, was divided into Zone A, under Allied administration, and Zone B, under Yugoslav administration (map of the division), and squabbles over territory, sometimes involving little more than a few hundred square metres on a map of the time found in the NARA archives, continued for days.

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Thus, we are still a long way from a solution to the most delicate and thorny problem, one that Italy has been wrestling with since 1866, at the time of unification, that of Venezia Giulia and Istria. It is a time before the birth of the Iron Curtain, before the first hostilities began between Western and Communist forces. While the general publics of the respective sides still considered each other friendly allies against Fascism, in Trieste and Venezia Giulia the seeds were already being sown of a conflict that would last almost half a century.

A young woman goes to fetch her ration of bread. The Americans have just arrived and already she can see things have changed: the bread is white and of the best quality, "white as cotton wool and tasty" people say, no longer "black and horrible" as it has been for years. Outside the baker's shop, US soldiers are removing the roadblocks and loading them onto trucks. People watch on, half stunned, half delighted that normality has returned to the city, as demonstrated by these small "events". The young woman is called Claudia, and she is carrying a newborn baby and pushing another small child in a baby carriage.

The renowned historian and author Jan Morris, at the time a (male) British soldier with the BETFOR contingent in Trieste, is walking through the Borgo Teresiano and explaining that what was once the commercial heart of the city is now an area of Chinese outlet stores. She heads towards the Grand Canal with Piazza Ponterosso in the background. She says that the city's economy was on its knees after five years of war, like many other splendid cities in the North of Italy. While the residential area suffered little damage, the port and the "Cantieri Riuniti Adriatico", the shipyards that made over half the Italian ships before the War (the second largest fleet in the world), the ILVA steelworks and the Aquila refinery (along with Ingolstadt the largest in Central Europe) were heavily bombed. Now Trieste was starving, divided by its history, ideologies and ethnic problems, which after 500 years of peaceful co-existence under the Austro-Hungarian Empire, had exploded during the First World War and gave no peace to this declining port (historical footage of bombing and removal of rubble).

Ruined buildings with people dressed in rags begging and collecting food rations from the Red Cross and military camps, reconstructions of the scene between the abandoned hangers and storehouses of the Old Port. Cut to inside Claudia's house, close-up of frugal, damaged furniture and objects, battered pans and an old stove. She gazes at a photograph of her husband and we can guess that he died in the war from the fact that Claudia is turning over and over in her hands an official letter from the army, along with a photograph of her husband gazing into the distance. Then she feeds the baby.

One of the Allied Military Government's first actions after the break up of the People's Guard was to organisation a Civil Police Force based on the model of the







British "bobbies" (shots of uniformed British police). Many men were recruited for this unit, and thus participated in the occupation (historical footage of recruitment). Those who joined included former policemen, Carabinieri, and soldiers who had worked with the Allies after the Armistice. The black uniforms with white helmets led them to be immediately nicknamed "cerini" (matchsticks) and they were armed only with a short wooden truncheon and rode red Lambrettsa bearing the Trieste crest, while their officers were all British (footage of young Trieste men going to enrol at the barracks, dressed smartly in their new uniforms and beginning a brief training course). Claudia looks at an old poster inviting the population to join up as she passes a café. The Civil Police Force of Trieste was the first force in Europe to also recruit women, (Luce footage of women in the police force. Some women queuing in front of public offices wanting to enrol with the men in the police force, as the men stare at them in curiosity. Claudia is among them).

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The rebuilding of the damaged port area soon began. It was enlarged and a large industrial zone built to the north, the Zaule area, to replace the heavily bombed industries near the city centre and at the Old Port (old photograph and footage of the area today). Claudia walks through the city. Everywhere, Italians and Americans are busy building. They are building an American food and consumer goods emporium, and we can see American brands using the images of famous pin-ups, and posters for Hollywood films and jazz records, and hear loud jazz being played on a Jeep radio. There is a market in Piazza Ponte Rosso, popular with Yugoslavs and Hungarians who cross the still porous borders of the still new Iron Curtain to buy Western consumer goods, especially jeans, already a "parallel economy" in the city. Claudia is taking her baby to a friend who looks after him while she goes to work. The friend is a little sceptical about her work, saying it is dangerous and she should look for something else. People on the street also look sideways at the young woman in a police uniform. Claudia is on her way to the police training course.

A lot of work is also being done on the infrastructure (roads, tunnels, railways) and the construction of public parks by the SELAD, Sezione Lavori Aiuto ai Disoccupati (historical footage and photograph of public works, INCOM week with the arrival of the first post-war train from Venice to Trieste). Claudia tells us how strange those times were: on the one hand the political situation was so uncertain, but on the other hand the Americans were there, helping to rebuild, with their good humour and optimism. Claudia, in uniform, is stopped in the street by some American soldiers asking her in English for directions to the castle of San Giusto. They pay her compliments, but she doesn't understand and is a little bewildered. But their rather childish euphoria is contagious and in the end she politely and rather reluctantly turns down their invitation to go with them.

She doesn't know what to think, and often doesn't even have time to think. Claudia goes to pick up her baby, who is crying with hunger, and hurries out to buy milk among the building sites. The milk is sold in the typical American glass bottles. Back home, she heats the milk.

Jan Morris has now walked through Piazza Ponte Rosso where you can still buy cheap jeans, and where she met an elderly Istrian refugee from the Italian minority who fled en masse from the Istrian coast and flooded into the poor areas of Trieste immediately after the War. Morris heads for Piazza Borsa, and tells us that the work









undoubtedly proceeded at great pace, but the Allied commander in Trieste, Colonel Alfred Bowman, an American lawyer, lost everything after only two years because of a public works scandal. He denied his involvement, which was never proved, with certain officials from the Public Works Office of the GMA who, along with local constructors, pocketed grants from the Italian government for public works, factories and to replace the working class homes destroyed during the war.

He was replaced by Sir Terence Airey, a British general, who assumed command on 15th September 1947. He was very interested in ethnic problems and soon grasped the situation. In the period from 24th February 1948 to 30th March 1951 he sent no less than ten reports to the UN supporting Italy's claim to Trieste. One of Airy's first crucial acts was to organise and revive Trieste's sports facilities and activities. This served to keep the Allied troops (over 10,000 men) occupied and brought them into contact with the local population.

As a young man, Elvio Ferigo moved from Gorizia to Trieste immediately after the War, when a friend offered him a job as a gym instructor.

