

I remember seeing these prints displayed in the little photo store located on the bottom floor of the Five Floors Hotel located next to the Massawa harbor. The photo store also sold color postcards of these prints. I also think I saw these prints or postcards in the Asmara photo store. It was the store in Asmara that had the TVs in their front window playing the only TV station in town, the Kagnev TV station (KANU-TV).

Somewhere on the Kagnev site I saw the Italian owner's son of the Asmara photo store wrote to the Kagnev site. He was now living in Italy. Perhaps that person could shed more light on the artist of the portfolio or do some research for the artist on Italian web sites.

Over the last 20 years or so I have been able to find & purchase 3 of the postcards from the set. So, when I saw the whole color portfolio offered on ebay I grabbed the BIN Buy It Now price and was happy to pay it. I have found a lot of items and postcards on ebay by searching the Italian spelling Massaua rather than English spelling Massawa.

Notes about the Massaua portfolio:

Artist: Fausto Cattus

The set of prints I purchased on ebay.

The prints are color & roughly 9¼" x 12⅞".

The original portfolio cover was written with the original purchaser's name (Capt. Fraser) and dated Feb. 12th, 1943.

Also on the portfolio cover is printed:

10 Quadretti Artistici di Massaua (not Massawa)

Translation: 10 Artistic Paintings of Massawa

Proprieta Riservata:

LA BOTTEGA ORIENTALE – S. NASI – MASSAUA

Chuck Moulton

Kagnev Station 1967-1970.

Arrived an E2 and left Kagnev Station Sgt E-5.

My 4th year and final year in ASA I was stationed at ASA Headquarters Arlington Hall Station, VA, CONUS.

MOS: 72B40 Commcenter Specialist with Top Secret Cryptographic Clearance.