

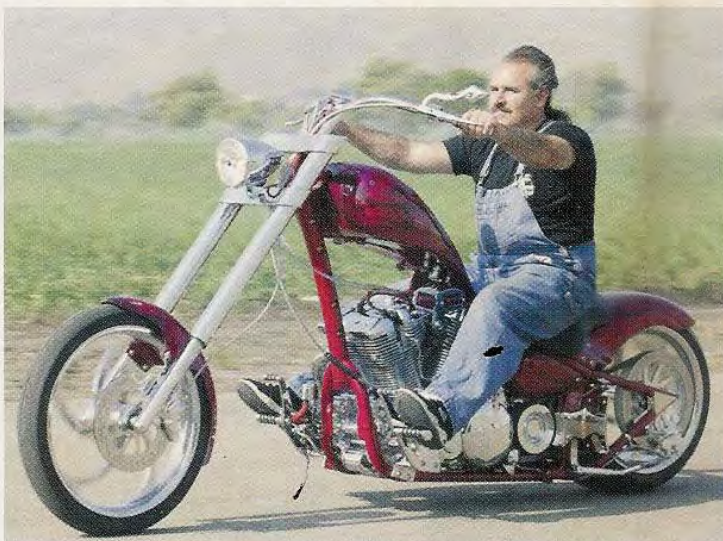
THE SECOND WAVE

2003/Modesto Customs/Yamaha Chopper



Metrics go beyond bolt-ons...well beyond

Until Cobra unveiled its first bolt-on custom products for metric cruisers in Daytona, Florida, in 1997, there were very few custom parts for them. Sure, a few companies were offering seats, pegs and a few other components, but true customization was as yet a few years away. When Cobra and others began offering a wide variety of products in sufficient quantities for metrics in the late 1990s, those parts plus paint (but very little engine work) comprised the first wave of metric customization.







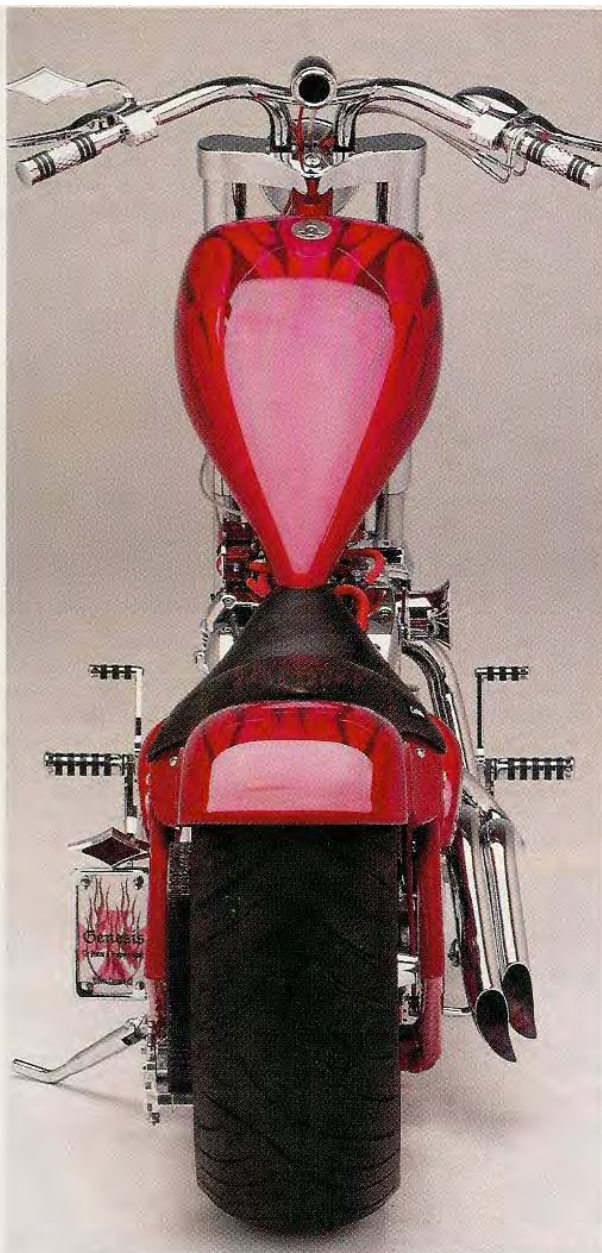
You're looking at an early bike in the second wave, which goes well beyond paint and bolt-ons. And of course, the customizers will have to lead the way. This 2003 Yamaha Road Star was built by Antonio Renzi, who emigrated to the U.S. from Italy about 15 years ago and started

Modesto Custom Cycles in Modesto, California. You want engine work? This little piece of eye candy offers Patrick Racing 10.2:1 pistons, cams, lifters, valve springs and 2mm oversize valves, all polished and ported.

You want frame mods? Because there are as yet so few

choices in aftermarket frames for metric cruisers, Renzi grafted new upper tubes and a single downtube to the stock back section. That's a German-made Thunderbike swingarm with a Spyke fork and Ness trees. The tank by Independent has a 5-inch stretch, which Renzi





stretched another 5 inches. Other cool pieces here include the RC Components rear brake and pulley, Eurocomponents billet wheels with offset spokes and an Avon 250-series rear tire. The custom seat was hand made by Corbin.

What is the second wave? It's when companies get serious about metrics and commit to offering truly high-quality major items including frames, engine components, headlamps, wheels and the rest. That's when metric customs will truly come into their own. And it's happening now.

—Bill Stermer



Owner: Antonio Renzi

City: Modesto, California

General

Model: 2003 Yamaha Road Star

Design: owner/Modesto Custom Cycles

Fabrication: owner/Modesto Custom Cycles

Chroming: West Coast Chrome

Engine

Model: Yamaha Road Star

Displacement: 1,605cc

Modifications: Patrick Racing pistons, cam, lifters, valve springs, valves, polished and ported

Carb: 45mm Mikuni, rejetted

Exhaust: modified Martin Brothers

Frame

Builder: Yamaha

Type: hidden shock

Rake: 40 degrees

Modifications: custom upper tubes and downtube

Front end

Type: custom raked and extended

Builder: Modesto Custom Cycles

Paint

Painter: Oracio

Type/color: magenta candy red, flame on flame

Special Paint: red pearl

Accessories

Bars: Arlen Ness Ram

Grips: Battistini

Mirrors: Paul Yaffe Originals Diamond

Headlight: Arlen Ness 5 3/4-inch

Taillight: catseye side-mount

Fenders: Arlen Ness front, Modesto Custom Cycles rear

Electrics: Modesto Custom Cycles

Wheels: Eurocomponents

Brakes: RC Components pulley and brake

Tires: Avon

Photos: Pam Proctor