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Luglio at the Wells Point

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Annu and I spent the month of July in Italy for Annu's work. During part of that time she was studying Italian and during the rest of the time she was photographing for her project on the Indian soldiers who, during the Second World War, escaped from prisoner of war camps in central Italy and were sheltered by Italians at great personal risk. As an outsider, it looks like Annu's Italian has vastly improved, which was made apparent during her conversations with Italians after her language study.



I was doing what I often do these days - driving the car, carrying and setting up gear, organizing the groceries, doing the laundry and the dishes, and generally making sure things ran smoothly while Annu was doing her work. In between, I was editing films and, of course, getting my fair share of walks, great Italian coffee and even better Italian gelato.

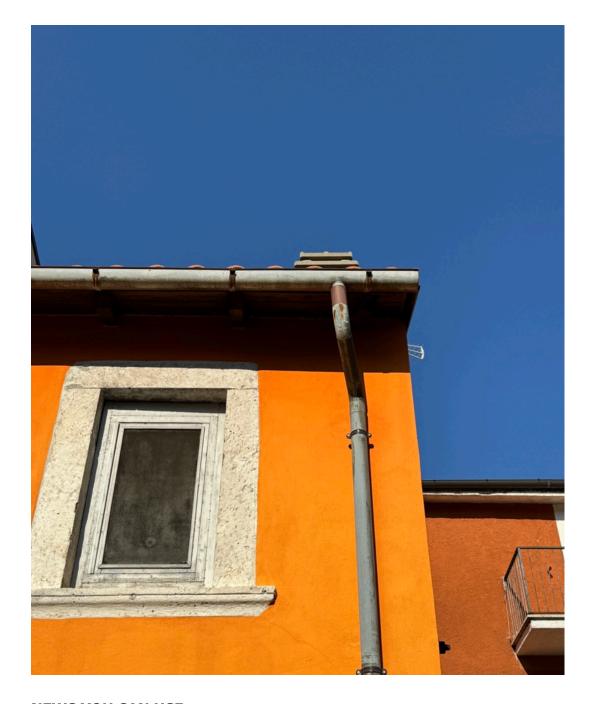


We spent three and a half weeks in one particularly nice apartment in <u>Bagno di Romagna</u>. The other places have been fine but it was a treat that the longest stay was in the best location. That small town featured hiking trails and a 45-minute walk (taken almost daily) to get groceries, etc. We also attended a number of Sagras, Italian festivals in smaller towns celebrating some aspect of the region, mostly food related. Sitting with the locals made for some fun conversations and great meals.



POINTS OF PRIDE:

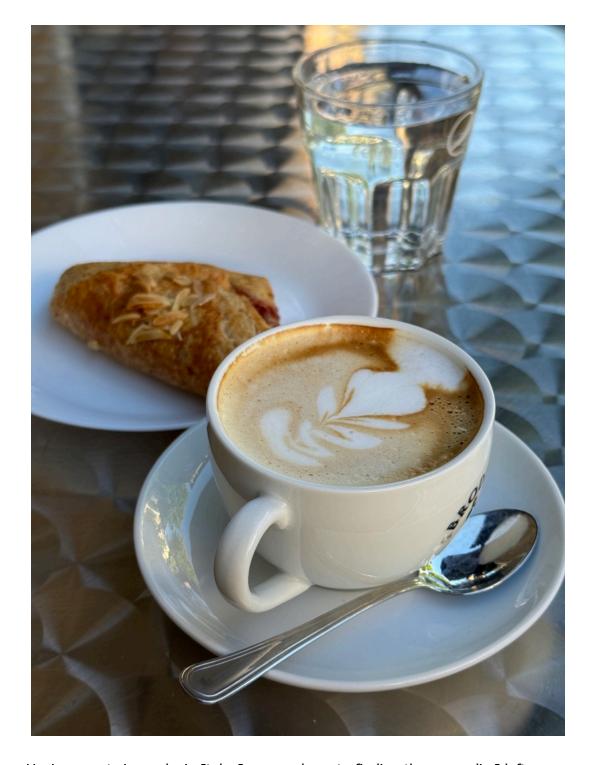
<u>Carrie Usmar</u> (a former student of Annu's and mine) uses photography to investigate the complexity of motherhood, as does the artist <u>Anastasia Sierra</u>. In an interesting conversation <u>both artists discuss making work on motherhood and being artist mothers</u>, highlighting the unseen challenges of motherhood while embracing the intimate and tender moments of raising children. They each use very different formal approaches which makes the piece especially interesting.



NEWS YOU CAN USE:

Kolor was a French company that made, according to my student, Michael Jones, "the best panoramic stitching software that is much better than Photoshop at aligning handheld images and removing 'ghosts'." It originally cost about \$400 but now they are out of business, and as a gift to the photo community, they made the software free as a parting gesture. Michael wrote me about this opportunity and added: "The newer Mac OS may question the install but with the right adjustments in the permissions it will work with the username and license key provided at the bottom of their web page. Try opening the app after the install and a restart, then add the registration. That worked for me with Sonoma OS. They also have a tutorial on the app."

WORKSHOP NEWS:



Having spent six weeks in Italy, I am no closer to finding the appendix I left behind during my emergency surgery in Palermo back in March. Other than having a slightly creepy feeling when I pass by hospitals in this country, I've enjoyed my time here. Seriously, I look forward to returning to <u>Sicily next spring for my upcoming photography workshop</u>, where we will see the extraordinary Easter processions. That should be a great experience, along with my other upcoming <u>workshops in Morocco</u> and <u>South India</u>.

I hope you enjoyed my updates I welcome your feedback. If you know anyone interested in getting these updates, please encourage them to <u>sign up for this</u> <u>newsletter</u>.

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