



# **COSPLAY: INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE**

**the phenomenon of cos-  
play in Italy**

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I.WHAT



The term “cosplay” (コスプレ *kosupure* ), contraction of “costume” and “player” is a neologism coined in Japan to identify anime and manga lovers who like to put the shoes of their favorite characters and, to do it, they realize costumes themselves – often with almost maniacal attention - or with the help of tailors, and various accessories (weapons, special items) that identify the character they decided to impersonate.

At first the cosplayers 's favorite characters were the heroes of anime and manga, but recently – with the changing times and tastes, and the generational turnover – the choices have become more diversified and expanded. Today the term also includes numerous categories and types of costumes hitherto neglected: those inspired by videogames, movies (The Matrix, The Lord of The Rings, Pirates of Caribbean, Harry Potter) or by the j-rock (music “made in Japan”), without forgetting the “evergreen series” 's characters (Sailor Moon, Saint Seiya, just to name a few) or the series restyled to make them more attractive for the new anime and manga 's audience.

Then there also those who, in addition to play the role of a characters, also wear masks (*animégao*, anime's face) to be transformed completely into it, and are indicated by the term *dollers*.

Finally there are the *cross-players* (from “cross-dressing” and “cosplayers”), who play characters of opposite sex; in truth not all the fans accept this definition, which is sometimes misused.

Is just from about ten years that we can speak of cosplay in Italy, in particular since at the main exhibition of animation and comics in Italy, “Lucca Comics”, started the first, tentative appearance of peoples dressed as heroes of the moment (Dragonball, Sailor Moon); from there the affirmation of cosplay has continued alongside the boom in manga and anime that go smoothly in the country during the 90s.

At that time there were very few people who went to the fairs in the shoes of their favorite characters, and they not even know that this hobby had already been labeled as “cosplay” and that in Japan, where it was born, was a practice already established.

Practically in Italy the phenomenon has developed in imitation of the fans of RPGs, which usually went to “Lucca Comics” dressed as their characters.

The awareness of being part of the “cosplayers” has developed only later, when, thanks to the increasing success in Italy of manga and anime, various

fan, curious about a different world and a different way of thinking, began to inquire about the culture that was the basis of their passion: Japanese style, fashion, culture arrived so in Italy.

Over the years, also the technical quality of the costumes – in principle a bit shoddy- has improved. Thanks to the spread of news and pictures of international cosplayers and for the desire to improve (also for the incentive offered by the competition staged during fairs), the cosplay phenomenon from a simple hobby has taken on the characteristics of a true passion.

Still, despite improvements in recent years, to do cosplay in Italy is more difficult if compared to what happens in other countries (primarily Japan and USA), especially as regards the selection of materials. Thanks to the internet and Ebay is now easier to get props, wigs and various items fundamental to make the perfect cosplay, but that, until a few years ago, was unthinkable, unless turning to professionals (and spend much greater sums of money) or go to retrieve them on the spot.

Unfortunately in Italy, even today, is almost impossible to find unique wigs, such as the colored ones, and it is necessary to resort to import them, even from America, thus increasing the costs.

Parallel to the development of cosplay, and one of the causes of the success of the phenomenon, are also the fairs, conventions and meetings for fans of manga and anime: in addition to the more famous (like Lucca Comics or Romics), that are increasing the number of participants year after year, there are also many new fairs that sets competition for the cosplayers, thus becoming a great attraction for curious and fans.

In Italy in fact the phenomenon is strongly linked to the idea of cosplay contest, even with performances played by the characters themselves: it's during competitions that the participants stage interpretations – usually parodies and skits, but also songs and dances – made with attention to the smallest details. The performances, often hilarious and particularly appreciated by the audience, were initially prepared in a short time, while in recent years, given their increased importance and popularity, they are organized very carefully.

The categories of prizes awarded during the contest are generally as follows:

- Best Male Cosplay
- Best Female Cosplay
- Best Group
- Best Interpretation
- Special Prize (awarded to the largest group or to performers with high-quality costumes)



Attending the various fairs it becomes clear that the choice of characters is varied, though still tied to the cult series of the moment and to the tastes of the market: after the invasion of various Dragonball, Final Fantasy and Sailor Moon, now Naruto, Bleach and Death Note are succeeding.

Always present cosplayers inspired by old hits (magical girls and mecha) – because after all peoples who enjoy this hobby usually like to identify themselves with the heroes of their childhood's dreams and games – or by the American superheroes, recently subject of various Hollywood movies, and thus even most popular.

This is important to highlight how the cosplay is not a “Carnival out of time”, but a complete imitation of the character: unlike the Carnival's disguise, the cosplay is enriched by a multifaceted interpretation. The cosplayer tries to act like the characters he plays, imitating the way of speaking, gestures and posture.

Although it is difficult to separate the idea of cosplay from that of Carnival, especially in a country like Italy where the Carnival tradition is very strong, we must take note that the cosplayer identify himself with the character played and this make the process different from the Carnival masks.



# II.WHEN AND WHERE



In the affirmation of the phenomenon of “cosplay”, fairs and events spread throughout Italy play a relevant role.

Without doubt the most famous is “Lucca Comics and Games”, which is held annually in Lucca, in Tuscany.

Thanks to its long tradition and the unique privilege to be more central than other similar events – and therefore more easily reachable from all over Italy – this fair stands as a meeting place for all the cosplayers in the country.

Also “Romics”, held in the capital in October, is very important, mainly because is during this fair that are held every year the selections to designate the two candidates who will represent Italy in the World Cosplay Summit, the international cosplay ‘s competition which is held in Nagoya, Japan.

Interesting, although somewhat penalized by their position, are the fairs in Milan - “Cartoomics” and “Fumettopoli” - and those in the south Italy, as “Cospladya” and “Palermo in Cosplay”- .

In addition to the aforementioned famous fairs, recent years have seen an increase of events dedicated to cosplay, also because now every fair organizes always some cosplay contest.

There are other small events that take place during the year, in which people meet in cosplay, but – although a cosplay is often organized – those are more like “friend’s meetings”.

Moreover recently the most popular cosplayers receive invitations to take part in club’s party or special meetings.

