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Overtaking

When Italy Hit the Accelerator 1946-1961

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- Italy during post-war reconstruction, the economic miracle and the baby boom, in a selection of shots that retrace the unforgettable decade between 1950 and 1960

A fine but resilient thread links in Italy the privation and hardship of the post-war period with the economic boom that would burst forth throughout the sixties. ***Overtaking*** is not only a reference to the 1962 film *The Easy Life* (originally released as Il sorpasso, literally "overtaking"), now firmly embedded in popular culture. It evokes the idea of a country that accelerates, vying for a position – not without some show of aggression, vulgarity, and swagger – one that somehow overtakes itself, managing to forge ahead despite the social problems it often leaves unsolved or are created by the rapid development itself.

Text in English and Italian.

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