



Fig.043 Screenshot from a video I shot with my partner. While the years of distance relationship was at times hard, fully investing in one another and fully allowing one another to express themselves proved to be a good recipe for an emotionally stable life without any need of therapy and all the props that modern couples need. Above all it was our investment in a small ecology within a small village and away from the hectic city life that provided us with a peaceful living and the possibility to grow a family together.

EMOTIONS 07

Throughout the years in which the project was executed I found out that my most natural role and social contribution was that of taking care of my family and the household. In my first marriage all the conditions were rather perfect but most relatives could not tolerate a man like me living as a housewife. A man at home was simply not acceptable. Yet my nature has always been inclined to be homy and use my hands to take care of things such as my children and a little vegetable garden if I was lucky enough to have a small parcel of land where to do it. On top of it I eagerly picked up all the jobs that no one wanted to do, all the jobs that are by now labeled as recreational but to me they are an integral part of my ecology such as pruning the fruit trees and going to the forest to pick berries.

After many violent confrontations at last I was forced to apply for a regular job. It was unnecessary since the art courses I was occasionally teaching brought enough money. As a result, all

the many application procedures and the actual jobs that I was able to get turned me most depressed. I literally betrayed my nature and I once again decided to restart my family and break free from any patriarchy and matriarchy telling me what it is expected from a man. There is no inversion of roles or anything provocative or scandalizing in my behavior. In the first place I am determined not to take a job and in turn contribute with the plundering and the corruption of the earth's resources or the strengthening of the power structure that too many work environments enforce. Secondly I think what I am doing is the way families in their natural state have always pretty much thrived until certain people decided to govern over others.

I am in this respect living up to my role as a human being, not partaking to a highly centralized and therefore very locally detached social system but I am simply adhering to my basic society, my immediate society. I can share my impressions and thoughts with distant people, I can welcome them in my frugal living but what do I have to teach them if they live in a totally different environment? I can only provide them with an example and inspire them to also attempt to conduct such a life keeping as much as possible intimate with one's own reality. I acknowledge that this reality is highly regimented and everything is becoming more and more regulated. Even more so I invite people to pick up this practice of active resistance, that of trying not to actively comply with the system but only for the extent that it is strictly necessary.

What saddens me to the utmost is that I can visibly see mechanisms in place to turn humanity more and more dependent on the system thus mutilating once and for all the possibility for humans to be autonomous. It is remarkable how people all over the world are voluntarily submitting themselves to new forms of total oppression and unconditional enslavement for the sake of national security. It doesn't take too much brain to realize that the next level is a total and most sadistic war. What is my role in all this? How can I contribute to the discussion in the very limited horizon I have cut for myself and my family? I think once again that I can make my contribution in two ways. Firstly I can show that a rather autonomous living is possible today. Now I am not showing this in a literal sense, growing my own food and knitting my children's sweaters. I have done this and I have learned to do it and I want to continue to do so but in the first place I wish to demonstrate that an intellectual and above all a culturally rich life

can be sparked in this autonomous dimension where one can really have not only the time but also the profoundness to assimilate time.

Lastly my contribution is the philosophizing that derives from the more or less thrilling experience of living off the grid. Now I do not want to play the Thoreau. I am not aiming to build my cabin in the forest as I did in my youth. I am instead trying to implode autonomy within the very exploded urban context. While aspiring from a more rural and communitarian type of living, I am either way able to not only cut out my autonomy within a very narrow glitch of modern society. I am able to magnify it into a fully functioning world, a world in which I can reach a very balanced view on reality and in which everything fall into a universal type of understanding. I think the latter is far more valuable than a tentative attempt to hold on to an actual physical domain in which one or more people attempts to be fully off the grid.

Having reactivated myself as a fully imaginative and creative being who does not have to comply with any form of regimentation but runs his own domain at a more metaphysical level, I think I became ready to rethink society especially in view of the disasters that its power structure keeps on generating. I am ready to side along with other folk like me to ponder alternatives and consider society in a more natural setting without any apparatus oppressing it. I am not sure whether or not I have entered into a loop or whether I just found a focus in life but as far as for purposes I gave myself this one, that of stay fully focused on my environment no matter whether I happen to be in the city or in the countryside, take care of it, keep up my project so as to stay actively aware of it and from there keep on reflecting and drawing tentative conclusions which in the end bring me to rethink society as a whole and away from its current power structure.

This process or renouncing power to focus on ecology and from there rethink power is the loop which keeps me going and keeps me constructive and very happy with my mission. I could not in the least be considered a hero in all this yet I believe this is the dimension that ought to be recovered, a dimension of pitying nature not as a whole but the poor little nature surrounding us to which some nurturing means so much especially in the face of the large machines governments set up to take care of it. Even if these machines do not seem so big they are but the appendix of very large bureaucracies, terrible monsters that once they set in motion

over any type of local identity they destroy and strip it of all its authenticity and autonomy and most importantly of its ability to take care of itself. This is therefore my aim, the aim of reverting this process on my end and eventually inspire others to do so.