As well as provide spaces where cosplayers can meet, the great merit of the fairs is to stimulate who is just curious about this hobby or the cosplay’s neophytes. The first develop their latent curiosity and often decide to try and make costumes themselves, while the latter are driven to improve their first creation. It is not uncommon that after the most important fairs, the cosplayers ‘s websites and forums are literally flooded with request for advice on which characters choose to begin activity as cosplayer or how to make some costumes.

Anyhow, being the most significant, I believe we need to know better the most famous fairs: Lucca Comics, Romics and Fumettopoli.

### **Lucca Comics and Games**

This fair is the most important Italian exhibition dedicated to comics, animation, games (role’s games, board games, card games), video games, fantasy

and science fiction.

Is held annually between late October and early November in Lucca, in Tuscany, in an area of approximately 30.000 square meters, of which 15.000 are for the exhibitions.

All major stakeholders, and a growing number of specialized stores, comics stores and recreational and cultural associations participate in this fair.

During the days of the exhibition are held live role-playing games , concerts, projections, meetings with authors, presentations and, of course, cosplay competitions.

Inaugurated in 1966, the event has grown in importance edition after edition. It was first held every year, then every two-years and, after a suspension due to a period of crisis, every six months in 1990, although from the second half of '90, the fair has become an annual event.

With the achievement of 140.000 visitors in 2009, Lucca Comics is the third busiest fair in the world, after the "Comiket" (Tokyo) and the "Festival international de la bande dessinée" (Angoulême, France).

## **Romics**

This is an international exhibition on comics and animation, organized by "Fiera di Roma" (the fair structure of the capital) and "Castelli animati" (International film festival of animation).

The fair is held every year in October at the "Nuova Fiera di Roma", exhibition center of the capital.

The event stands as a reference point for cultural and professional activities and as a meeting place for fans and collectors.

In addition to cosplay's performances, there are numerous meetings with authors, debates and projections.

It is just during the parade of cosplayers, produced in collaboration with the broadcaster Television Aichi Nagoya, that the Italian participants for the World Cosplay Summit are selected.

## **Fumettopoli**

It is a major exhibition of comics that takes place in Milan from 1992 four times a year.

The event is now known as Salone internazionale del fumetto (Comics International Show) and is the oldest among those that take place in Milan.

It offers an opportunity for the Milan's public, but also to many fans from all over Italy, to find new, old or antique comics.

In addition to the sale of comic books, also the cosplay has been introduced, becoming a real cult event.

Fumettopoli continues to grow from year to year and is usually held at the Hotel Executive, in front of the Garibaldi Train station in Milan, occupying two entire floors of the convention center, with about 100 exhibitors and ten thou-

sand visitors.



*Poster edition of Lucca Comics and Games 2009*

# 2009 COSPLAY FAIRS

**JANUARY:** None

**FEBRUARY:**

Festival del Fumetto (Milan), February, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> - [www.festivaldelfumetto.com](http://www.festivaldelfumetto.com)

Mantova Comics & Games, February 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> - [www.mantovacomics.it](http://www.mantovacomics.it)

Fumettopoli (Milan), February, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> - [www.fumettopoli.com](http://www.fumettopoli.com)

**MARCH:**

FullComics (Sarzana, SP), March, 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> - [www.fullcomics.it](http://www.fullcomics.it)

Winter Cosplay (Lucca), March, 7<sup>th</sup> - [www.flashgordon.it](http://www.flashgordon.it)

Ludicomix (Empoli), March, 21<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>th</sup> - [www.ludicomix.it](http://www.ludicomix.it)

Ichigo Cosplay (Pontecagnano, SA), March, 22<sup>th</sup>

Cartoomics (Milan), March, 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> – [www.cartoomics.org](http://www.cartoomics.org)

**APRIL:**

Lonigo Comics, April, 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> - [www.lonigocomics.com](http://www.lonigocomics.com)

Cartoons On The Bay (Rapallo), April, 2<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> - [www.cartoonsbay.com](http://www.cartoonsbay.com)

Faenza Comics, April, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> - [www.fieradelgioco.it](http://www.fieradelgioco.it)

Latina Comix 2009, April, 16<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> - <http://latinacomix2009.events.live.com>

Turin Comics, April, 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> - [www.torinocomics.com](http://www.torinocomics.com)

Comicon (Naples), April, 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> - [www.comicon.it](http://www.comicon.it)



## **MAY:**

Hasta Cosplay (Asti), May, 3<sup>rd</sup> - [http://eventi.anacosplay.it/hasta\\_cosplay](http://eventi.anacosplay.it/hasta_cosplay)

Fumettopoli & Italian Cosplay Contest (Milan), May, 9<sup>th</sup> - [www.fumettopoli.com](http://www.fumettopoli.com)

Cos-Party (Parma), May, 23<sup>th</sup> by EFC - [www.ryucosplay.com](http://www.ryucosplay.com)

La Spezia Comics & Games, May, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>th</sup> , June, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> - [www.speziacomicsandgames.com](http://www.speziacomicsandgames.com)

## **JUNE:**

Cospladya, Comics & Games (Palermo), June, 12<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> - [www.cospladya.it](http://www.cospladya.it)

Cosparma (Parma), June, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> - [www.parmafantasy.it](http://www.parmafantasy.it)

Hard Rock CosPride (Turin), June, 20<sup>th</sup> - [www.hrcptorino.com](http://www.hrcptorino.com)

## **JULY:**

Pisa Cosplay & ECS , July, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> - [www.digitgen.eu](http://www.digitgen.eu)

Rimini Comics, July, 24<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> - [www.riminicomix.com](http://www.riminicomix.com)

Festa dell'Unicorno (Vinci), July, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> - [www.festaunicorno.com](http://www.festaunicorno.com)

## **AUGUST:**

Parco Sigurtà, August, 30<sup>th</sup> by GiorgiaCosplay

## **SEPTEMBER:**

OPF Cosplay (Oristano), September, 19<sup>th</sup>

Fumettopoli (Milan), September, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> - [www.fumettopoli.com](http://www.fumettopoli.com)

GameCon (Naples), September, 18<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> - [www.gamecon.it](http://www.gamecon.it)

Fumetti in Tv (Treviso), September, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> - [www.fumettintv.com](http://www.fumettintv.com)

