

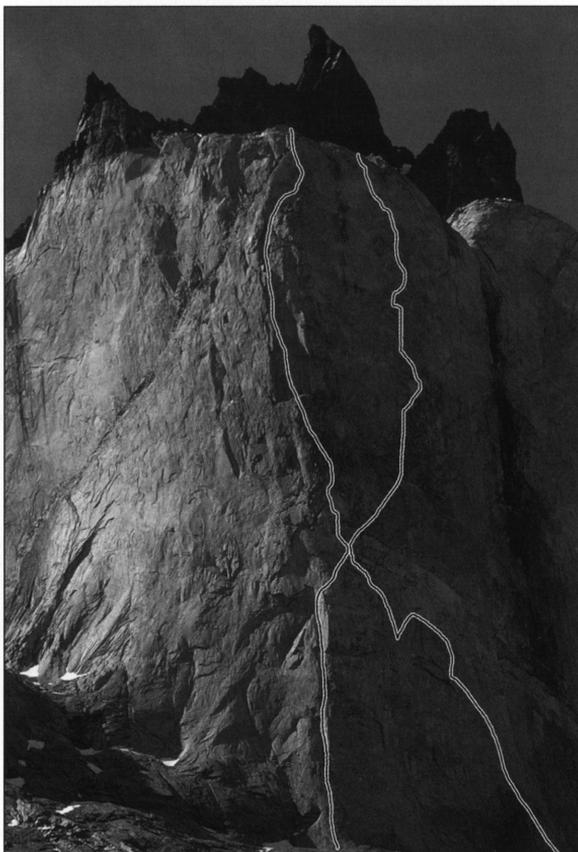
demanding, surprising tenth pitch is the crux. We called it the Changing Dihedral, and it led from a series of corners to a beautiful direct pitch on the right. From below this featureless, overhanging changeover looked like a contender for aid, but we freed it with a bit of courage and hard obligatory climbing. The route then continues up dreamlike granite, and after six days of climbing capsule-style in sun, rain, wind, and mist we reached the top. No conquest, but a sweet taste to savour. A series of hugs and smiles, plenty of photos, the shared success of such a climb. Only the name was missing. We called it Osa ma non Troppo (700m, 7b [7a obl.] A2+), roughly translated as “dare, but don’t exaggerate.”

Recommended gear: one set of wires, two sets of Camalots to #4, triples from 0.5 to 2, two sets of microfrends. We equipped all belays and left all pegs we placed in situ. At the seventh belay two or three people can bivy without a portaledge. We freed 85% of this beautiful, interesting route, which is in the lee of the wind. With lucky weather and drier cracks, we think the route can be climbed free, except for the third pitch. We highly recommend a repeat.

FABIO LEONI, *Italian Alpine Club*

*Trono Blanco, Hoja de Rosa; Cuerno Norte, Dentelle de Roche; Cerro Cathedral, Escoba de Dios, second ascent.* In late February and March 2007 a team from the Equipe National de Jeunes Alpinistes (ENJA) visited the Valle del Frances in the heart of the Paine Massif.

In late February, Julien Dussere, Jehan-Roland Guillot, Rémi Vignon, and I climbed a new route on Trono Blanco (2,170 m), in the northern edge of the cirque. Our route climbs a series of easy slabs (4+) on the west face to reach a col at the base of Trono Blanco’s south face, north of Aleta de Tiburon, from where it tackles a steep granite head-wall (180m, 6c A1), followed by 500m of mixed terrain, to reach the summit (55° M5). On our first attempt we climbed an easy snow couloir (55°) on the east face to reach the col, but this approach, although easier, proved too dangerous (rockfall). Earlier in the season, with more snow, the east couloir should be the approach



Cuerno Norte’s northwest face, from left to right: Caveman (Thomas-Turner, 1992; approximate line) and Dentelle de Roche (Dusserre-Guillot-Mounier-Salle-Vignon, 2007). *Rolando Garibotti*



Trono Blanco from the southwest, showing Hoja de Rosa. On the left is Cerro Mellizo Oeste, on the right Aleta de Tiburon. *Rolando Garibotti*

route of choice. We summited on February 24 and first down-climbed along the west ridge, then rappelled the line of ascent. It should be possible to climb the route in one day from a bivy near the base. The climb took three days: one day to explore the east couloir and fix two ropes on the headwall, a second day to find the alternate access to the col from the west and fix a few more pitches on the headwall, and a third day to climb to the summit and descend. We had fairly unstable weather

throughout those days, with strong winds. We named our route Hoja de Rosa (1,000m, ED-).

Between March 1 and 9 Clément Mounier, Jehan-Roland Guillot, Rémi Vignon, Julien Dusserre, and I opened Dentelle de Roche on Cuerno Norte's northwest face, just right of Cave-man, which was the only route on this side of the mountain. We climbed 14 pitches (700m) up to 7a, with a few short sections of A1 and A2. Most of the pitches are enjoyable, with high-quality climbing, except pitch 11, which follows a series of big flakes and is quite runout. The face is directly exposed to the wind, which on some days blew 100mph. In light of this we used fixed ropes. We stopped upon reaching the schist band up high and did not continue to the summit.

On the east face of Cerro Catedral, Jean Burgun, Victor Estrangin, Pierre Labbre, Erwan Madoré, and Jérôme Para made the second ascent of La Escoba de Dios (Catto-Fowler-Gallagher-Kendall, 1992). This 24 pitch, 950m route has difficulties up to 6b and A4. It took six days to fix ropes up to pitch 13, after which they rested for six days due to bad weather. After jumaring the 500m of fixed ropes, they installed a portaledge camp, but bad weather forced them to return to the ground after fixing just three more pitches. After two more days of forced rest they regained their high point, and the following day all five climbers climbed the remaining seven pitches and reached the summit. During the descent they spent one more night, taking the time to retrieve the ropes and all other gear. They describe the route as being magnificent, complex, and demanding but with a lot of enjoyable, beautiful climbing.

FREDERIC SALLE, *ENJA*, Pyrenees, France (translated by Rolando Garibotti)

*Torre Sur, southeast buttress, attempt.* It was Stuart McAleese and my 15th day climbing on the face. The December winds regularly gusted 100mph. The climbing, 800m above the glacier, was becoming markedly easier. Our summit was tantalizingly close. One good day and only 300m of 35° snow led to the summit, and a month's hard effort would be worth it.

[Editor's note: The McAleese-Turner highpoint is in a prominent diagonal dike below the intersection with the route Hoth (Amelunxen-Easton, 2000). From where Hoth enters the dike above, Hoth climbs two pitches of mostly rock (5.8 WI3), then bulletproof snow and ice, then two more pitches of rock (5.9 and 5.6) to gain the summit. McAleese and Turner called their efforts "The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly,"