Elvio Ferigo, former national director of the Italian Olympic Committee, with many medals and a lifetime dedicated to sport, confirms in an interview that the Allies felt it was essential to bring their men and the locals together through sporting events. He moved to Trieste, or rather commuted backwards and forwards from Gorizia to Trieste almost every day, because he started working as a gymnastics instructor for the Police Force, after years of being in a number of swimming, cycling and boxing teams in the Italian army.

Ferigo teaches a gymnastics course for a police squad. Claudia is one of the trainees in the mixed squad. Later, after many requests, Ferigo was allowed to open a gym in Via Morelli, where he trained boxers and later organised matches. Ferigo setting up a gym where he trains local boys to box. But many American soldiers in uniform also come to watch the training and sparring, including a young military policeman of the name of Jim Herring.

In fact, Trieste and Venezia-Giulia had always produced top boxers and boxing was a real passion among local boys, especially in an uncertain and frustrating time like the immediate post-War period. So the local authorities agreed that boxing and sport in general could be a way to bring locals and troops from the military government together.

Some American soldiers decide to go to Ferigo's gym out of uniform, or rather in gym clothes. They are invited to join in the training. One of them is the young Jim Herring. They take part in various training exercises with Ferigo, who runs the gym. The Americans also get in the ring and one of them has a sparring match with one of the locals. One of them, a young man, draws everyone's attention. He is very fast and aggressive. After beating another young man, he abandons the ring and leaves, slamming the door and leaving everyone, including the Americans, speechless.









One of the promising young locals of the time was Tiberio Mitri. Mitri was born on 12 July 1926, in Via Rigutti, in the San Giacomo district of Trieste, where getting into fights was an everyday pastime. He enrolled in the navy when he was very young, then survived on a variety of jobs: chrome plater, bread maker and finally an amateur boxer. Tiberio Mitri, the aggressive young man we saw earlier, in an official bout in the Via Morelli gym in front of small audience of Italians and Americans (including, once again, Jim Herring, who had come with his fellow soldiers to enjoy the show. It is the 31 July 1946 and Mitri is fighting Pamo. He wins easily, knocking his opponent out.

Ferigo says he often found sparring partners for Mitri and organised bouts for him and other local boxers and American soldiers. Once, he even managed to organise a major event with Primo Carnera, then at the peak of his career.

Ferigo mentions that he belonged to a scooter club that organised summer tours around Italy and Europe (this element will return when Trieste is finally assigned to Italy). We return to the boxing match, with several spectators complimenting Mitri inside and just outside the gym. Ferigo is there with some of his friends. It emerges that Ferigo was part of a club of scooter fanatics in Venezia Giulia, and some of his scooter friends were there at the event.

Jim Herring, the young M.P., then and now secretary/treasure of the TRUST Military Police Association, remembers how he liked doing sport while he was stationed in Trieste. He speaks about his passion for boxing, but also about the Golden Bears, the American football team he played for, and the Mules. The Golden Bears was the M.P.s team in Zone A of the Free Territory of Trieste, probably the strongest team not only among the military allies in Trieste and the surrounding area, but of the entire American contingent in Europe. The Mules, on the one hand. from the Trieste dialect word for boys "muli", was a team of local Italian lads. Golden Bears training, with local boys watching with interest. The Americans encourage them to join in but the boys seem reluctant. Then the rules are explained to them and they join the soldiers.

The teams played and trained in the Yankee Stadium built in San Sabba, an area sadly known for other reasons (historical footage of the Riseria and photographs of the construction of the Yankee Stadium). And so life in the city begins to return to something like normality. Claudia goes out on patrol and passes in front of the football stadium, where she stops to watch the players training and exchanges a glance with a young player covered in mud, Jim.

Jan Morris continues showing us the Trieste of today, its many sports and recreational facilities, the parks built by the SELAD. The atmosphere is still rather subdued. From late 1947 the demonstrations increased, as did opportunities for contact between the locals and the "occupiers". These increasingly became a part of everyday life and part of the fabric of the city, and one can still see signs of it today in the black "Is" and "Ps" on a white circle and the letters U. S. written on walls, and in the former US emporium in front of the harbour, which still carries a faded insignia on its pediment.









The intense construction and reconstruction activity never seemed to end, and its effects can still be seen today, unlike the Yankee Stadium which was replaced some time ago by popular housing. We see the public swimming pool, the Valmaura football stadium, and the sports stadium, which hosted more and more boxing matches and where Tiberio Mitri fought many of the 19 matches he won in 1947, after which he appeared on the cover of magazines, in newspaper headlines, radio interviews and movie news reels. He is the new star of Trieste and of European boxing, the hero of a city in ferment, where everyone seemed to want and have to do something, where the Allies seemed to have reawakened the "global", "commercial" vision that centuries of Hapsburg development had created in Trieste, and that the coming of Fascism and the exacerbation of the ethnic question that was created over the heads of the "Triestini" had put to sleep. There was also the cyclist Giordano Cottur, the fencer Irene Camper and the designer Anita Pittoni. All widely acclaimed both nationally and internationally.

The arrival of the Allies also had unexpected repercussions on the way people in Trieste behaved. A typical example was the way women dressed: the shortage of silk stockings — so that every ladder needing to be carefully darned — was compensated by the arrival of nylon stockings with the American soldiers. Stockings along with basic foodstuffs and quality cigarettes were good enough reasons for fraternising with the new arrivals. Jim and one of his fellow soldiers chat and offer cigarettes to two locals from Trieste pushing a cart full of old furniture. Then, they walk on and the other soldier shows Jim the photograph of his girl back home. He has already asked for a month's leave so he can go home and marry her.

But the presence of a large number of soldiers also increased the practise of the world's oldest profession and reports from the time are full of lively episodes featuring soldiers and "ladies of the night". Jan Morris is strolling through Piazza Cavana, at one time dotted with brothels and officially out-of-bounds to Allied soldiers. She shows us the brothels she knew of, "La Chiave d'Oro" and "Il Metro Cubo", much frequented also by James Joyce and Richard Burton, the translator of "A Thousand and One Nights". She stops and talks to an elderly lady who still lives in one of the "apartments" in the narrow alleys off the piazza and who, it seems, practised the profession at the time.

At the entrance to piazza Cavana, near the Stella bar, is an M.P. roadblock preventing soldiers entering the ill-famed area made up of narrow alleyways full of gambling dens and houses of assignation. Cut to wide shot of "At Mario's": high-spirited soldiers are hanging around outside and inside, holding glasses of wine and soliciting heavily made-up young girls with cigarettes in their mouths. Jim, in his M.P. uniform, is sitting in a Jeep with the friend we saw earlier and keeping an eye on the situation.