## **OCTOBER:**

Fiera dei Giovani (Venturina, LI), October, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> - [www.fieradeigiovani.it](http://www.fieradeigiovani.it)

Romics (Rome), October, 8<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> – [www.romics.it](http://www.romics.it)

Militaria e Dintorni (Rome), October, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> - [www.milidintornieuropa.com](http://www.milidintornieuropa.com)

Halloween Cosplay Night (Palermo), October, 24<sup>th</sup> - [www.palermoincosplay.net](http://www.palermoincosplay.net)

ParCosplay (Ostia Lido), October, 25<sup>th</sup> - <http://www.japanimation.it>

Lucca Comics & Games, October 29<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>th</sup> , November, 1<sup>st</sup> - [www.luccacomicsandgames.com](http://www.luccacomicsandgames.com)

## **NOVEMBER:**

Fumettopoli (Milan), November, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> - [www.fumettopoli.com](http://www.fumettopoli.com)

## **DECEMBER:**

Brindisi di Natale... in Cosplay! (Palermo), December, 20<sup>th</sup> - [www.palermoincosplay.net](http://www.palermoincosplay.net)

Nissa Comics & Games (Caltanissetta), December, 26<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> - [www.nissacomicsandgames.it](http://www.nissacomicsandgames.it)



*Visitors to Romics*



# III.WHO



## Utena, 24, Italian

### What is your name? How old are you?

In the cosplay's world my name is Utena Ootori (a friend says to me that my nature was the same that the two characters – Utena and Akio Ootori – from the manga Shoujo Kakumei Utena by Chiho Saito).

### How did you know about cosplay?

A Japanese friend told me about the cosplay 's world when I was 12. That same year with her friends we went to the fair "Expocartoon Rome" and we saw three boys in cosplay, it seemed fun! The next year with my friend Francesca (of five years older) we decided to do cosplay and we were to "Lucca Comics", the main cartoon's fair in Italy. There I met all the Italian's cosplayers and I became one of them. We were few and have a lot of fun!



### What events have you participated in Italy?

To all the main events: Lucca Comics, Expocartoon, Comics Rome, Turin Comics, Milano Cartoons, Cosplay Paradise, Mandarake Cosplay Contest Bologna.

### Who are the characters that you cosplayed?

I cosplayed more than 50, I don't remember all of them! XD

I chose girl with strong personality and not too nude (xD). I've cosplayed even male characters when they lacked in the group! XD

I've also cosplayed visual, among others.

However, some of the characters were Utena, Rosiel and Gabriel (Angel Sanctuary), Whip (Street Fighter), Dracula (Castlevania), Satsuki (Rentrer en soi – Visual), Mana (Malice Mizer – visual).

\*A/N: at some point she became a kind of "idol" and she had her fanclub that made request for cosplay. Hence she has done character not of her choice: Ayu and Akane Suzumiya (Kimi ga Nozomu Eien), Ichigo (Tokyo myumyu), Chii (Chobits), Karen (X-1999) and some others\*

### There were a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or were you independent?

Yes! I had my informal group that varied.

We achieved Angel Sanctuary (36 peoples), Malice Mizer (4 peoples), Final Fantasy X (10 peoples), Lareine (5 peoples).

In reality, however, I was independent; I made most of the cosplays by myself

:D

**Did you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

Yes, I had my website. At the time I've started not many cosplayers had their own, but now things has changed.

**Have you ever done cosplay in Japan?**

**If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

Yes, at Comiket, sometimes in Harajuku, and I did private service for photographic exhibitions.

**Why did you stop?**

In fact I never stopped, I just changed type.

The problem in Italy was that at some point a lot of people did the cosplays like it was a "beauty contest" and for me and my friends, the "old school", it wasn't fun anymore.

We've begun to stick together and go to the Venice's Carnival and to Lucca, where the fair is all over the town and you don't have to be close to the "kids"  
xD



## **Rossella, 26, Italian**

### **What's your name? How old are you?**

My name is Rossella and I'm 26 years old.

### **How did you know about cosplay?**

Through my brother... but I must admit that he preferred the female cosplayers more than cosplay!

### **What events have you participated in Italy?**

Cartoomics and Lucca Comics are my favorite, but I was also in Turin Comics and VideoGames Party!

### **Who are the characters that you cosplay?**

I play Alice (from Resident Evil's movies), but I'm planning to play Kaname Chidori from Full Metal Panic and Nova and Sara from Starcraft Ghost.



### **There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

I am part of "Umbrella Italian Division" ([www.umbrellaitalia.com](http://www.umbrellaitalia.com)).

### **Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

My blog is [www.yumekimino.com/Blog](http://www.yumekimino.com/Blog). And if someone want to open one, he can contact me: I'm a web designer.

### **Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

No, not yet, but I'm looking forward to do it!

### **Are you still doing cosplay?**

I'm still in the middle of my activities.

**Rachele, 21, Italian**

**What's your name? How old are you?**

My name is Rachele and I'm 21.

**How did you know about cosplay?**

Through the Internet, when I came across Giorgia's website. I think it was 2005 or thereabouts...

**What events have you participated in Italy?**

Romics, Comicon, Gamecon and I'm making preparations to go to Lucca Comics for the first time \*\_\*

**Who are the characters that you cosplayed?**

I love anime and manga's characters, but I'm also attracted by video games's characters. Plus, my first cosplay has been Alice from Disney's "Alice in Wonderland".



**There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

I'm with a group of friends; we are called "Kuda Kitsune Team". The name is inspired by the manga "XXX Holic", where "Kuda Kitsune" is a fox in a tube. Perhaps it's a strange name for a cosplayers's group, but we liked it so much!

**Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

I have a blog with my group: <http://kudakitsuneteam.blogfree.net>.

I think that now many cosplayers have a website to show their works ^^

**Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

Unfortunately no, but one day I would absolutely go there: after all I dreamed of going to Japan since I was little!

**Are you still doing cosplay?**

Yes, I started just over a year and I intend to continue as long as I can.

**Nicoletta, 35, Italian**

**What's your name? How old are you?**

My name is Nicoletta Bernacchi and I'm 35.

