Preface

After my talk at the AMS Summerschool at Santa Cruz in July 1995 Ciro Ciliberto approached me and wondered whether I would like to come to Rome for the AGE Workshop on Surfaces. A workshop which would be ombined with a historical meeting celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Enriques. (It is always somewhat morbid to celebrate the death of people whose life we profess to honor). I could not resist.

My main regret was that during the intervening time, almost a year, I did not manage to come up with any new research, so I had to give a talk on old material, which bored me, and hence even more the audience. But this was at the very beginning, so after this I could fully enjoy my stay, walking around Rome, snapping pictures, and ending up detouring back home via Pisa with the Cataneses and continuing on train to Milan for further conveyance home.

The trip is documented, as usual in great, not to say tedious detail, for which I intend to make no apologies. This being the whole point of the exercise.

Göteborg

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