### TREATMENT

John Bowman tells us about the parties and long nights spent At Mario's, and Mario Todeschini, the son of the owner of the "Bar da Mario" and a child at the time, recounts how he watched the battalions of M.P.s and soldiers pass in their Jeeps and armoured vehicles and how he sometimes managed to visit a cruiser or even an aircraft carrier anchored at the Molo Audace or the berths in the harbour. In fact, his father's bar became one the American soldiers' favourite meeting places. It became a sort of institution for the Allied troops after his father decided one night to pay for a taxi from his bar to the San Sabba barracks out of his own pocket for three soldiers who had not yet acquired a head for the wines of Collio Goriziano and the Carso Triestino. (re-enactment at Mario's of the scene). Herring, on the one hand, tells how he often went to "At Mario's" to "keep an eye on and often take away fellow soldiers for various reasons". Back to the preceding scene at Mario's with Jim and a fellow M.P. getting out of the Jeep and going into the bar, where a fight between two soldiers looked like turning ugly. They separate the opponents and take them away.

Herring recounts how public places often saw love stories blossom. In fact, he met his wife Claudia at the Hangar Club, although he had seen her before and remembered her. She was a widow and had just found a new job in the club's news kiosk.

Claudia had decided to work directly for the Americans: the pay was better, allowing her to support her son and parents. She tells how she found a job in the Hangar Club. Claudia tells her friend about her decision when she takes her son: the hours are shorter and the pay better. Her friend is happy for her, especially since she had always thought her previous job was dangerous, with all the attacks and demonstrations you heard about. She shows her the previous day's newspaper and an article about yet another attack on the offices of the Slovene newspaper Primorski. (historic footage of demonstrations)

In fact, an American soldier was paid 100,000 lire, or "amlire" as the money minted for the military government was called, a month. A local worker, on the other hand, earned around 45,000. Thus, when we talk about fun and entertainment, this largely involved the Allies, who in the immediate post-War period very quickly organised clubs and dance halls full of "modern rhythms". Although entrance was officially forbidden to Italian girlfriends, wives and other companions, these clubs were increasingly full of girls and women. Jim and Claudia arrange to meet in a dance hall. Claudia comes with the friend who used to look after her son while she worked, and Jim introduces his friend with the fiancée in America. They leave them alone and go to dance. Jim's friend is clearly embarrassed. Jim and Claudia decide to leave them alone and leave the club. It is still early and Claudia decides to take Jim home to meet her parents and son.

Another icon that made Trieste girls of the time dream of American was a homegrown product. The mythical beauty of Trieste girls became official in 1948, the year the Italian Constitution was approved, when the young Fulvia Franco was crowned Miss Italia. Laura Predonzani, her childhood friend and wife of Mitri's trainer, tells us about her. She remembers those exciting years. In fact, the beautiful Fulvia was linked to the boxer Tiberio Mitri, and for a short time they were the most famous couple





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in the city. Thus, while Claudia dreamed of Fulvia's dresses, seen in the glossy American magazines to be found all over the town (particularly in the Hanger Club, where she worked), Jim dreamed of Mitri's prizes and his fists flying during training and went to watch his bouts. Beauty, style and success were the ingredients of the common dream of all their fellow citizens, opening the door to the fantasies of the American Dream.

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It is a time when the USA seems like paradise on earth and stimulates the hopes and dreams of many. People quickly learn to tap dance and foxtrot, jeans sell like hot cakes and from Trieste invade the rest of central Europe. Short skirts, Philip Morris cigarettes and nylon stockings become important symbols in the collective imagination. But we are surprised to learn from Claudia that even something that today seems so Italian was considered by the people of Trieste as an American import: the pizza. Claudia ate her first pizza after the Americans arrived, they brought it with them and asked for it in local restaurants, after eating hugwhere they still ate sauerkraut and "Viennese sausage".

So for many signorine or "segnorine" as the M.P.s pronounced it, the American dream seemed just a step away, personified by American soldiers who could be tempted into marriage. The groom would arrive at the altar impeccably dressed in his uniform, while the bride tended to prefer a practical suit, paired for the occasion with gloves and a veiled hat with flowers matching the bouquet.

A red Fiat 1400 decorated with flowers speeds along Trieste shore, blowing its horn, followed by a few other cars and many scooters. Inside are the newly-wed Herrings, Claudia already pregnant with their first child. In the background the Molo Audace, the bay with the old port and the Miramare castle in the distance, then the harbour. Claudia's children from her first marriage are also in the car.

Jim claims to be the youngest American soldier to have adopted a child in Trieste; he was only 22 at the time and in love with Claudia and the war had created many widows and orphans, so he didn't think twice. His action was recognised by the Italian State; in fact he was the only American soldier to receive money from the Italian Social Security Office during his stay in Trieste. All this despite the fact that the Marriage Board – the body made up of an American Catholic priest, a rabbi and a protestant minister that a soldier wanting to marry a local girl had to go to for permission – at first refused his request. Finally, with Claudia already pregnant, they were allowed to marry.

Jim and Claudia are with her parents. Everyone is delighted at the coming marriage. The apartment she shares with her parents is very spartan. Then Jim takes Claudia to their new apartment, still in the Fiat 1400, all the while being very attentive to his pregnant wife. The apartment is still empty.



All this takes place in 1948, the year of the Italian constitution and the elections, which were followed attentively also in Trieste, as footage of military battalions alternates with those of allied soldiers' families. Images of the elections, with the sick being taken by ambulance to vote, and images of the troop rotations. Some are leaving and some are arriving at the Molo Bersaglieri and the Molo Audace, and the train station. An African-American couple kiss and salute each other; she has to return to America after a brief visit to her fiancé. The wives and families of the officers arrive in Trieste in their fashionable clothes, while some regiments do physical training and others are taken by bus to the borders of the Carso to see the "hot", disputed zones and the work of patrolling the borders and checking for smugglers and illegal immigrants.

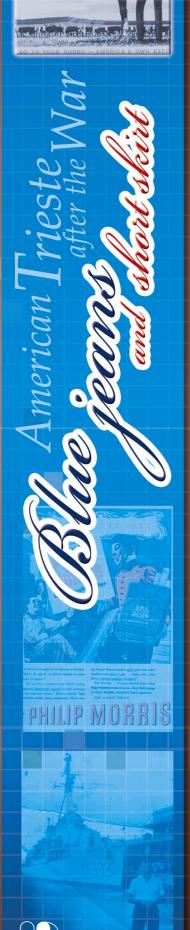
On 15th July 1950 Mitri married his Fulvia, the nineteen-year-old Miss Italia of 1948. The wedding attracted a huge crowd to the church of Sant'Antonio Nuovo (images of the church, the canal, the small harbour in front of it and the Ponte Rosso). Thousands of locals flooded the piazza to demonstrate the city's affection for its favourite couple and celebrate the social event of the year (Luce film of the wedding). Mitri and Fulvia enter their beautiful new house with a view over the Gulf of Trieste. The house is full of objects that recall America: records, glamour magazines and photos of famous American boxers next to newspaper articles about Mitri's victories.