**How did you know about cosplay?**

In 1996 some of my friends heard about the cosplay in Japan through the net and so we started to do it at Lucca Comics. We have organized each year a cosplay contest that has the larger number of participants in Italy: starting from 35 participants the first year, in 2008 we broke all records with 1000 cosplayers.

**What events have you participated in Italy?**

Lucca Comics ever since 1997, then some fair in Milan, Tuscany and Bologna.



**Who are the characters that you cosplayed?**

I did a bit of everything: anime, manga, video games, j-rock.

**There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

My group has always been made up by friends and colleagues of my cultural association "Flash Gordon", but I've also cosplayed with other friends or alone.

**Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

Although I have my site, I put all my cosplay's photos on Facebook. Besides, there is also the "Flash Gordon" 's website ([www.flashgordon.it](http://www.flashgordon.it)), without picture of me but of participants in our competitions and our other initiatives as cultural association about comics and cartoons.

**Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

Yes, twice.

Of course there were differences. In Japan there are a lot of cosplayers, especially at the Comiket. There is that wonderful terrace where you can take photos. Besides it was nice to be the only foreigners, and Japanese asked us

to take picture with them.

There was a different atmosphere compared to Italy, and I enjoyed the experience very much. Not to mention the quality of the costumes, that was superior to ours.

**Are you still doing cosplay?**

I have not stopped, I still cosplay.

**Micol, 22, Italian**

**What's your name? How old are you?**

I'm Micol, 22 years old.

**How did you know about cosplay?**

I saw for the first time cosplayers live at Mantova Comics 2007, but I already knew this phenomenon thanks to cosplayers's websites and forums.

**What events have you participated in Italy?**

MATOVICA, Cartoomics, Fumettopoli, Full Comics, Lucca, Lonigo Comics, Parma Fantasy.

**Who are the characters that you cosplayed?**

Usually I choose characters that I like or that I find particularly interesting for their dresses or their personality.

**There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

I started doing cosplay partnered with my boyfriend, but sometimes I team up with friends, often known in internet.

**Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

Yes, I have a blog turned in a website (<http://bulmamiky.blogfree.net>). But yes, now many cosplayers has their own blog or website to collect photos of their works.

**Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

No, but maybe one day I'll make a trip to Japan!

**Are you still doing cosplay?**

Obviously yes, it is only two years that I cosplay and I have no intention of stopping!



**Ivana, 22, Italian**

**What's your name? How old are you?**

My name is Ivana and I'm 22 years old.

**How did you know about cosplay?**

I went to the comic's fair since I was little and I saw people "dress up".

I searched for information and I started at the instance of a friend.

**What events have you participated in Italy?**

Fumettopoli, Cartoomics, Novegro, Parco Sigurtà. Romics and Lucca are still a bit too far for me.

**Who are the characters that you cosplayed?**

Generically manga and video games's ones are my favorite.



**There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

I don't have a proper group, but friends with which I almost always cosplay.

**Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

Yes, I have a website ([www.heavencorner.it](http://www.heavencorner.it)), even if I have to complete all of the gallery.

Many cosplayers have a site/blog to show their work, but many do not have it. Someone has started using Facebook.

**Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

Unfortunately not, but I would love!

**Are you still doing cosplay?**

Yes, I'm still doing cosplay and I have plans for at least two years.



## **Gioia, 24, Italian**

### **What your name? How old are you?**

My name is Gioia and I'm 24.

### **How did you know about cosplay?**

Thanks to a friend and to my sister, who literally dragged me to Naples's Comicon.

### **What events have you participated in Italy?**

Comicon, Romics and Lucca. I also take part in minor events that are increasing around Rome.

### **Who are the characters that you cosplay?**

I cosplay characters who strike me for some reason, even if I don't know them very well but I like their looks. Of course before I gather some information about them.



### **There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

I usually cosplay alone, but sometimes my projects intersects with those of my sister, and we decide to do something together.

### **Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

No, I don't have one, but I noticed that lately people who have a blog/website are increasing.

### **Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

No.

### **Are you still doing cosplay?**

Of course! Even though people say the opposite, the cosplay is a wonderful hobby and I have no intention of stopping for now!

**Francesco, 40, Italian**

**What's your name? How old are you?**

I'm Francesco and I'm 40 (it seems that I am one of the "elder").

**How did you know about cosplay?**

I attend fairs for years for professional reasons. Intrigued, I began attend this forum ([www.giorgiacosplay.com](http://www.giorgiacosplay.com), Italian's forum about cosplay. A/N), knowing enthusiastic people who have involved me in the cosplay's world.

**What events have you participated in Italy?**

Lucca Comics, Fumettopoli and Cartoomics.

**Who are the characters that you cosplayed?**

I have no preference about the source of inspiration: I refer to manga, anime, movies or western comics. I usually cosplay characters in uniform.

**There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

Usually for the fair I join a group of friends (HCG), but I happened to present at the exhibition as a single.

**Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

I don't have a website nor a blog.

Many cosplayers have their own personal site, accompanied by excellent reports.

**Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

No... but hearing about how it is conceived in Japan, I don't know if I want try and do it...

**Are you still doing cosplay?**

Although much depends on the time and economic resources available, I intend to continue as long as I find this amusing.



**Federico, 21, Italian**

**What's your name? How old are you?**

I'm Federico and I'm 21.

**How did you know about cosplay?**

It was a spontaneous thing, after having been at Lucca comics the first time, becoming a cosplayer.

**What events have you participated in Italy?**

Lucca Comics and Turin Comics.

**Who are the characters that you cosplayed?**

I've cosplayed just Zoro (Onepiece). Now I'm preparing Mur (Saint Seiya – Knights of the Zodiac) for Lucca Comics 2009.



**There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

My brother, my cousin and some friends.

**Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

Not everyone has a website.

**Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

No.

**Are you still doing cosplay?**

Of course.

**Claudia, 23, Italian**

**What's your name? How old are you?**

My name is Claudia and I'm 23 years old.

**How did you know about cosplay?**

The first time I saw a cosplayer was at Lucca Comics 2004

**What events have you participated in Italy?**

Many! Let's list them: Lucca Comics, Romics, Bologna Comics, Rimini Comics, Fumettopoli, Cartoomics, Cecina Comics, Feast of the Unicorn, Plaisance Comics, Fairy Cosplay Night, Tide Cosplay Night, Fucecchio, Montelupo...

