

## Cross-Oceanic Support for Barack Obama's Bid for the White House

Laura E. Ruberto (September 24, 2008)



Is this just a gimmick to make tourists happy? Does it matter?

A couple of unnamed gondoliers in Venice have taken a 1958 hit written by Italians Domenico Modugno and Franco Migliacci— “Nel blu dipinto di blu” (more commonly known as “Volare”)—and given it a 2008 U.S. presidential spin.

The song has been recorded by over 100 artists, including [Connie Francis](#) [2], [Frank Zappa](#) [3], [Dean Martin](#) [4], Mina, and my favorite, [Alex Chilton](#) [5] from Big Star.



This is the pro-Obama gondoliers' version:

And here's the original version:

How great (and outrageously goofy) to see cross-oceanic support for Barack Obama's bid for the White House! Am I supposed to be pessimistic and wonder if this was just a gimmick to make tourists happy? Does it matter?

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#### **Links**

- [1] <http://test.iitaly.org/files/gondoliers-venice-obama>
- [2] <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aiN8RPadCsE>
- [3] <http://wiki.killuglyradio.com/wiki/Volare>
- [4] <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgeI0NeOjhl>
- [5] <http://www.we7.com/public/trackDetails/Volare?trackId=104947>