Even after his wedding, Jim often went to watch Mitri's bouts. The boxer continued to win and appear on the front pages, and he himself tells us that he enjoyed training as an amateur in the TRUST gyms. Ferigo explains Mitri's secret was his speed and his ability to pummel his opponent pitilessly. Whereas his weakness was mainly his lack of stamina. Claudia, on the other hand, tells us that she was happy for Jim to go and watch the boxing matches and that she was also an ardent fan, although she didn't always approve of her husband's sporting activities, especially after he lost two teeth in Saalfelden in Austria in an official inter-forces championship bout against the American forces there. However, she sewed his kit and repaired it after football matches. Claudia sewing the number on her husband's green Golden Bears shirt, which had come off in the heat of the match. They are in their new apartment, which still isn't completely furnished.

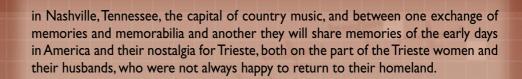
But what she likes best about America are the films of Cary Grant and Gary Cooper, the clothes, and the music of Frank Sinatra and Louis Armstrong. Party in a smoky club with a small band playing the foxtrot, young men and women chatting, dancing and having fun. Jim and Claudia are also in the club, having a drink and meeting other "mixed" couplet of US soldiers and Trieste girls that Claudia knows.

John Bowman adds that after 9 years of Military Government, over 3000 girls from





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The American model, with its promise of wealth, exercised an almost irresistible attraction. It was above all Hollywood that promoted the American way of life. Tullio Kezich adds that Trieste had over twenty picture halls and the Politeama Rossetti was also a projection room, showing some recently produced films, like "Casablanca" by Michael Curtiz and "It's a Wonderful Life" by Frank Capra. In the dark of the cinema, Trieste girls sighed at actresses dressed in clothes beyond their wildest dreams, although they sometimes saw them worn by the wives of top Allied officers. Cinema in Via XX Settembre, crowded with locals and American officers strolling with their wives and stopping at the cafe in Piazza Unità. Claudia and Jim also go to the cinema. 3-D cinema was an experiment carried out with success in the USA from the Fifties. In Europe, it arrived first in Trieste, before being exported, with little success, to the rest of Europe

What is more, major Italian production companies like Lux, and American like 20th Century Fox, as well as producers like the Italian Carlo Ponti and even David O. Selznick were beginning to be interested in Trieste, representing it as a hive of Cold War intrigue and spies (clip from "Diplomatic Courier" by Henry Hathaway. Tyrone Power: "I've seen a lot of cities, but this is the first time I've been to Trieste." Stewart replies: "It's an interesting town: what Lisbon and Istanbul were during the war, Trieste is now. Espionage, counter-espionage, informers, "Titoists "anti-Titoists", Stalinists, anti-Stalinists and over 10,000 British and American soldiers and sailors from all over the world: the world in a city.")

Kezich states that, thanks to the Anglo-American occupation, the people of Trieste could hear jazz concerts, records and radio programmes. Services Radio and the British Forces Station broadcast the "hottest" jazz around, as well as bebop and folk. Herbie Man, later a very famous flautist and saxophone player, played in the 88th Division band, the Blue Devils, and Louis Armstrong played Trieste on his tour (Luce footage). An important role was also played by Radio Trieste and its director Henry Jacobson, according to Kezich, speaking briefly of this experience. A clip from "Aquile", a 20-minute film directed by Henry Jacobson with Kezich as assistantdirector, a sort of Trieste version of "Ladri di Biciclette".

Then there was the American Corner, or Allied Forces Reading Room in Via Trento, which played records and organised courses for listening to jazz. You could hear Duke Ellington, Charlie Parker, Miles Davis, Gerry Mulligan, Dizzie Gillespie and meet Benny Carter, Lou Donaldson and Roy Eldridge. But it was also a place to read American books and magazines, as well as hear music from the States. It was frequented by off-duty Americans and the more sophisticated strata of Trieste society. But Claudia also went one day to have a look, with the firm intention of getting to know more about her husband's world than she could glean from glamour magazines and looking around the street.





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Meanwhile, the young Miss Italia also decides to take an interest in that world and acts as the young boxer's manager, as Laura Predonzani tells us, insisting that he go to fight in America as soon as possible. Mitri trains and Fulvia Franco makes phone calls

from the improvised office at home, then tries to convince him to go and fight in America.

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Jack La Motta, the Bronx Bull and world middle-weight champion, is in New York. And then there is Hollywood and the film industry that Fulvia has only seen from the cinema in Via XX Settembre, and which she dreams of becoming part of, like thousands of other Trieste girls. But she has the advantage of being Miss Italia and Mitri's wife. It is the America that every Triestino has had at home for years, that they see in the cinema and hear on the radio, that they meet in the street and dance halls, that she desires and wants to reach, in one way or another.

Ferigo says that the bout was premature, recalling that although he had great technique and strength, Mitri may not have had the experience and stamina over the obligatory 15 rounds of a world title bout of the time. He hints that too much outside pressure may have made him choose to go too soon.

Mitri's promoter, Cesa, gives in to the Americans' flattery and reaches a deal with Frankie Garbo, known for being heavily involved in the gambling world.

On 12th July 1950, Mitri celebrated his 24th birthday by winning the first seven rounds by 5 points. Then, his slow and gradual collapse in the face of the experience and guile of Jake la Motta. La Motta couldn't knock him out, but he was judged to have won all the later rounds and won the match on points. It was the beginning of a long downhill slope for Mitri, despite his youth.

Jim and Claudia followed the bout on the radio. They are living together in a small apartment in a condominium in the San Sabba district. They have a new baby and Claudia is pregnant again. The apartment is a little corner of America, with the latest domestic appliances, a fridge and washing machine, a gramophone and 45s and, of course, a large radio.