**Who are the characters that you cosplayed?**

I do not have a category that I prefer: when I play a video game, watch an anime or read a manga, if some character strikes me (ad example for the character design), then I do the cosplay.

**There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

I participated in some group (fools, BHC), but let's say that I remain faithful to TNT (cosplay group formed only my me and my boyfriend).

**Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

Yes, I have a site (as many now): [www.temarico.netsons.org](http://www.temarico.netsons.org).

The cosplay in Italy has evolved differently than in Japan, there is a lot more competition and exhibitionism, and consequently it is now widely used to open sites/blog/community dedicated to personal cosplay.

**Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

No, but I hope to go there one day!

**Are you still doing cosplay?**

Of course!



## **Chiara, 22, Italian**

### **What's your name? How old are you?**

My name is Chiara and I'm 22 years old.

### **How did you know about cosplay?**

By chance! When I was younger I attended a fair in Rome and I was fascinated by all those guys older than me that were "masked" by the characters I was used to see in anime.

Then last year I was invited for the first time to Romics, and to start I decided to do a not so difficult cosplay: L from "Death Note". The boy who had to cosplay Light defected me at the last moment, but I haven't give up and so I began my cosplayer 's career.



### **What events have you participated in Italy?**

Only the Romics and the Cartoomics several years ago. I plan to participate in Fumettopoli and Comics, and it's sure I will go to Lucca Comics & Games 2010.

### **Who are the characters that you cosplayed?**

L (from "Death Note"). Moreover this year I've done the cosplay of a real person: Shinya Terachi, drummer of the Japanese band "Dir en Grey", in particular in the version from the pv "Obscure" (from the album "Vulgar", 2003).

### **There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

Due to some misunderstandings in the case of L's cosplay I was left alone, but this year I was with two girls who played Kyo and Kaoru, vocalist and guitarist of "Dir en Grey".

### **Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

I have a blog, but I put my photos on Facebook.

### **Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

No. Unfortunately my travels in Japan have always been canceled for some unanticipated problems.

### **Are you still doing cosplay?**

I'm still cosplaying! Right now I'm preparing Sebastian Michaelis from Kuroshitsuji and Thoshiya ("Miyaku" version), the bassist of Dir en Grey.

**Alice, 24, Italian**

**What's your name? How old are you?**

I'm Alice, 24.

**How did you know about cosplay?**

Even as a child I grew up watching the anime broadcasted in Italy. Then, thanks to my father, in sixth grade I discovered the existence of manga. As well as some films are drawn from books, I found out that the cartoons I liked to watch every afternoon were drawn from comics. One day, by chance, a friend told me that in various cities of Italy there are comic's fairs, and I went to see with another friend when I was in high school. At this first fair ("Cartoomics" in Milan) i saw cosplayers. Confused by this strange people dressed as anime's characters, I've done some research and I found out the existence of "cosplay". So I decided to try.



**What events have you participated in Italy?**

Well, all the Milan's fair (I know, I was a "otaku"), Lucca Comics, Turin Comics and Bologna Cosplex.

**Who are the characters that you cosplayed?**

A lot! I have to make a list? Alexiel from Angel Sanctuary, Gackt, Voldemort, a random Quidditch Player (ehm...), Death (Neil Gaiman's character), Sailor Saturn, Rakka from Haibane Renmei, Kanzeon from Saiyuki, Mana, Misao from Rurouni Kenshin, Yuna from Final Fantasy X, Yukari from Paradise Kiss, Mononoke Hime, Speed from Final Fantasy VIII, Rei from Evangelion, Yuffie from Final Fantasy VII, Weda from Jungle Guu. I think it's all!

**There were a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or were you independent?**

I usually worked alone. Sometimes I joined friends to form a group, but they were always different people: I did not have a fixed group.

**Did you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

I had a website, but when I stopped doing cosplay I closed it.

**Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

No, never. When I came to Japan for the first time I had already seen the “light at the end of the cosplay’s tunnel”!

**Are you still doing cosplay?**

No, I left the tunnel. For at least two reason: first of all, when I moved from Milan to Venice to attend the local university I had no time to make the costumes and to participate in fairs. And second, I think that the cosplay world in Italy is a \*censored\* ... put it this way: it's full of people self-centered, crazy, litigious that put me off doing cosplay again.

Seriously, in the world of cosplay one in two is crazy! There are people who make no end of fuss because they failed to win a cosplay contest... and then envy, gossip, malice... I think that not even in Hollywood there are all that troubles!

## **Claudia, 34, Italian**

### **What's your name? How old are you?**

My name is Claudia, even though the web I have always used the nickname "Mirai", and I'm 34 years old.

### **How did you know about cosplay?**

I already knew the cosplay as a cultural phenomenon through Japanese magazines, but has been running a website on "Saiyuki" in 2004 that I knew some good cosplayers. That's how I met the "real world" of cosplay in Italy.

### **What events have you participated in Italy?**

Living in Sicily the opportunity to participate in cosplay 's fairs were initially few, but thankfully in the last two years things have changed greatly thanks to the group of Palermo's cosplayers "Palermoincosplay". I've cosplayed at Fumettopoli and Cartoomics in 2004, then I stopped. I started to cosplay again only a year ago with various Sicily's events, including the new exhibition "Cospladya 2009". And in a few days I expect Lucca Comics. ^^



### **Who are the characters that you cosplayed?**

Generally I prefer characters from manga/anime and games.

### **There is a group, even unofficial, with which you team up? Or are you independent?**

I usually cosplay alone, but I belong to the Palermoincosplay's "Stable of Cosplayers".

### **Do you have a website? Many cosplayers have their own space where publish photos/tell their experiences?**

Not yet, in partly because I do cosplay seriously since not long ago and I don't have many photos to show... Surely soon I will create a small web place (blog, Facebook or Deviantart) to show my work: now for a cosplayer to have a website is a special must!

### **Have you ever done cosplay in Japan? If yes, have you noticed any differences?**

No, but I accompanied my friend to Tokyo's Comiket in 2004.  
Next year I should go back to Japan again, and this time I will attend!

