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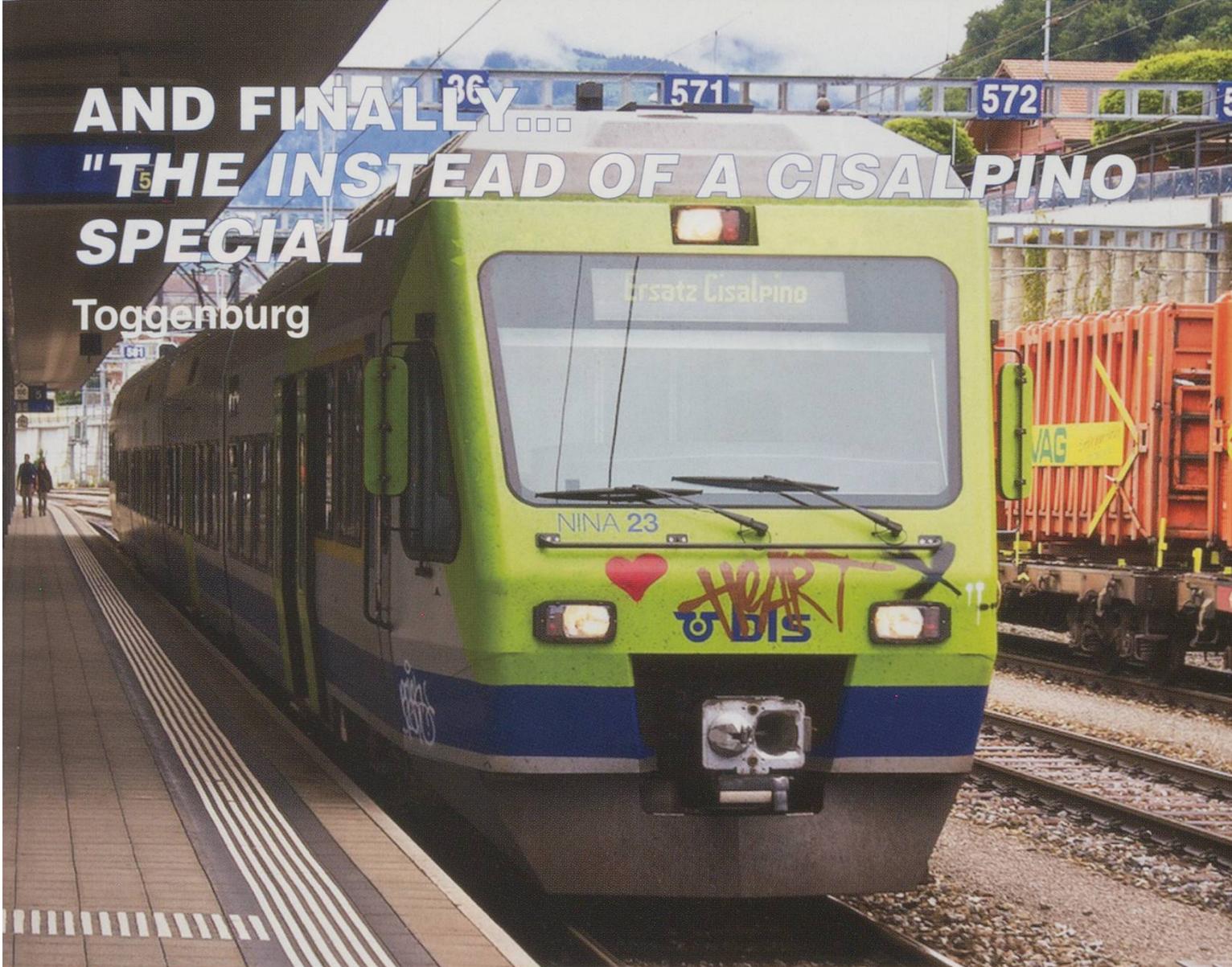
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AND FINALLY... "THE INSTEAD OF A CISALPINO SPECIAL"

Toggenburg



On a recent holiday in Switzerland we were travelling to Bern from Kandersteg and had left at 09.12 on the now ubiquitous Lötschberger units, plus a Nina on the front. The BLS checkers came and began to look at our tickets at about Reichenbach. In the middle of doing this they got a phone call and disappeared. A few minutes later they announced the train would continue to Bern instead of terminating in Spiez where we would normally change to a through service from Interlaken or Brig. At Spiez there was a small amount of confusion as only the front Nina was continuing, and also as to why it was happening. All became clear when one looked at the platform indicators; the through train was a Cisalpino and was 35 minutes late at least. The BLS simply ran the train through on the Cisalpino path to maintain connections for elsewhere.

This was something in itself but the real icing on the cake was the Nina had on its destination screens "Ersatz Cisalpino". Just to run the train (which was crammed with people) was great, but to have the correct signage as well?

Only in Switzerland.

The pictures tell it all. PHOTOS: Toggenburg