From 19th March 1951, British General Thomas Winterton is in charge. The climate changes. Winterton is accused of governing the city like a "colony", using soldiers to put down even minor demonstrations. There was a lot of talk of replacing him, as emerges from a note dated 16/02/1954 from the American Ambassador in London to the State Department, because he was "close to retirement", but the State Department decided not to intervene to avoid the risk of finding itself with the responsibility. Winterton is a symbol of the different relations the British and the Americans had with the people of Trieste, and Italians in general, at the end of the war. The former were seen as occupiers, often mocked and barely tolerated, and there was a deep mutual hatred after three years of bitter fighting; the latter were admired and courted, seen as liberators and bringing a fresh wind of change; there was mutual affection, encouraged by the powerful Italo-American lobby.



Furthermore, Jan Morris, standing in front of a breathtaking view of Trieste from above, confirms that the Americans were welcomed for what they represented and for their everyday behaviour and for the fact that they seemed to support the Italian cause. They gained the local population's trust, unlike the British, who were more detached and cold.

An interview with Ernie Large, British M.P. with the BETFOR contingent, seems to confirm this idea. He also says the Americans had something that the British were sadly lacking: money. They were from a nation that was now bankrupt, like most of Europe, after 5 years of total war.

Jan Morris continues, observing how the complex international political system prevented the solution of the Trieste and Istria problem on more than one occasion, leaving a great deal of uncertainty about whether the city would be ceded to Italy or Yugoslavia. The idea of a "third way" began to gain support in Trieste, that of a small independent state, a sort of economic paradise ready to mediate between and take advantage of the two bordering ideological blocks, with the support of the British. Nevertheless, the popular wish to belong to one or the other side left those who came up with this solution little room for manoeuvre.

Nevertheless, the idea of the Free Territory of Trieste (FTT), with independent statutes and a governor elected by resident citizens, continued to be put forward and in the 50s seemed the obvious solution. Trieste would have benefited from the fact that companies, credit and insurance institutes and other organisations would have transformed their Trieste branches into independent companies with headquarters in the city, in the hope of being able to shortly enjoy the fiscal advantages of the FTT

and the Free Port of Trieste. But the FTT continued to be influenced by the background of the Cold War throughout its brief existence. The steps towards full independence, as contained in its statutes, were never completed. In particular, the governor was never elected, and his role was always played by Allied commanders. In fact, Italy was in favour of keeping the Military Government, which followed Italian law, and feared that if real independence were granted, the support given to the FTT by the British and Americano would disappear. Furthermore, Yugoslavia was putting a lot more pressure on the UK and the USA, through Ambassador Velebit in London, than Italy, as emerges from documents in the National Archives in Washington.



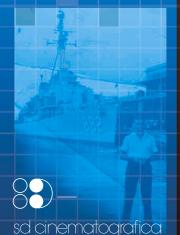






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The atmosphere in Trieste was becoming increasingly tense, with ever more extreme acts of sabotage and terrorism (against newspapers, political parties or associations) by pro-Italian or pro-Yugoslav factions now an everyday occurrence. On the other hand, the atmosphere was increasingly unreal, detached from the rest of Italy and immersed in the glossy American dream. The city lived largely on generous foreign subsidies and the "market" created by the military allies. At the fish market, sipping wine in the little bars along the shore, at the fruit and vegetable market in piazzetta Ponte Rosso, in the second-hand and souvenir shops, the Americans are spending money. Then cut to Jim and Claudia's apartment, where Jim is paying the rent to an elderly local lady. Obviously, all payments are made in amlire. The atmosphere is generally relaxed, but there are a few "dodgy characters" observing the apparently tranquil scene.

In effect, there were now thousands of local girls attached to American soldiers, attracted by a dream and new opportunities, in love or just wanting a change of scene, given the uncertain situation. Many had already moved to the United States with their husbands, returning every now and again to visit relatives. This is the case with Jim and Claudia. Claudia is now pregnant for the third time, this time by Jim. They move together from Trieste to Livorno, where Jim has been transferred for a limited period (6 months). In their case it was "arrivederci Trieste", not a final farewell.

Kezich maintains that the American dream, encouraged by the Americans' way of life and their media, was an idealised goal in the fragile socio-ethnic tissue of the city. It was almost a decade of a fantasy that excited the indolent Trieste "viveur", who in a period of uncertainty, fear, futures cut short, and terrible civil strife had always searched out fun, entertainment and thumbed her nose at fate. This American dream, that we have all, sooner or later, come into contact with for generations, was the only thing the people of Trieste had to follow, the only reason to believe in the future in those years.

Through the testimonies of those who were there - Mike Ashton (a US soldier in Trieste right up to the final days of the Military Government), Todeschini and Ferigo -and Morris's research (we find her in the American cemetery on Trieste, where 33 US soldiers who died in Trieste from natural causes are buried), we reconstruct the events of those days. The 4th of November, a convoy of vehicles consisting of 150 cars, 50 buses and 50 motor scooters organised by the Committee for the Defence of Italian Trieste and Istria, sets off from the shrine of Redipuglia, where patriotic ceremonies were held. The rendezvous point is the railway station, where they are joined by thousands who have come by train, from where they set off again for Piazza Unità. At this point the "preventative" measures drawn up by General Winterton came into force. Major Carragher, the allied superintendent and an officer with the civil police force, confiscates the Italian flags two young men are holding. The reaction is immediate and violent and spreads like wildfire. The demonstrators also target the locals employed by the Allies in various parts of the city. In Via Diaz and Via Cavana, areas controlled by the feared "Cavana squad", stones are thrown at the police. The demonstrators head for a printers in Via San Francesco, owned and run by Slovenes, and attack it.







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Then they continue on to Corso XX Settembre, where they attack buildings, arrests are made and some are wounded.

But the most serious incidents happened on the two following days, the 5th and 6th of November.

In the period immediately before these events, certain strange, possibly related, events occurred. There were some unusual withdrawals from Trieste banks (sums totalling around 8 billion lire, equal to 18% of all deposits). Many people were leaving the city and there was an alarming increase in the number of arms caches found in the city. From 2nd of November on, the exchange of telegraphs between the US State Department and the embassies in Trieste, London, Paris, Rome and Belgrade increased, as revealed by official documents.

On the morning of the 5th November, there was a scuffle between the forces of law and order and students deserting the schools and University. The students sought refuge in the church of S.Antonio Nuovo, but the police chased them there and beat them up. Blood was spilt, so that the deconsecrated church had to be immediately reconsecrated in a ceremony that afternoon. A crowd of over 2000 gathered inside and outside church and when a squad of police sent as a precaution tried to pass down the street, it was met by a hail of porphyry stones from the piles at the side of the road, which was being resurfaced.

