



Colapesce is back, A Sicilian environmentalist's diary
A Documentary film project by Salvo Manzone (80 min)



Technical Form

Provisional title : Colapesce is back

Director : Salvo Manzone

Cinematographer : Luca Casavola

Delivery : November 2011

Lenght : 80min

Format : HD

Production : Epinoia

Production manager : Emanuela Righi

Contacts

Salvo Manzone, +33 6 24245292, salvo.manzone@gmail.com

Emanuela Righi, +33 6 73289982, emanuelarighi@epinoia-prod.com

TRAILER, SAMPLE WORK

Trailer with English subtitles, with CC button:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rV7dNcixEQU>

French projet and Trailer with French subtitles

http://www.repaire.net/concours/challenge_creation_sony-

[le_repaire/compte_rendu_du_tournage_du_documentaire_le_retour_de_colapsce_201104192462/](http://www.repaire.net/concours/challenge_creation_sony-le_repaire/compte_rendu_du_tournage_du_documentaire_le_retour_de_colapsce_201104192462/)

Selects scenes edited with location footage:

1) Waste emergency in Palermo. The main character, Salvo, brings an old table to a waste collection centre, while he cross the town, full of garbage. (5 min) English subtitle

<http://www.youtube.com/user/salvomanzone#p/u/2/VPTNAUrcX4I>

2) Paul Connett's conference about incinerators and a brief interview about zero waste philosophy.. (5 min)

English version

http://www.youtube.com/user/salvomanzone#p/u/1/Dv5E_mnlAA8



Logline

An environmentalist tries to understand why objects turn into waste and he sends his diary as video-letters from Sicily and Paris to Colapesce, a mythic young environmentalist who gives his life to save Sicily.

Summary of Topic

Our objects turn into **waste** because people decide to call them “waste”. So as to reveal our relationship with things, becoming objects of consumption, and to prove a provocative thesis namely that in reality waste does not exist, I start from the **waste crisis in Sicily** in the last years and I’m going to analyze the many different aspects of the matter.

The main thread is not only on waste itself, but also on life experiences and awareness' development of an **environmentalist**: myself! Therefore I’ve decided to tell about my personal fight for a *reasonable usage of the things*, moving before the lens, as author with a voice over and sometimes also as character.

Who am I? I’m a documentary director, but I studied also as an engineer and therefore I have a scientific approach to things. I was born in Palermo, but since 1997 I have been living and working in Paris, and sometimes I come back to Palermo. Of course, I can’t keep from comparing the two cities. As a videomaker, acting politically and socially means to make media-activism both in France and Italy.

The film is organized as a diary and it is divided into 12 units or **video-letters**. Each video-letter will analyze the subject from a different point of view and will show the complexity of the problem itself.

I got some inspiration from a Sicilian myth: **Colapesce’s story**. Colapesce is an *ante litteram* young environmentalist who gives his life to save Sicily.

“Nicola, also know as Cola, was a fisherman’s son and he loved sea diving. One day the king Frederick II, who wanted to prove his well known skills, threw a ring into the deep ocean and asked Colapesce to rescue it. The young guy never came out again. According to the legend, when Colapesce was going to reach the ring and collect it, he saw that one of the three pillars supporting the island was very eroded and he decided to stay there to avoid the island to collapse.”

Tired of holding the island up and ready to come out from the water, there are many people who would like to save Sicily – just as Colapesce made - and are strongly involved in environment matters. My character, as long as other examples, represents this new ecology consciousness. The documentary will enhance the positive experiences in Sicily.

The video-letters are addressed to Colapesce, disappeared into the Mediterranean sea.

SYNOPSIS

I want to take the audience in a journey into the waste, experiencing together what I have been experiencing in my life both in Palermo and Paris. In order to understand the plot, we can divide it into three steps, which are fundamental steps for any environmentalists: **critical information, awareness, individual and collective action**.

As a citizen of two very different cities - I’ll start comparing their dealing with waste.

In **Palermo**, the AMIA, the company in charge of the waste management, is going bankrupt and has been accused of false accounting. Besides that, refraining from developing the separate collection of waste, it seems to deliberately accelerating the filling up of the local dump (Bellolampo). This may be due to the fact that AMIA has a vested interest as a shareholder in the future project to construct a mega incinerator on the outskirts of Palermo city.

In **Paris** the situation is very different, almost the opposite. The Municipality gives very detailed instructions on waste collecting, but gives very little information on incinerators.

In the second part (*the awareness*), I’ll try to understand - going over the news and the appearance - what we can consider as waste. **Waste** is “unwanted or unusable materials ». (Wikipedia)

The goal of this society is not to produce real goods but things that can be rapidly transformed into waste, in order to leave some room for other consumer items.



