

Radical Fiction

A selection of written traces by G.O. from 2001 to 2018.

By LLP

Ostia. 1996. Rave Party. A guy is wearing a white shirt with the drawing of a tree inside a prohibition sign. He plays with an open laptop on his side. The beat goes at 180 BPM. The mixer is behind a wall of speakers that obstructs the view of the audience. His name is Radical Fiction. Kids in Rome for example don't eat fruit.

In the 90's in Rome kiwi becomes trendy. Just like Huskies which slowly take the place of Boxers. Even if rarely, you can still find some of them today when springtime begins. While the owners smoke or look the other way sheltered by their sunglasses, they walk slowly with dry noses and shiny eyes. Old roman boxers, warmed by the the first lights of dawn, suspended in the reassuring fragrance of Roman jasmine and wisteria.

Artists, just like scientists, have always put a lot of effort in observing nature and in particular mountains. They have contributed to spread the image of Yosemite before it became national park. Nowadays images of the main mountains of the park are screensavers of Apple's new operating systems, each one named after a mountain.

OS X Yosemite. 2014. Screensaver image: Half Dome.

OS X El Capitan. 2015. Screensaver image: El Captain.

OS X Sierra Nevada. 2016. Screensaver image: Sierra Nevada.

If you can't stand on top of a mountain it's sufficient to look at it. It's great also like this. Mountains are tall and for this reason they're good for the eyesight. They lengthen it.

Religion has permitted mountains to stay virgin for a long time.

Mountains have been interpreted first with the thought of God and then with the thought of Man.

There's a constant exchange of views between cities and mountains.

Throughout time, across different languages, through art first and architecture after, the construction of mountain landscapes was born.

At the start of the 1990 it was advised to exclude man from the representation of mountains in photography and moving images. *Human forms break alpine solitude*. At the start of the 2000's Go Pro releases the first videocamera model. *Go Pro.Go Everywhere*. Man becomes a camera. Williams Burroughs had suggested it.

Many science fiction films are set in a future where the landscape is a result of a direct clash between man and nature.

Man wins. Nature is extinguished.

Nature wins. Cities are flooded, the jungle or the desert swallow cities.

Man can choose to go back to live according to its tribal customs and habits or leave the earth and flee into space. In space he can start again with the help of the greenhouse that he's brought with him in the spaceship.

The sensation that one feels hearing the high volume beat of the speaker in dance music is the same as that which one perceives watching mountains at high altitude. The gaze on a mountain top has the rhythm of an extremely silent "cassa dritta". The rhythm of Dance music is the same as that of a mountain hike. Sound repetitions and forms that progressively rise, rise and then repeat themselves.

The end of the 20th century sounded like music that had privileged rhythm over words. Maybe we've lost the collective emotions of the big events, of the songs sang all together. But when a *short* century ends one has to come to terms with it. Often lyrics from House music are very brief and repetitive.

The theme song of the broadcast "In the Mountains" is The Whistle Song by Frankie Knuckles

mixed to the voice of T.S. Eliot that is reading an excerpt from What The Thunder Said, the fifth section of the poem The Waste Land.

The dj anticipates the tastes of the public like a curator does for contemporary art. The art of sending time to the right tempo. Today alpinist travel on helicopters to connect mountain walls like dj's do during New Years or festival season.

I have these memories of industrial warehouses thundering to the beats of techno music. Military vests were very fashionable. The colour was black. Everyone wore an Alpha bomber jacket. Then in the second half of the 90's came, together with the decline of the scene, the North Face jackets. "Parete Nord". Now warehouses are closed but outside everything is a "Parete Nord".

Smiles came out of pills and have placed themselves comfortably into mobile phones. Before they spoke dutch, polish. Now it's between which dictionary or encyclopedia includes it first. Everything else is Sport and Black Metal.

2014. Protect your future, change your past. The X-Men become election candidates. Ibiza's clubs are empty because during summer dj's play in museums, curators at parties.

A look to the future in the present from a place of the past.

Driving an electric car, smoking marijuana, exhibiting sneakers in libraries instead of books that will end up in a tape or USB key.

Some will still be around. The Complete Works of Eduardo de Filippo will be published by Adidas instead of Mondadori. The only paper edition of the Divine Comedy on the market will be published by Gucci. Fashion will be the future of the publishing industry.

The church will lose followers and the image of its own power so overtly *straight* will not be defensible as a valid alternative in supporting man during his journey.

In space they will have reconstructed Amnesia before the Basilica di San Francesco.

The only *straight* thing that will be left in the future will be the faith in one's favourite football team.

In 2025 grandmothers will not help their grandchildren to study solfege. Grandmothers will teach how a Traktor sequence is sampled. Mothers instead of orchids will grow hydroponic marijuana.

Technology is like a well trained parrot, capable of duplicating and reproducing every type of code. Images in particular.

If Luigi Russolo had to compose today *Risveglio di una città* he would immediately build an intona rumore to reproduce the sound of parrots.

I fell asleep sinking in horrible nightmares, one very different from the other and overlapping. Memories of numerous dreamlike crossings in which I was lost before drowning in the black sea of assassin scuba divers, they were faded and confused. There were many children attending a kind of masked party, Spanish in short trousers that sold cocaine, my mother that asked my if tattoos could be erased and many other events and characters mixed together that were shuffled by a malefic croupier that won all games.