

## 50 years of Giulia



Photo by Theo Meinster

For me, the Giulia, is the Alfa Romeo that started my passion for this Italian car brand. During the Seventies my neighbour owned a bright yellow Giulia Nuova. I loved that car! The way it looked, the way it sounded, really great! I think I was 15 years old at that time. Now, many years later I am still in love with Giulia.

2012, is the year of Giulia's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. There have been a lot of events to mark this celebration in Europe. Let me take you on a trip to a few of them I have joined.

First of all there was "our own" Spettacolo Sportivo Alfa Romeo at the beginning of May held at the Assen race circuit in the north of the Netherlands. The event organised by S.C.A.R.B., the Stichting Club of Alfa Romeo Bezitters. What a great event with of course lots of Alfa Romeo's. About a thousand found their way to Assen. There were about sixty Giulia saloons, including 5 Giulia stationwagons, a Giulia TI Super, some race Giulia's and "Polizia Giulia's" from the Italian club [Lampeggiante](#) Blu. There was a line-up with first series Giulia's, the TI, the Super, the 1300, the 1600 and the Diesel. In a pit garage, there was a special display of "miniature-Giulia's" with some very special models. On the Sunday there was a "Polizia-Show" on the track with an arrest and a Giulia-parade.



SSAR Giulia Line Up 04 by Marcel Waal



SSAR Giulia Parade by Carsten Schueler,



SSAR Giulia TI Super on track by Marcel de Waal



SSAR 'Polizia' arrest by Marcel de Waal



SSAR Mini Giulia display by Marcel de Waal

For the second event, I drove a 1970 1600 Super owned by a good friend of mine all the way to Italy to join the Celebration of this beautiful car in Umbria. This event was organised by the R.I.A.R. I was the only Dutch member who attended this event. What a beautiful environment, Umbria is a really beautiful place to be! With all the historical buildings, churches and the lovely roads. And off course a lot of delicious food and last but not least, nice cars! 50 cars joined this event for 3 days. 35 Giulia saloons, some coupes, 2 GTA's and some other Alfa's. We drove to Assisi (parking next to the Duomo, great!), Gubbio and Spello. Driving the Giulia into the mountains was fun! This was an event I will never forget!



Our Giulia at rest by the lake by Theo Meinster



Assisi photos by Theo Meinster



Gubbio by Theo Meinster

My last trip was also to Italy. I joined the Monza event, organised by Alfa Romeo Club Milano and the following day, the “official” event at Balocco, organised by Registro Italiano Giulia and the Museo Storico Alfa Romeo.



Photo by Theo Mataar: Giulia's on Monza start/finish line



Photo by Theo Mataar: 1962 Giulia launch recreation,



Photo by Theo Mataar: Giulia's on the old historic banking



Photo by Theo Mataar: Giulia display

Monza is always a good place to be. The club of Milano did a show about the first presentation of the Giulia at Monza. A line-up with 3 Giulia's together with a Giulia Super – just like it was done in 1962! After that there was a possibility to get your car on the old-banked circuit! A great driving experience!

Balocco was the place where the Giulia was tested. There were a lot of Giulia's and other 105 series cars present at this event. They had come from all over Europe. Activities included driving on the test track, old Giulia movie films, a display of cars from the Scuderia del Portello, an Auto-delta exhibition and a lot more!



Photo by Theo Meinster: Balocco test track



Photo by Theo Meinster: Belgian pave test piste



Photo by Theo Meinster: Scuderia del Portello Endurance Rally cars

We are only halfway through 2012 but this Giulia celebration year could not start better! The Giulia is a great car to look at, to drive, to feel! 50 years later, it's a legend! Happy Anniversary Giulia!

Theo Meinster

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