Compared to Italy, the cosplay in Japan is less free. The thing that struck me was the prohibition to go around in cosplay or to have picture taken in spaces other than those arranged (to me they were real corral).

I don't know if something is now changed, but this thing really surprised me, especially when compared to what happens to the Italian fairs...

### **Are you still doing cosplay?**

Because now I have a certain age, I will continue to do cosplay as long as my body and face will hold out... and until then I have a well-fed list of future cosplay! ^^



**Giorgia Vecchini**, aka Giorgiacosplay, is an Italian girl who is dedicated to cosplay since several years ago.

Among the first cosplayers in Italy (her first cosplay dates back to 1997, when she went to Lucca Comics and Games in the role of Sailor Mars), Giorgia is a true legend in the Italian's cosplay world.

Thanks to his commitment and dedication to this hobby now become a full-time, Giorgia was also the winner at the World Cosplay Summit 2005, with the costume of Devilmen's "Silen".

Because of her experience in cosplay, I consider it important to devote a particular section to this girl who has been and continues to be a real source of inspiration for all cosplayers in Italy.



**You are known as “The Queen” in the Italian cosplay’s world, and your site – very rich – demonstrates your commitment and your perseverance. Would you or could you change this passion in a job?**

In some ways is already a job, but honestly I do not see openings in the world of cosplay as it currently conceived, unless you use the cosplay as a pretext to pursue other goals.

No doubt, thanks to cosplay, I have received several proposals for very interesting collaboration and I hope to receive them again in future.

After returning from Japan and after the victory at the World Cosplay Summit I attended television programs, interviews, photo shoots (including some shoot for “Vogue”).

I am also often around the world, invited to other events related to cosplay (for exemple I was in Mexico and Japan), but the most appealing proposal was the opportunity to record songs for a “Eurobeat” label (the Japanese dance), and I sang in English and Japanese!

**Would you like to be a cosplayer for work (for example to act as a testimonial for publisher of comics or for software companies that make video games)? And in your opinion the cosplayers would like to turn**



### **this hobby into a real job?**

I honestly do not think that in Italy there is this kind of culture, or that this hobby is large enough to create a cultural phenomenon that level.

Let me explain: Japanese firms that choose a cosplayer to advertise their product do it because they know that the cosplayer in question is a minor celebrity in that world. In this way her fans are attracted to their product, and this is a benefit for the company.

In Italy the cosplay is a passion still little known to the general public, shared by just over a thousand people. It is unlikely that someone will become famous thanks to cosplay, and frankly I do not think that those who practice it have such aspirations.

### **Your mother helps in making the costumes. There are times when someone, your family or friends, has advised you to quit, because “You are too old for these things” or “You are wasting time and money”?**

I admit that my parents were puzzled when I started to produce four or five costume a year, instead of one. But seeing the passion I put on the cosplays and the satisfaction that I got (won the WCS, media interest, photos in Vogue...), now my parents too are proud of my hobby.

### **You have a large amount of characters in your site and all the costumes are high quality. How much does it costs, both in money and time?**

It depends on the type of costume and the budget. Some costumes are simple and inexpensive, others are expensive and so complex as to require months to be completed.

The same goes for the fabrics and the accessories: most are really expensive and thus the cost of costumes increases.

Many cosplayers are forced to order materials on the Net to achieve good results, and it is clear that the costs are greater, but being picky is a typical characteristic of cosplayers.

### **Your reputation influences the choice of your characters?**

When you reach a certain level people expect from you a certain kind of costume.

Personally I carry on a very simple philosophy: I do costumes and play characters that I physically fit and that I like, and even when they are very complex, I made the costumes with great care, because that's where do you see the difference.

A concrete example: the costume of the Siren Princess Karen of purple pearl, which looks like a white rag with ruches , it cost me – between fabric and accessories – around 200 euro. However, it could also be realized by spending 15 euro.

I think I have clarified the concept.

**Many think that the cosplay is the same as the carnival costumes. Do you want to say something about that?**

I would not judge the passion of others peoples: how can someone do that without knowing the phenomenon?

I always advise everyone to see us work in our “natural environment” during the convention, to become really aware of what we are capable of and to understand how much work is behind our costumes.

Then it is also true that the level of the costumes depends on the cosplayer, but here we enter the minefield of economics opportunities, experience and spirit with which each one practice this hobby.

Analyzing the responses of cosplayers, we can therefore draw the following conclusions.

- There are more female than male cosplayers; this does not mean that Italian female cosplayers play only female characters: many are willing to play also male characters because they like the male character himself or because in a group he is missing.
- They know the phenomenon from hearsay or because they see cosplayers at comics and games's fairs. Imitation therefore plays an important role early in the life of a cosplayer.
- Usually the cosplayer go to the closest fair (especially the younger cosplayers); for this reason Lucca Comics is popular: its central location allows it to be easily reached from all over Italy.
- The cosplayer usually chose the character from manga, anime or games; just a few are inspired from movies/rpg. They pick characters that they like (for the personality or the character's history); only the most experienced prefers characters who are easy to adapt at their own build (for the sake of realism in the final performance).
- Just few peoples have a "cosplay group": usually they have friends which with they do cosplay together. The phenomenon is conceived more as a hobby, a entertainment, rather than as an activity to be coordinated with other fans.
- Not many have done cosplay in Japan.

Analyzing the experiences and judgments common among Italian cosplayers, there are two school of thought: it is best the "Japanese's way" or, conversely, the "Italian's way".

The first claim that the "Japanese's way" is better, because:

1. there the cosplay is not a "beauty contest" like in Italy: many believe that the parades are just limiting.
2. the quality of the costumes is superior to the Italian costumes.
3. there are a lot of cosplayers, while in Italy the number is still small.

The second counter this by arguing that:

1. in Japan the cosplay is "less free" (for example, is forbidden to go around in cosplay or have picture taken in spaces other than those arranged)
2. the contests the cosplayers do in Italy are fun and are an incen-

tive to improve

The cosplay in Italy is a phenomenon that is increasingly expanding; there are more fairs and it is no longer seen as a childish hobby or a making of carnival costumes.

However in reality there are not possible economic applications of the phenomenon – as it happens in Japan – since the cosplay is not yet sufficiently established.

