

Fig.029 Picture of the melodica I bought at a secondhand shop. The melodica was used to recompose my songs but also to play songs to my kids especially during the many rainy afternoons spent in our house in the Netherlands. The photo belongs to my photographic work in which I keep track of my activities by photographing all the objects the right hand uses.

SONGS 05

To begin with I preferred classic music and particularly opera which I have assiduously played in my car radio since the age of eighteen. With playing entire opera pieces over and over again, I began to memorize the whole libretto. The same thing happened while listening to classical music in general. I got quite quick in memorizing entire symphonies, even the most complicated and abstract ones. I simply did not want to go for banal pop music and wanted to make the time I spent in the car formative. At that time I was alone and did not have to compromise with other people's taste. However this privileged situation did not last for so long as I began traveling and working here and there, I often had the situation of having to withstand the musical taste of others. Even among indigenous people in the depth of a tropical jungle I had to wake up every morning with at first the ferocious sound of a big monkey followed by a severe diarrhea attack and the native family hosting me playing Macarena on their generator-powered radio. Of all these absurd situations the bits of music I collect comes to compose a new type of classic composition, one made of all these fragments that put together become a description of my life-time from when I was young and single to when I got children and they grew older.