For supporting this economical development based on consumerism, this society operates a perverse effect, well hidden behind the cycle to buy-to throw: the transformation of individual goods in a whole community's problem. This is what I call **“the trick of waste”**. Just before this conjuring trick, when we buy an item and we use it, we say it is “mine” and it belongs just to *me*. Later, when we don't need it anymore and we throw it away, for some strange reasons it doesn't belong to *us* anymore but it becomes a community charge and damages the environment.

Back to Paris from Palermo, where garbage invades the streets, I guess the solution could be in France, where everything is supposed to work well, public spaces are clean and modern enlightenment's spirit reigns. But now, I no longer see things in the same way. Now I'm no longer satisfied with my garbage "disappearing" from my house. Now I also want to know where it goes.

I join a meeting of the CNIID, an independent association campaigning for the reduction of waste at the source and its toxicity, and I realize that organic waste collection is dramatically absent from the apparently efficient waste separation in Paris. I also "find out" the evil policy of incinerators, which requires to produce garbage. Sébastien Lapeyre, CNIID's young director talks to me about his battles, along with the Collectif 3R, struggling against the new project of Ivry sur Seine incinerator. Together they developed an alternative plan to the one of the SITCOM, the company that runs incinerators in Paris region (Ivry, Issy les Moulineaux, St Ouen), but the battle seems lost.

I immediately sympathize with Sébastien: we see waste in the same way, we are against greenwashing and the industrial policy which pretends to sell us fictitious recovery as a natural process when it's not, and we are rather in favour of degrowth.

I talk to some of my old friends, and discover that they are dealing with garbage and incinerators, too.

So, even in Paris, I enter the small world of "garbage-obsessed", a group of ecologists who are fixated with the idea of how everything can be transformed into waste or not.

Therefore, not even in France things work according to real ecological principles, and this efficiency is hiding a business, cleaner than the Mafia one, but always anti-ecological.

So what do the cleanness of Paris and the dirt of Palermo have in common? Behind two different appearances, there is still a business. From the Italian side, as everyone knows, there is the speculation of the administration and the Mafia; from the French side, the "clean" business of incinerators. In both cases, the aim is not the respect of the cycle of the objects and the nature ... but to make money.

These discoveries and considerations lead me to change my daily behavior in Paris .. I promote the composting in the building where I live, I go to the organic market, instead of the supermarket.

Moving to the third part, I'll try to investigate new ideas, such as **Paul Connett's Zero Waste Strategy**.

As an expert in waste management, he has been travelling around the world to spread out his revolutionary approach and convince people that his Zero Waste strategy is more appropriate than the incinerators.

We will take part to one of the conferences that the American professor has held at the Engineering dept. in Palermo, and then we'll privately meet him to discuss two of his many subjects which his philosophy is based on: **“Wastes are a system error”** and **citizen's responsabilization**. This strategy - provocative and tangible - has also been included in President Obama's political program.

In the third part, I'll move from theoretical knowledge to individuation of alternative experiences and individual action.

In Sicily I'll meet many environmental groups (No incinerator committee and Zero Waste network group). I'll also analyze some “trivial” experiences linked to the low class ancestral culture in Sicily, which have recently been reconsidered as reliable. I'll also follow some events, sometimes tragic events, related to a typical Sicilian phenomenon: the second-hand dealers and their fight led by Gabriele Dulcetta, a brave and strong leader (APAS cooperative).



Director's Note of Intent

The problem of waste and its reduction, reutilization or recycle (the so-called 3 R) concerns everybody. This documentary starts from my personal experience and it talks about the two cities I live in, but - of course - it's a global problem.

More than the extreme consequences of the *ecomafie*, I want to point out our contradictions and our bad habits, on which the bad people (mafia, bad government, business men) count to sell out "our death" (the poisoning dumps, the incinerators, the military regime in waste management, etc). The consequences of these errors/horrors, being directly connected to the ecosystem, have never-ending effects in time and space.

STATUS OF FILM

The idea of this documentary was born in 2007. We start to exploring and filming many character and facts concerning waste.

We applied for the Sicilian fund in late 2008, we won the Sicilian fund in late 2009, but they assign the fund only in 2011.

In 2010 we start some shooting in Palermo during "Garbage Crisis".

We used this footage for Selects in work-in-progress video.

We are still refining script, but we are in contact with all characters. We are still raising funds in France.

All rights are currently available for any territories.

Prix Challenge Sony-Le Repaire, France

http://www.repaire.net/concours/challenge_creation_sony-le_repaire/documentaire-laureat-session1-retour-colapesce_201101202406/

Mention spéciale de l'atelier documentaire « Sotto il castagno di Marcarolo », Italie

http://www.parcocapanne.it/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=51&layout=blog&Itemid=73

Sélectionné au Fond pour le Développement du Festival Libero Bizzarri, Italie

KEY CREATIVE PERSONNEL

Director : Salvo Manzone

(Palermo, 1972). In 1999, Manzone graduates in Microelectronic Engineering. He follows various workshops in film direction with Raul Ruiz, Abbas Kiarostami, Wiseman, Johan Van der Keuken, Daniel Cipri and Franco Maresco. Since 1997, Manzone is living in Paris, where he works as a director (Epinoia, One Planet, Zalea TV, Cinico Cinema), as well as in the audiovisual field as engineer (Multithematiques, CMC, Imagine, Kinomai, Artsum), translator (CMC, Titra, Festival of Venice, University of Bologna) and trainer (IIFA, France3, France2, Université de Nantes, Val de France). In 2001, he launches Epinoia, an association of young video-makers and since 2005 he has been working with the independent national French television Zalea TV.

