

Fig.100 Screenshot showing me recording my thoughts while walking with my youngest son in a Dutch forest. Walking with children and recording my thoughts have been possible only until they started talking. From then on my primary focus has been that of assisting them in understanding what we see and experience during our walks together.

THOUGHTS 04

The recording of my thoughts has often slowed down when living in urban environments. Between 2009 and 2010 I lived in Shanghai and had troubles finding moments of solitude. My walks there were extensive and I ventured in every little corner of the giant city especially on my way to one of the many parks were life seems to be concentrated with much singing and dancing and playing. Fuxing, Lu Xun and Xujiahui were our favourites. During this time I barely recorded my thoughts but a year later I moved to Boston which offered more spaces to roam alone. There I took extensive walks out into nature such as to the Arnold Arboretum and further down to the Blue Hills or simply to the Mount Auburn cemetery. At times I had the opportunity to explore what New England must have been like, venturing further west in the birthplace of American transcendentalism. It was a significant moment for me to get in touch with the American reality prior to its becoming a world-power. Both in the States as well as in China I witnessed how the progress humanity so much struggle for is a form of recession creating much misery among people who try to live a small and ecological type of reality. In these super-powers their only choice is to either let go and become homeless or obey and get regimented.