

Basic Detail Report

Enzo Cerusico and Antonio Sabàto, Sr, with entourage

Date

1969-1979

Medium

gelatin silver print

Description

Enzo Cerusico (22 October 1937 – 1 July 1991) was an Italian film actor. He appeared in 55 films between 1951 and 1984. Cerusico's first role on American television was in an episode of *I Spy* being filmed in Rome in 1966. Producer Sheldon Leonard held a casting call for an English-speaking actor to play the kid brother of the female Italian guest star. Cerusico spoke no English but with a friend's help he memorised one line — "I studied English in the school since four years" — and managed to bluff his way into an interview with Leonard. Cerusico was married to Tiziana, an Italian journalist. While living in Los Angeles during filming of *My Friend Tony*, Enzo and Tiziana learned English by reading Ernest Hemingway's short stories and watching Walter Cronkite's evening newscasts. The couple used an audio tape recorder to record the CBS Evening News each night and replayed the tape three times, Enzo said: "First for the separate words, then for the sentences and finally to find out what the news was." Leonard realised Cerusico wasn't fluent in English but he thought the young man possessed "Jean Paul Belmondo's jaunty virility and the swaggering charm of Maurice Chevalier." Leonard chose Cerusico for the *I Spy* guest role and Cerusico learned his

lines phonetically and delivered them by rote. Antonio Sabàto, Sr. (born April 2, 1943, in Montelepre, Italy) is a film and television actor. Among Sabàto's starring roles are parts in the spaghetti western films One Dollar Too Many and Due volte Giuda.

Dimensions

Overall: 18.4 x 24.1 cm (7 2/8 x 9 4/8 in.)