At this point the British officer in charge, Major Williams, fired a few shots into the air. It was never proved whether the order to shoot was given or not, but some officers supplied with weapons for the occasion began to shoot, wounding several. One shot ricocheted and killed the fifteen-year-old Pietro Addobbati, who happened to be in a side street. Antonio Zavadil also died in the general confusion, but the most disconcerting fact was that these shots could only have come from the window of the police station. The clashes dragged on into the night, with various Allied structures damaged. The fighting continued the following say, with shots and tear gas fired. At 11 in the morning, British armoured cars came out to block the roads giving access to the GMA, and people were increasingly furious at the civil police and its British commanders. A large crowd gathered in Piazza Unità in front of the town hall, where the Italian flag flew at half-mast, although all flags had been removed from public offices in the three previous days. At this point, three bombs were exploded against the police vehicles stationed under the prefecture. Shots were fired from the building, and Leonardo Manzi (a member of the neo-Fascist MSI party), Saverio Montano (secretary of the Goliardia Nazionale student nationalist movement), Francesco Paglia (secretary of the Intesa Studentesca) were killed. Then another bomb exploded. Shots were aimed directly at the crowd and many were wounded, Erminio Bassa (CISNAL worker) mortally so. The American military intervened and established order, although two further bombs set fire to two police vans outside the prefecture. The final balance was six dead and an indefinite number of wounded among the population, and 79 wounded among the police and British and American troops. Jim and Claudia are at home with their children and hear the news on the radio.



Various secret services wrote reports about the likelihood of an attempt on Winterton's life in the winter of '53-'54, after the events of November and due to his open sympathy for Yugoslavia, to the extent that the general was absent from the official ceremony returning Trieste to Italy, a logical development after the escalation of violence. This occurred on 26th October 1954, a year after the fatal clashes, with Trieste festooned with decorations and ready to welcome the first unit of Italian Bersaglieri and four navy ships. On this festive occasion, Trieste gave vent to the frustration of the previous few years, whistling furiously from the shore at the ship carrying Winterton back to Britain to underline that the memory of this General would be far from happy. Apart from this incident, the festivities and official visits followed one another smoothly. The sailing ship the Amerigo Vespucci was there, as was a delegation of Vespa clubs from all over Italia, invited by Elvio Ferigo, who describes how they paraded through Trieste a week after the handover. (Luce Institute footage of the event) that fatal 4th November 1954. These days the date is the anniversary not only of the end of the First World War but, for the people of Trieste, also of the fighting in the piazza of '53, with the President of the Republic, Einaudi, and Prime Minister Pella visiting for the occasion.

Jan Morris, sitting in the historic Caffe´ Triestino in Piazza Unità says that, in fact, the Allies were initially in favour of conceding "as much territory as possible" to Italy, and forging economic ties between the latter at the FTT. Italy was no longer seen as an enemy but had become the border between the West and the Soviet communists and their Yugoslav ally. In 1948, when Tito broke with Stalin, it apparently became more important not to damage relations with Tito from the anti-Stalin, anti-Cominform point of view. This emerges from many internal documents from the American State Department and the US Embassies in Trieste, Belgrade and London. The international situation remained stalled for almost a decade, and the frequent civil unrest from the summer of 1952 in Trieste finally convinced Italy and Yugoslavia to try to reach a bilateral accord, returning Trieste to Italy and cancelling all Italy's claims to Istria, Dalmatia, much of the Collio and the Carso.

Thus, since 1954, Trieste has been a border town and commercial port of some size, although decidedly underused. The climate remained rather tense, however, as shown by a State Department document considering whether 50 members of the civil police force and their families be evacuated to Malta and Gibraltar, after having been accused of anti-Italian behaviour during the demonstrations of the previous months. At this time, the former Zone A covered six comune and had 310, 000 inhabitants, including 284,000 in the city of Trieste alone. The recent population increase could be attributed largely to the arrival of refugees from Istria. With the departure of the around 10,000 Allied soldiers, the city lost 25 million lire a day and unemployment rose. Finally, many emigrated from Trieste (historical footage of ships leaving for America), something that had never happened before in the city's history. The city had to find a new role for itself and adapt, having been "inflated" by the FTT adventure. This time was later seen as a golden interval, but also as the beginning of the decline of a port that could have been a point of reference for Central and Eastern Europe.





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For almost a decade, Trieste's wealth had been largely artificial. It had been shored up by Allied subsidies and the distribution of low-cost foodstuffs and consumer goods, not to mention the opportunities for fun and entertainment that were an integral part of Allied policy and helped to keep the troops happy. Trieste lived in a bubble of glamour and amusement, but in the long-term the ethnic and political pressure inevitably burst the bubble and winter had come for the grasshoppers of Trieste.

After the war, the rest of Italy had rolled up its sleeves and started on a massive industrial development plan, in addition to mere reconstruction. This development bypassed Trieste, its future remained uncertain and it continued to receive massive subsidies from the Italian state. The obligations the state assumed arose from political necessities but imposed economic burdens on the city, being mainly passive and not made with a view to investment. Between 1948 and 1950 the Italian Treasury gave \$6 million for the acquisition of raw materials, machinery and payment of freight charges. In total, Italian subsidies amounted to around 20 billion lire, in addition to the \$18 million allocated from reconstruction funds (known as the ERP, the European Recovery Fund). Not to mention the \$30 million the Italian government gave to Yugoslavia as compensation for the return of Trieste and the commitment to reconstruct and enlarge the port of Zara, as revealed in documents from the US State Department. Furthermore, Rome agreed to pay the difference between production costs at the Trieste shipyards and national shipyards and, in the same period, to finance 40% of the cost of the construction of six large ships, a sum of 40 billion lire. Trieste returned to Italy, but with a considerable amount of state assistance in all its productive activities.

Flashback to daily life in Trieste, when the Allies and their amlire totally supported the city's economy.

In 1954, Tiberio Mitri's career flickered to life one last time when he took the European title from Randy Turpin in a surprise first round victory. But by now his career was nearing its end, like the FTT, and shortly afterwards he was defeated by French boxer Charles Humez. That same year, he and his wife separated. She kept the fashionable bar they had opened together in Rome after their return from the United States (Luce newsreel of the bar's inauguration). Their marriage had been on the rocks for some time, Laura Predonzani tells us, and it seems that the extremely jealous Mitri had had difficulty swallowing some of attentions his wife attracted in Hollywood, and she was sick of his jealous scenes, which helped end her hopes of a career in Hollywood. Mitri in a jealous rage with his wife in a hotel in the USA. Kezich confirms that Mitri hung up his gloves at the age of 30, when he was living in Rome. He made a living playing bit parts and as an extra in Italian B-movies. He tried several times to seriously break into the Italian film industry (clips from films with Mitri), but he ended his life as a wreck, thanks to dugs, imprisonment for theft, and his grief at the death of his children, Alex and Tiberia. He finally died a pathetic death, hit by a train at dawn on the outskirts of Rome as he wandered in confusion along a railway line (shot of a secondary train line in the suburbs of Rome, today).