## IV. TIME TABLE



To better understand the evolving world of cosplay in Italy, it's important to analyze the historical spread of manga and anime that inspired the cosplayers. One can thus understand the reasons that underlie a greater spread of the phenomenon and the types of cosplay that are made.

Contrary to what one might expect, anime colonized Italy long before the manga.

From 1977 on Italian television networks were transmitted Vicky the Viking and Heidi, collaborations between Japanese and German production companies (both were produced by Taurus Films and Zuiyo Eizo, then known as Nippon Animation).

The first anime made entirely in Japan was Barbapapa, French comic by Annette Tison and Talus Taylor.

The great success, though, came with the series Ufo Robot Goldrake, broadcast on Rai Due under the name "Atlas Ufo Robot" between 1978 and 1980. The anime was aired in the container "Buonasera con..." ("Good evening with..."), for the occasion dedicated entirely to Ufo Robot. The presenter, the Rai announcer Maria Giovanna Elmi, introduced it by explaining the features of the series and Japanese science fiction, telling of the success abroad of these "special cartoons" (Ufo Robot was indeed the first mecha series broadcast in Italy).

Given the huge response (just think that pictures depicting Ufo Robot was used to advertise many products, including comics, books, music, carnival masks, washable tattoos, models and après-ski...) Italy soon became the first Western buyer of cartoons made in Japan.

Between 1978 and 1980 there is a real invasion of Japanese anime, each of which existed also in manga version, though it is not quite correct to use this term.

Italian publishers in fact, to avoid the hassle of translations and adaptations, does not buy rights from Japan, but they turned to material produced in Europe (mainly in Switzerland and Germany). Those "manga" are mostly screen shots taken from the anime and completed by balloons, or even comic book created by Italian illustrators.

Some publishers without manga's rights tried to stay in the game by creating imitations, such as "Captain Sherlock" (from "Captain Harlock") or "Golzinga" (mix between "Goldrake" and "Mazinga").

Meanwhile Fabbri, a famous Italian publishing house, bought for the first time the rights from the original Japanese market, publishing magazines in which the anime is still censored, or the tables are overturned and colored by hand.

In 1982, Italian television transmitted about sixty new Japanese animated series (three-quarters of Japanese production).

This naturally aroused the interest of media, opinion leaders, psychologists and parents, who began a veritable crusade against the anime, accused of being violent, tear-jerking, repetitive, full of sexual innuendo and “cold” because realized with the PC.

This was the foundation of a lasting crisis: Rai almost completely stopped the production of magazine and ceded the rights of anime, also followed by several private television. Only Fininvest continued broadcasting, although the anime were filtered and censored: the most violent series were eliminated and it was given priority to those directed at children and girls. References to Japan (names of characters and locations) were eliminated, and entire episodes were censored.

At this corresponded obviously a crisis in the publishing market: as a result of the parent's crusade adults do not buy manga for their children. Further the Italian market was addressed only to an audience of children and thus inadequate, and it cannot survive.

The new golden age will occur only between late 1980 and early 90s, both for the introduction of new anime, and for the editorial choice of presenting the original products translated.

This is accompanied by the birth of comics's shops, which adjust the publications to the public's request, and the spread of video games and card games (Pokémon and Yu-Gi-Oh!) that spurred the production of anime and manga. This growing interest is reflected in the increased adherence to comics fairs, which gradually increase in the 90s.

The growing number of enthusiasts that visit the fairs each year is therefore a clear indication of the extensive potentiality of this phenomenon in Italy.



**1966**

*Lucca Comics and Games* (comics fair)

Lucca's comics fair

**1974**

*Magnavox Odyssey -Atari-*(video game)

**1975**

*Pong -Home Version-* (video game)

**1976**

*Barbapapa Monthly* (manga)

Mondadori

**1977**

*Vicky the Viking* (anime)

Original title: *小さなバイキングビッケ* / *Wickie und die Starken Manner*

Italian title: *Vicky il Vichingo*

Original run: 1974

*Atari 2006* (video game)

*Kimba the white lion* (anime)

Original title: *ジャングル大帝*

Italian title: *Kimba il leone bianco*

Original run: 1965

**1978**

*Heidi's beautiful story* (manga)

Ediboy by R. Circi

*Heidi* (manga)

Rizzoli

*Barbapapa* (anime)

Original title: *バーバパパ*

Original run: 1974

*Ufo Robot Goldrake* (anime)

Original title: *Ufoロボットグレンダイザー*

Italian title: *Atlas Ufo Robot*

Original run: 1975

*Heidi* (anime)

Original title: アルパスの少女ハイジ/Heidi  
Original run: 1974

*Planet Robot Danguard Ace* (anime)  
Original title: 惑星ロボダンガードA  
Italian title: Danguard  
Original run: 1977

## 1979

*Tekkaman: the Space Knight* (anime)  
Original title: 宇宙の騎士テッカマン  
Italian title: Tekkaman  
Original run: 1975

*Maya the Bee* (anime)  
Original title: みつばちマーヤの冒険  
Italian title: L'ape Maia  
Original run: 1975

*Captain Harlock* (anime)  
Original title: 宇宙海賊キャプテンハーロック  
Italian title: Capitan Harlock  
Original run: 1978

*The adventure of Hutch the honey bee* (anime)  
Original title: みなしごハッチ  
Italian title: L'ape Magà  
Original run: 1970

*Nobody's boy: Remi* (anime)  
Original title: 家なき子  
Italian title: Remi e le sue avventure  
Original run: 1977

*Great Mazinger* (anime)  
Original title: グレートマジンガー  
Italian title: Il grande Mazinga  
Original run: 1974

*Steel Jeeg* (anime)  
Original title: 鋼鉄ジーグ  
Italian title: Jeeg Robot d'Acciaio  
Original run: 1975

## 1980

*Princess Knight* (anime)

Original title: リボンの騎士

Italian title: La principessa Zaffiro

Original run: 1967

*Mazinger Z* (anime)

Original title: マジンガーZ

Italian title: Mazinga Z

Original run: 1972

*Getter Robo* (anime)

Original title: ゲッターロボ

Italian title: Getta Robot

Original run: 1974

*The unchallengeable Daitarn III* (anime)

