

Fig.004 Pictures of the various wearable devices I built prior 2003 in order to attempt to both capture and categorize my life 24/7. Such devices were in the end used for performance purposes losing the initial intention of the project, later recovered by using simple off the shelf devices. The use of my hand became from the start a dominant feature.

ACTIONS 04

Conceptually I started carrying out this work as a way to generate a DNA code of the activities of a human being over a lifetime. Inspired by the French artist Marcel Duchamp, I developed this work thinking of objects as the ready-made bookmarks marking the events of an individual's life. Rather than recording life 24/7 with all the privacy implications related to it, the photographic record of my right hand only provides the hints of a life which viewers of the photographs will have to actively interpret, as in the work of another French, the photographer artist Sophie Calle. A third French, the writer George Perec also inspired me with his methodology of collecting objects to generate his book *Life a User Manual*. Beside these contemporary examples, a main source of inspiration for my using objects as hints to depict human life was the ancient combinatorial and mnemonic art. Prior to the enlightenment southern European humanists were engaged in developing universal systems in which new type of answers could be divined. In this sense these systems were far more syncretic than the dogmatic type of knowledge production we are by now accustomed to. Now these earlier and more open and more imaginative systems often made use of objects as triggers for not a fixed idea but an open interpretation.