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### **▶** TREATMENT

When Trieste was returned to Italy and the TRUST and BETFOR contingents returned home (historical footage of repatriation and the painful separations - some temporary, others definitive - of several couples), Jim and Claudia Herring also moved to the United States, but not before taking part in the explosion of joy that gripped the city for over a month. Many American soldiers take part in the festivities, allowing themselves to be wrapped in the Italian flag, taking photographs and watching the city from the NAAFI in Via del Coroneo. Claudia Herring remembers the fatal moment of departure, what she said to her family and friends, what she expected and what she feared as her American future began. Final departure of Herring family from Italy, with their three children and Claudia's first son. After a brief stop at US Command in Vienna, they go to live in Memphis, lim's home town and the symbol of a great musician who would emerge just shortly afterwards, known to everyone as "the King", Elvis Presley. (historical footage of Elvis and Memphis at the time). At the end, Claudia adds that it wasn't always easy, that certain things came as a shock, that loneliness often made her want to go back home. But that is another story and in the end she managed to stay in contact with a lot of other women in her situation and it wasn't hard to persuade her husband to take her back to Trieste regularly, since he had also fallen in love with the place.

The atmosphere that Trieste conveys, says Jan Morris as she strolls along the promenade, is always somehow melancholy, with the bitter-sweet taste of something lost. Perhaps this is why it has never left anyone indifferent: you love it or you loathe it. Trieste is the capital of "citizens of nowhere", those who are at home anywhere and nowhere, as all those featured here confirm, and it belongs to everyone and no one, experienced many things before other places. Last but not least, thanks to the massive presence of the Americans in the immediate post-War period, it sowed the seeds of what we now call "globalisation".

Meanwhile, at the Nashville Convention, John Bowman, one of those who love Trieste, along with other TRUST veterans who also have an Internet site with photographs of the city and a forum, adds that he believes that it is important that Trieste doesn't forget the time it cohabited with the Allies. Bowman talks about both dark and light-hearted moments, and of the many people that left their hearts in the city, the relationships they had, and the memories they continue to celebrate each year. Jim Herring and Claudia add that they go to Trieste every year, and have even bought an apartment in Monfalcone. They end with women from Trieste singing old local songs, while their husbands, the American veterans, watch on.

Jim and Claudia Herring also came to Trieste this year. It is autumn and deliberate forest fires have set the Carso behind the city ablaze. Jim is happy to recall his relaxed, peaceful years in Trieste. They were followed by much darker times for him: the wars in Korea and Vietnam, before he finally returned to civilian life as the manager of a soap factory and then enjoyed his retirement in Florida. Claudia, on the other hand, talks of the thousand problems deriving from her search for a better life, of the







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loneliness she often felt on the other side of the Atlantic, where she encountered a much bigger America than the one she knew in Trieste. She often shared these problems with other women in her situation, who she kept in touch with, even developing new long distant relationships. The couple go to visit Mario's bar, now under new ownership. There they find Mario Todeschini who worked as a set-painter at Cinecittà and whose hobby is looking into his city's past and trying to trace American veterans who knew his father and frequented the bar. They share, as always, a good white wine from the Collio, while at the next table Jan Morris sits silently reading a book.

Closing with a long wide-angle shot of the bay. It is difficult to distinguish between the power of a policy – the Marshall Plan, obviously, but also the administrative models – and the power of a myth: Coca Cola, blonde cigarettes, the novelties that the Stars and Stripes brought to a Hapsburg, Renaissance, Levantine, Jewish, Slavic, irredentist, literary and proletarian society, as delicate as a mosaic of three hundred thousand inhabitants infected by the irresistible vulgarity of the American dream, as embodied by ten thousand soldiers and their occupation of a small buffer state recognised by the United Nations, and lived by the three hundred thousand as a long limbo: mixed marriages, baseball teams, jazz bands, women police officers, Radio Trieste with its director, Jacobson, 3-D cinema Thanksgiving parties and official visits: Senator John Fitzgerald Kennedy, and Louis Armstrong. A separate history, which did not end on 26th October 1954 in a Piazza Unità crammed with people there to welcome the bersaglieri.









## ► ARCHIEVE MATERIALS - INTEVIEWS 22

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Ken Spitler
Yolanda Bowman
Norman Zalfa
Claudia Herring
Maurizio Eliseo
Francesco

Ernie Large + brother
Ondina Ninino + dott.ssa Cosenzi
Mario Todeschini

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AND FILMOGRAPHY:

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Collezione Jim Herring
Collezione Enoch Potter

NARA
Istituto Luce
Cineteca del Friuli
Cineteca Regionale FVG

Collezione Gianni Vitrotti



Trieste 1951 On town Patrol. San Giusto Caste



## Renzo Carbonera

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Renzo Carbonera,** born in Latisana (Udine) in 1980, graduated at the University of Padova in 2004 with a thesis and documentary film on British director Ken Loach.

The documentary, "Five Points", has been shown on several European and American film festivals and distributed on pay-TV and IPTV by Big Films (Los Angeles).

After a Master Course in Documentary Filmmaking and a trainee at Jolefilm s.r.l., Renzo started working together with several production companies. In 2005 he received a Media Development Fund and Eurodoc Programme together with Jolefilm, the production company of Italian theatre and TV author Marco Paolini, for "The Journey of a Mask", following a clown working with street children in Salvador de Bahia.

In 2006 he received the regional film fund of Friuli Venezia Giulia (the only one in Italy), and shot a documentary on the 1976 Friuli Earthquake (Gemona '76) coproduced by A I Plus (Vienna) and II Centro Storico (Milan). The documentary was aired by Fox History Channel Italia and RAI 3.

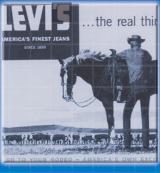
At the moment he is post-producing a documentary on the Dalai Lama and the building of the first European Tibetan Temple in the Austrian Alps, still for A I Plus and for Austrian national Broadcaster ORF.

He collaborates with the Cinemateque of Friuli Venezia Giulia in building a regional archive of historical footage, and on their series of documentaries on the history of North East Italy and Slovenia.



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**SD Cinematografica** is an independent production Company founded in 1961.

It has worked with RAI and International Broadcasters since its foundation, co-producing films, variety programs and, above all, documentaries. More than 500 hours of programming have been produced and broadcasted.