Original title: 無敵鋼人ダイターン3

Italian title: Daitarn 3

Original run: 1978

*Blocker Gundan 4 Machine Blaster* (anime)

Original title: ブロッカー軍団IVマシーンブラスター

Italian title: Astrobot Contatto Ypsylon

Original run: 1976

*Candy Candy* (anime)

Original title: キャンディ・キャンディ

Italian title: Candy Candy

Original run: 1976

*Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (anime)

Original title: ハックルベリーの冒険

Italian title: Le avventure di Huckleberry Finn

Original run: 1976

*Space Battleship Yamato* (anime)

Original title: 宇宙戦艦

Italian title: Starblazers

Original run: 1974 Italian run: - 1980 on the italian-speaking Swiss tv - 1982 on "Rete 4"

*Gundam* (anime)

Original title: ガンダム

Italian title: Gundam  
Original run:1979

*Anne of green gables* (anime)  
Original title:赤毛のアン  
Italian title: Anna dai capelli rossi  
Original run:1979

*Intellivision Mattel* (video game)

### **1983**

*Vectrex* (video game)

### **1985**

*Atari 7800* (video game)

### **1987**

*Sega Master System* (video game)

*Nes Famicom – Nintendo –* (video game)

### **1989**

*Atari 5200* (video game)

### **1990**

*Game Boy – Nintendo –* (handheld game console)

*Atari Lynx* (handheld game console)

*Sega Mega Drive* (video game)

*Akira* (manga)  
(Panini Manga) Original title:アキラ  
Italian title: Akira  
Original run:1982

### **1991**

*Sega Game Gear* (handheld video game)

### **1992**

*Super Nintendo* (video game)

*Dragon Ball* (manga)  
(Star Comics)

Original title:ドラゴンボール

Italian title: Dragon Ball

Original run:1984

This was the first volume with a japanese way of reading

*Fumettopoli* (fair)

Milan's comics fair

### **1993**

*Cartoomics* (fair)

Milan's comics fair

### **1994**

*Torino Comics* (fair)

Turin's comics fair

*Domu: a child's dream* (manga)

(Comic Art)

Original title:童夢

Italian title: Sogni di bambini

Original run:1983

### **1995**

*Silent Möbius* (manga)

(Panini Manga)

Original title:サイレント・メビウス

Italian title: Silent Möbius

Original run:1991

*Sailor Moon* (manga)

(Star Comics)

Original title:美少女戦士セーラームーン

Italian title: Sailor Moon

Original run:1992

*Sega Mega Nomad* (handheld game console)

*Sega Saturn* (video game)

*Sony Playstation* (video game)

### **1996**

*Berserk* (manga)

(Panini Manga)

Original title:ベルセルク  
Italian title: Berserk  
Original run:1989

*Game Boy Pocket* (handheld game console)

## **1997**

*Nintendo 64* (video game)

*Slam Dunk* (manga)  
(Panini Manga)  
Original title:スラムダンク  
Italian title: Slam Dunk  
Original run:1991

## **1998**

*Game Boy Color* (handheld game console)

## **1999**

*Sega Dreamcast* (video game)

## **2000**

*Blade of the immortal* (manga)  
(Comic Art)  
Original title:無限の住人  
Italian title: L'immortale  
Original run:1994

*Icaro* (manga)  
(Coconino Press)  
Original title:イカル  
Italian title: Icaro  
Original run:1996

*Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind* (manga)  
(Panini Manga)  
Original title:風の谷のナウシカ  
Italian title: Nausicaä della Valle del vento  
Original run:1982

*Romics* (fair)  
Rome's comics fair

*Fiumetttopoli* (fair)

Fiume Veneto's comics fair

*Sony Playstation 2* (video game)

## **2001**

*Game Boy Advance* (handheld game console)

*Love Hina* (manga)  
(Play Press Publishing)  
Original title: ラブひな  
Italian title: Love Hina  
Original run: 1998

## **2002**

*XBOX* (video game)

*Nintendo Game Cube* (video game)

*Kodocha* (manga)  
(Dynit)  
Original title: 子供のおもちゃ  
Italian title: Rossana, il giocattolo dei bambini  
Original run: 1995

*Nana* (manga)  
(Panini Manga)  
Original title: ナナ  
Italian title: Nana  
Original run: 2000

## **2003**

*Game Boy Advance SP* (handheld game console)

*Battle Royale* (manga)  
(Play Press Publishing)  
Original title: バトル・ロワイアル  
Italian title: Battle Royale  
Original run: 2000

*Naruto* (manga)  
(Panini Manga)  
Original title: ナルト  
Italian title: Naruto  
Original run: 1999

## **2005**

*Nintendo DS* (handheld game console)

*Full Comics* (fair)

Pavia's comics fair

*Case closed* (manga)

(Comic Art)

Original title: 名探偵コナン

Italian title: Detective Conan

Original run: 1994

*PSP* (handheld game console)

*Game Boy Micro* (handheld game console)

*XBOX 360* (video game)

## **2006**

*Nintendo DS Lite* (handheld game console)

*Mantova Comics* (fair)

Mantova's comics fair

*Bleach* (manga)

(Panini Manga)

Original title: ブリーチ

Italian title: Bleach

Original run: 2002

*Fullmetal Alchemist* (manga)

(Panini Manga)

Original title: 鋼の錬金術師

Italian title: Fullmetal Alchemist

Original run: 2002

*Nintendo Wii* (video game)

## **2007**

*Sony Playstation 3* (video game)

*Death Note* (manga)

(Panini Manga)

Original title: デスノート



Italian title: Death Note  
Original run:2003

*PSP Slim & Lite* (handheld game console)

**2008**

*PSP 3000* (handheld game console)

**2009**

*Nintendo DSi* (handheld game console)

*PSP Go* (handheld game console)



**Credits:**

Giorgia 's web forum: <http://www.giorgiacosplay.com/public/forum/index.php>

Wikipedia: <http://it.wikipedia.org>

History of manga in Italy: <http://www.mangaforever.net>

Romics 's official page: <http://www.romics.it/>

Lucca Comics and Games 's official page: <http://www.luccacomicsandgames.com/>

Fumettopoli 's official page: <http://www.fumettopoli.com/>





