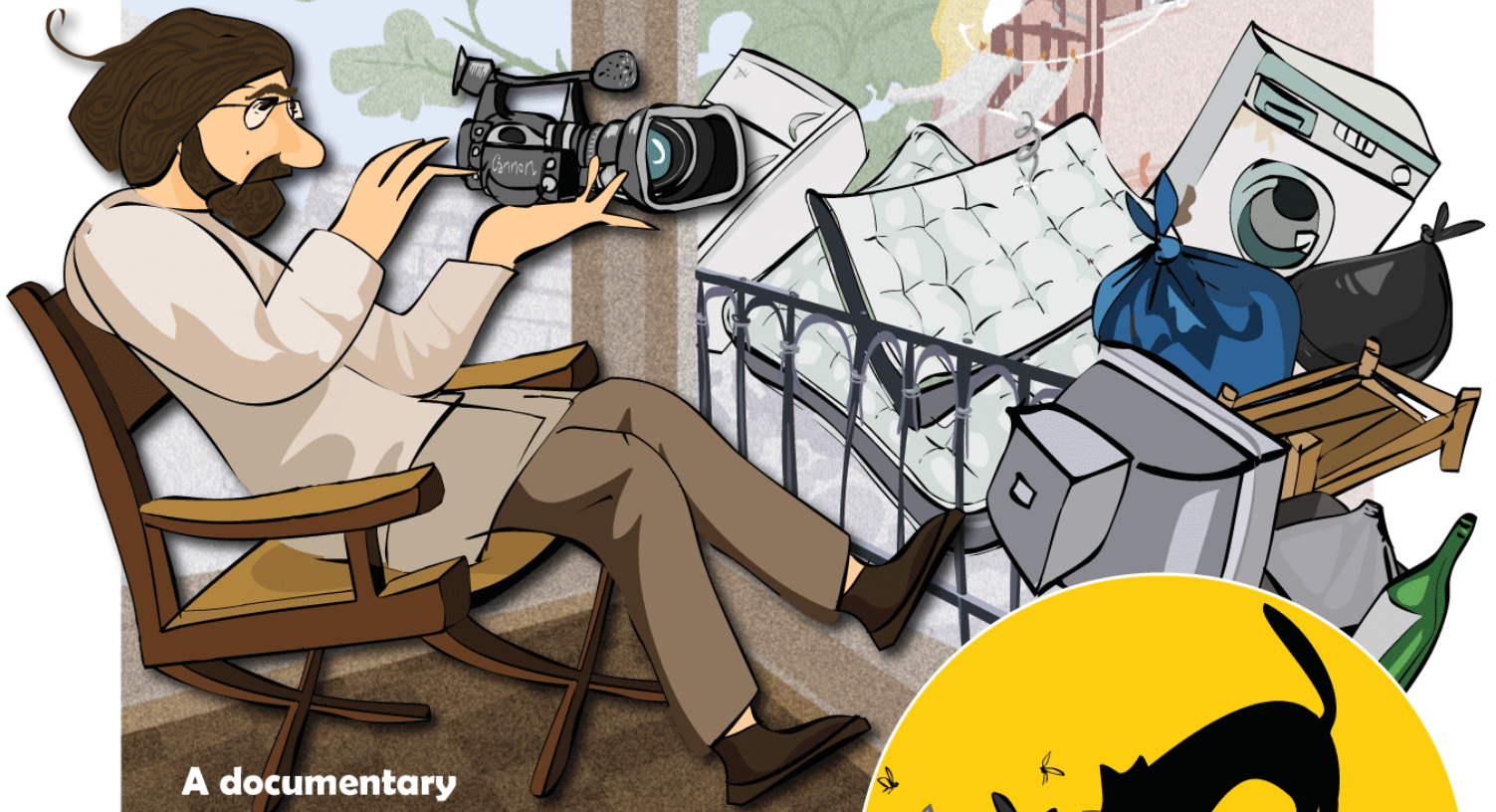


THROUGH MY REAR WINDOW

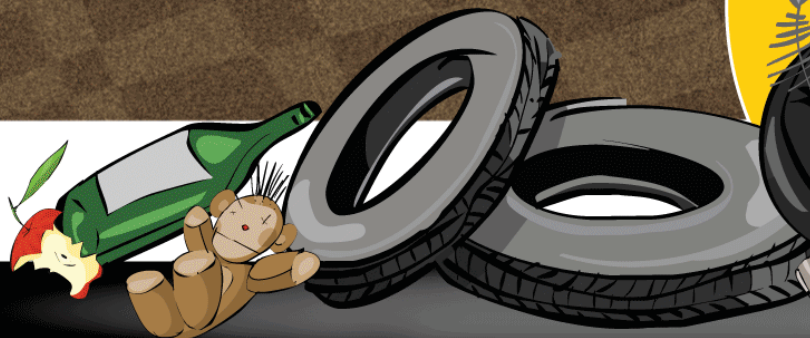
A Hitchcockian Diary of a Sicilian Environmentalist

An illegal dump materialized outside my window,
in the heart of Palermo, became the metaphor of
a world full of garbage.

Nevertheless, the solutions exist: Zero Waste!



A documentary
by **Salvo Manzone**



SYNOPSIS

Coming back to Palermo, my hometown, I discovered an open-air illegal dump, “magically” appeared under my window!