Several nature documentaries have won major prizes at international Film festivals and have been sold worldwide. The documentary "La Pietà", on the restoration of Michelangelo's masterpiece, was nominated for an American Academy Award. The recent "Flying over Everest" won 18 prizes at the main international festivals. In 2006 with "The sinking of Andrea Doria" SD Cinematografica is proud to include the American PBS and the German ZDF in its list of international coproducers. The documentary has been submitted to the Emmy Awards.

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RAI / PBS / ZDF / ISTITUTO LUCE

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- 1° prize at Chamois International Film Festival (Italy 2004)
- Prix de l'exploit al St. Hilarie Coupe Icaro Film festival (France 2004)
- 1° prize at Festival internazionale del cinema naturalistico e ambientale Teramo (Italy 2004)
- Prize "Politecnico di Bari" at Catellana Grotte International film festival (Italy 2005)
- Prize "Sport Extreme" at Moscow Filmfestival (Russia 2005)
- Prize "Best adventure Film" at Wildsouth Film Award (New Zeeland 2005)
- Prize "Silver Screen" at US International Film e Video Festival (USA 2005)
- Prize "Best adventure Film" at Mountainfilm in Telluride (USA 2005)
- Special award at Cervino International Film Festival (Italy 2005)
- I° Prize "Man and Mountains" at Film Festival Teplice nad Metujì (Czech Republic 2005)
- Special award at Jonio International Film Festival (Italy 2005)
- Special award at Festival International du film d'aventure de Dijon (France 2005)
- 1° Prize at Montreal International Adventure Film Festival (Canada 2005)
- Special award at Sport Movies & TV 2005 (Italy 2005)
- Prize "Most Inspiring Adventure Film" at Wild scenic environmental film festival (USA 2006)
- 1° prize "Leggimontagna" (Italy 2006)
- Special prize at Festival Internazionale del documentario ornitologico (Italy 2006)

### THE MYSTERY OF THE WOLF 52 min. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

- Special award at Bergfilm Festival Tegernsee (Germany 2004)
- Special award at Festival Internazionale della Lessinia (Italy 2004)
- Prize "Best Italian documentary" at Festival of Cogne "Stambecco d'oro" (Italy 2005)

HUNTING FOR NGOTTO 52 min. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

FOCUS IN ITALY 30 x 4 min. + 20 x 2 min. NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

LA PENISOLA DEL TESORO (for GEO&GEO) 30 min. each RAITRE

### Including:

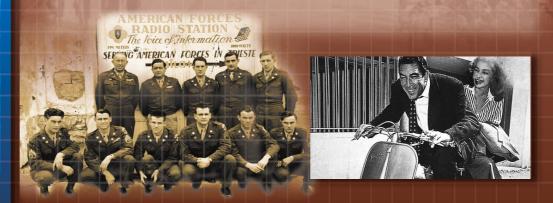
- Cilento: un paradiso della natura
  - Special Award at International Festival of Lessinia (Italy 2000)
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  - Prize "Parco Nazionale del Gran Paradiso" at Eco Film Festival of Canavese (Itali 2000)
- Le ultime superstiti
- Monti Sibillini: magica armonia





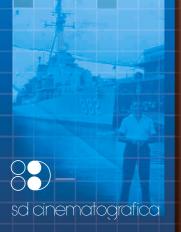


- Tra incudine e martello
- Finalist at International Festival of Sondrio (Italy)
- Ritorno all'ombellico d'Italia
- Fragole e sangue
- 2° Prize at International Festival of Sondrio (Italy)
- Un parco scolpito dal vento
- Il respiro della foresta
- La valle dei Walzer
- Domus de Janas
- Mont Avic: una montagna d'acqua
- Rosso di sera
- Risvegli e precipizi
- Finalist at International Festival of Trento (Italy)
- Lo sperone dello stivale
- Yellowstone d'abruzzo
- Miraggi d'inverno
- Circeo: Natura e magia
- Sulle tracce dell'orso
- La montagna sacra
- Sorprese d'inverno
- Prize "Partha Sarathy" at International Festival of Sondrio (Italy 2002)
- Prize "Cerro D'Argento" at International Festival of Lessinia (Italy 2003)
- Il soffio del vulcano
- La leggenda dei Fanes
- Sinis: acqua, terra e rosso porpora
- L'arte di Arrampicare
- Prize "C.O.N.I." at International Festival of Trento (Italy 2002)
- Mi chiamano Aspromonte
- Matese, magico intreccio di storia e natura
- Ostinatamente appassionati
- Pierino, il lupo e i segreti del tufo









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ILVETRO	
UNA RISORSA ECOLOGICA	12 min. RAITRE
BURNING MAN	60 min. RAIDUE
IL RISO DELLE API	60 min. RTSI
SCUOLE D'ARTE	4 x 30 min. RAI EDUCATIONAL
AMMINISTRARE NELL'ANNO 2000	30 min. REGIONE LAZIO

UN PARCO DA SCOPRIRE

30 min. PAR. DOLOM. BELL.

IL PARCO DEL GARGANO

MAJELLA

30 min. PARCO GARGANO

30 min.

e 3x15 min. PARCO MAJELLA

32 min. PARCO VESUVIO

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by Stefano Reali

**RAIUNO** 

by Aida Mangia

**RAIUNO** 

by Gino Cammarota

**RAITRE** 

by Lorenzo Hendel RAITRE

VARITY SHOWS:

MOVIE MOVIE

**ITALIA SERA MODA** 

**ODEON** 

COLOSSEUM

**GIROMONDO** 

33 episodes x 60 min. RAIUNO

daily

Series

Series

RAIUNO

**RAIUNO** 

**RAIDUE** 

Series

SACIS

**ANIMATION:** 

I SAURINI - The young dinos

FARHAT - Prince of the desert

Pilot Pilot

RAIUNO

DOCUMENTARIES:

LAVIOLENZA E LA PIETÀ

60 Min.

RAIUNO

- Nomination at Oscar (USA)

**PAN** - Animals of the Mediterranean

27 Eps. X 30 min

RAIUNO

- Best Exploration Film at International Festival of Trento (Italy 1987)

- Special Prize "Progetto Natura" at Festival of Cogne "Stambecco d'oro" (Italy 1987)

- 1° Prize at International Festival of Trento (Italy 1987)

**QUARK** 

Some episodes

**RAIUNO** 

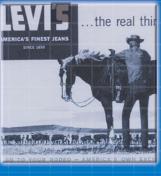
**IMMAGINA** 

Series

**RAIUNO** 









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