In 2008-2009, he has been working as assistant producer for the documentary "I'm Tony Scott" by Franco Maresco, about the American-Italian clarinetist.

2009 Giorgio Conte, the Italian singer, produced by Storie di Note, (In editing)

2008, As co-author and assistant director

Sans Crier Gare en Sicile, Un monde sans mafia by Jean Marc Sanchez, un episode of TV format Les Nouveaux Explorateurs, One Planet, Canal +

2006 Video workshop with pupils of the college Léon Blum, on a huge district in Villiers-le-Bel, in the north suburb of Paris, promised to the renovation. With the support of Val de France, College Léon Blum, DAAC Academy Versailles. Realization of the DVD "Colour mosaic", regrouping the 4 shorts realised, distributed in 1000 copies.

2003 Three hours of lessons less (DV, 10') Documentary commissioned by the Eveil association about how citizenship is being taught at school.



2003 The lollians' album (DV, 15') Short documentary about the Italian singer Claudio Lolli, on the basis of testimonies recorded from people who admire the singer and his work.

2002 *Claudio Lolli: when music saves your life*. (DV, 64').

Portrait documentary of Claudio Lolli, the great Italian songwriter, but also intellectual and poet, converted into the singer of '77 Movement par excellence in the 1970ies. Lolli has continued on his own artistic way far from limelight until today. See the web site of the movie: <http://www.epinoia-prod.com/lolli.htm>

Producer: Emanuela RIGHI, (Epinoia production)

She works as producer and production manager for Epinoia and as free-lance for various independent production companies in France (Millespattes productions, Horsformat), developing documentary and multimedia projects. She worked as postproduction manager for Television Video Service in Paris from 2001 to 2008.

As curator she created a videodance screening in Genoa (Italy) collaborating with Centre Pompidou and she organised various documentary film festivals in Genoa and Paris.

She studied cinema and audiovisual in Paris (Master in Visual Anthropology) and attended two professional trainings in production in Paris and Lussas (France).

She attended a Master in Cultural Policy in Paris.

2009/10/11 *Colapesce is back* by Salvo Manzone (Regional fund for film and audiovisual, Sicily)

2009 *Metropolitana/Tubelair* by Ilaria Turba multimedia project, co-production « Le vent se lève ! » and « Centre Fleury-Goutte d'Or Barbara »

2010 *USA-MEX la frontera norte* by Ilaria Turba and Stefano Milano, performance-documentary co-production Le vent se lève ! – Horsformat

2008 *Iolandia*, documentary, mention at Visioni Fuori Raccordo Film Festival (Rome), winner of the Audience Award, Genoa Film Festival

2003 *Orti (Gardens)* by Alessandra Celesia - « Hors format » production - for France3 TV channel (*Côté jardins* series)

2002 *Family portrait* by Alessandra Celesia, Epinoia productions documentary film about three generations of immigrants from the region of Valle d'Aosta (RAI3 Région Val D'Aoste)

2000 *Lo chiamavano il quartiere rosso*, documentary film for TV Planete TV channel (production and co-direction).

2000 *Todavía esperamos* by Gilbert Spinnato, documentary film on the children of desaparecidos in Argentina.

Contact : Emanuela Righi / Tél. ++33 6 73 28 99 82 – e-mail : emanuelarighi@epinoia-prod.com

Director of photography: Luca Casavola (Millespattes production)

Luca Casavola was born in Naples in 1975. He has studied cinematography in Paris at the "Institut International de l'image et du son" in 2005. He has also done a special training in steadycam. He actually lives in Paris where he works as a director of photography for documentaries, short films and music videoclips. Recently he has worked on the two last documentaires by Patrick Rotman, "Chirac" and "Lionel raconte Jospin", the documentary "L'investiture" by Virginie Linhart, "Regards sur la Martinique" by Ali Sattarpour and on the two documentaries of Ghislain Leon "Et pour quelques Megawatts de plus..." and "Projet Hades". He has also worked on videoclips of the singers Iranian singers Sattar and Ayeneh, Dial from Senegal and the French singer Olaf Hund. He has lighted about ten short films. As a director he has recently finished the documentary "Where is degrowth?" presented at the festivals "Cinemambiente", "Napoli Film Festival", "Festival del Reportage Ambientale" and "Ecologico Film Festival" in Italy and the festival Cinemaligre in France.

<http://www.lucacasavola.com/>