Both the neighbours and public administration thought this was the normality. For Jeff, main character in the movie “Rear Window” directed by Hitchcock, as well as for me, it became an obsession: I started investigate on this environmental crime. I scrutinized it day and night as if it were a mutant living being. Looking for the culprits, I kept an eye on my "irreproachable" neighbours; I urged as I could the local administration a bit deaf; I vented with local newspapers and television stations, which published articles and televised reports.

With my tired eyes, I saw this monster becoming, at first, metaphor of the city, and then of the whole world, that is filling up with waste, just like a dump.

So my research goes beyond the narrow horizon of my window: I met the waste pickers' marginal humanity, I investigated the waste crisis and the convoluted mechanisms of the separate collection, I sniffed around the (mal)functioning of the sorting and composting centres, going as far as trespassing illegally in Bellolampo landfill. What emerged from this smelly trip, however, is only the waste's inevitability.

Then, looking for new perspectives and alternative solutions, I discovered the environmental movement *Zero Waste* and met its founder, the American Paul Connett, a kind of crazy preacher who goes around the world telling everybody that waste does not exist. And I did even believe he is right!

When I came back on the balcony, however, my "personal" dump is far from gone. I left Palermo disappointed and tired.

A few years later, out of the blue and without knowing who the supervisor was, the area began slowly to be reclaimed. Suddenly, I left Paris headed to Palermo, but I realized that this was just a cosmetic move: the working program was suspended and the city's paralysis thickened in new waste.

At national level *Zero Waste* strategy is convincing more and more and changing the mentality of the citizens and authorities, but here in Palermo bad habits stagnate like water in "my" garbage garden.

Will my dump ever be truly reclaimed?!

THE CHARACTERS

In addition to Salvo, become unwillingly main character and guide in the world of waste, other protagonists are: Paul Connett, the competent scientist and at the same time entertaining lecturer; Franco La Cecla, the classy anthropologist; Antonio Lavieri, the sophisticated linguist; Patricia Sciuto, a committed Zero Waste environmentalist; Giorgio Ciaccio, the young activist, now M5S regional deputy; Enzo Picone and Gabriele Dulcetta, the waste pickers; Aurora Pullara, the experienced journalist; Milena Gentile, the valiant city councillor; Franco Ribaudò, the revolutionary mayor of Marineo; Rossano Ercolini, president of Zero Waste Italy and winner in 2013 of the Goldman Environmental Prize.

ROUGH CUT AND TRAILER

Rough cut 2014 <https://youtu.be/ALNF0fs6Kw4> (85', it & eng) available with youtube English subtitles

Trailer 2015 https://vimeo.com/epinoia/trailer_finestra_sul_porcile (3', it & eng)

Trailer 2011 version <https://youtu.be/rV7dNcixEQU> (6', it & eng & fr)

Project website <http://window.epinoia-prod.com>

STATUS OF FILM

The project won the fund of Sicilia Film Commission (70.000€). It also won the Challenge Sony - Le Repaire contest in France (the technical support of SONY, equivalent to 10,000 €) and the Special Mention of the project at the Workshop Sotto il Castagno di Marcarolo.

Most of the documentary has been already shot between 2011 and 2012, but I continued to shot the evolution of the dump until 2016. In 2013 I edited a rough cut of 85 min, also available with English subtitles.

I am looking for a co-producer and distributor, in order to conclude the project within the year.

TECHNICAL INFO

Director : Salvo Manzone

Producer : Salvo Manzone, Epinoia association

Cinematographer : Luca Casavola

Production manager : Emanuela Righi

Editing : Salvo Manzone, Gabriele Galligani

Sound : Danilo Romancino

Musics: Piero Palazzo, Francesco Guaiana, etc. **Duration:** 52' and 85'



NOTE OF INTENT

The shock following the discovery of "my" dump was a perfect opportunity to me to talk about waste as a result of our actions, and not as an abstract and distant problem, often only related to mismanagement and mafia. This garbage so visible is an evidence of accumulation of our production of rubbish.

My commitment, initially as oppressed citizen and finally as environmentalist, shows the need to be personally involved to save the world from becoming a huge illegal dump like the one under my window. Each landfill, even "authorized", can be considered unfair because nature has never authorized!

I cannot deny that mine is a militant documentary, but with a light and ironic look. Like the Hitchcock film.

VISUAL APPROACH

In the current editing, the film is organized into chapters. Each one will analyze the story and the topic from a different point of view. In the new one, I would like to have a more fluid and connected editing and to change my voice-over to be more personal and ironic. I need to cut some less interesting scene and put in others to yet edited about Capannori and Zero Waste.

An additional idea, using the more than 150 hours of shooting, is to develop a cross platform project with also a webdoc about Zero Waste Movement. Each good practice is associated with an environmentalist with which the audience can communicate. A geographical approach in Sicily and Italy territories is also possible.

BIOFILMOGRAPHY SALVO MANZONE

After obtaining an electronic engineering degree from University of Palermo, he moved to Paris to work in the audiovisual sector as director, editor, engineer, translator and trainer. After music [*Claudio Lolli: when music saves your life*] and social topics [*Sans Crier Gare, A world without the Mafia*], his interest has been focusing on environmental issues and in particular on waste [*Banana Peels Cruise*].

CONTACTS

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