# The arts of transformative experience

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## A post-collapse territory : beyond property, profit and oil

Ferme de La Mhotte (écologie pirate) <u>https://ecologiepirate.org</u>



# Shamanic transfiguration of the Drôme Valley

Ministry for Ecological Transition, NGO Tchendukua, CNRS Ladyss, Michel Serres Institute (ENS de Lyon), Indigenous experts from the Kogi people, local authorities from the Drôme, farmers, land owners...



## Training through enquiry : social, ecological and economic regeneration

École urbaine de Lyon https://ecoleurbainedelyon.universite-lyon.fr



## Laboratory of sobriety, measuring the added value of subtractions

H-lab, Zone sensible, Saint-Denis





## Developing a culture of cohabitation with wolves on the Montagne Limousine

Cultural mediation NGO (Quartier Rouge), local contributor/testers group (breeders, mayor, regional park keeper, naturalists, hunters, inhabitants, doctors...), artist, designer, agricultural college, art school, scientists (ethologist, geographers, historian, ecologist)...



# Shared appreciation of how the anthropocene changes the conditions of experience

- $\circlearrowright$  Zombification of categories (beyond nature and culture...)

"Human beings are now carrying out a large scale geophysical experiment of a kind that could not have happened in the past nor be reproduced in the future. Within a few centuries we are returning to the atmosphere and oceans the concentrated organic carbon stored in sedimentary rocks over hundreds of millions of years. This experiment, if adequately documented, may yield a far reaching insight into the processes determining weather and Climate."

Revelle and H. Suess, 1957, Carbon Exchange Between Atmosphere and Ocean and the Question of an Increase of Atmospheric CO2 during the Past Decades, in Tellus 9

- Saturation of perceptions by the collision of geological, evolutionary and historical temporalities (sublime)
- Indeterminacy of the position of subject and object : human agency as a geological force triggering Earth System tipping points



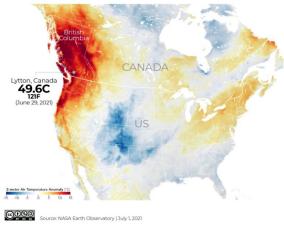
Reset Modernity!, 2016 (AIME Team)

# Shared understanding of the consequences of radical uncertainty

- ↔ At stake is the habitability of the Earth
- ↔ There is "no more long term"
- → Certainty that *fluctuations* will amplify far beyond *a*verage or standard deviation into the domain of outliers - *exception* has become the rule
- Seed to get free from the constraints of performance (*de maximis ex minimis* / logic of efficiency / cost benefit calculus) ) to create conditions for robustness (capacity to withstand wide range of fluctuations) and systemic transformation

### WEATHER 100s dead in North America heatwave

At least **486 sudden deaths were recorded** in British Columbia, Canada over the past week as temperatures soared to nearly 50C (122F).



# Shared valuation of non-scalable knowledge

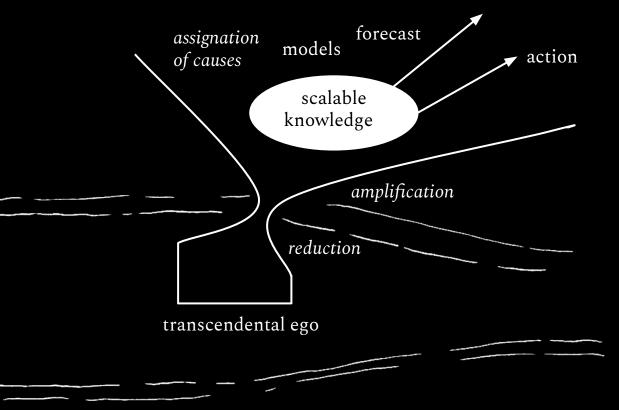
« Scalability is the ability of a project to change scales smoothly without any change in project frames. (...)

A scalable research project admits only data that already fit the research frame. Scalability requires that project elements be oblivious to the indeterminacies of encounter; that's how they allow smooth expansion.

Thus, too, scalability banishes meaningful diversity, that is, diversity that might change things. Scalability is not an ordinary feature of nature. Making projects scalable takes a lot of work. (...)

Tsing, A. L. s. d. « The Mushroom at the End of the World : On the Possibility of Life in Capitalist Ruins »

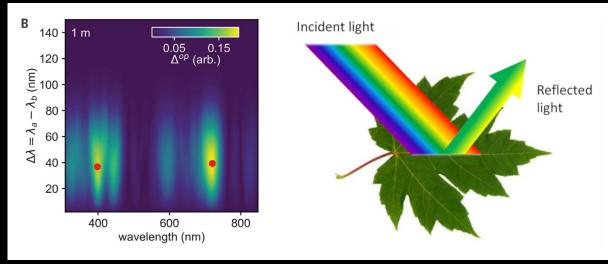
## Production of scalable knowledge

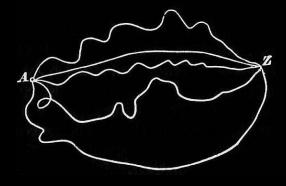


# A robustness strategy : thickening experience

"To be radical an empiricism must admit into its constructions no element not directly experienced, and exclude from them no element directly experienced."

James, W. 1904 « A World of Pure Experience », The Journal of Philosophy, Psychology and Scientific Method





### Thickening the experience.

James, W. 1890 « The Principles of Psychology », THE PRINCIPLES OF PSYCHOLOGY : 919.

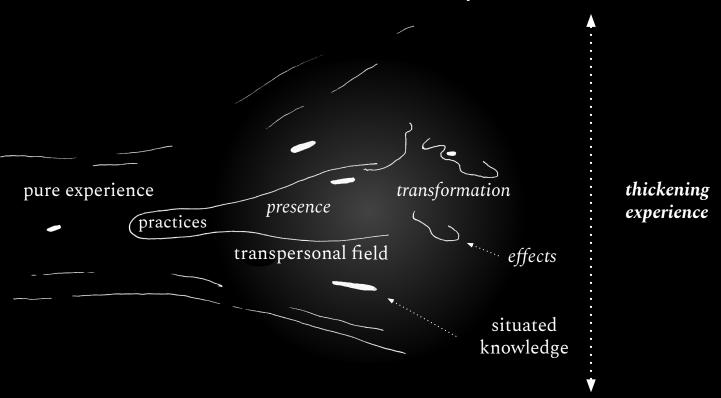
Debaise, D. & I. Stengers 2021 « Resisting the thinning of the world », Multitudes 85.4 : 129-137.

### Photosynthesis light-harvesting spectra.

Plants prioritize the management of light fluctuations over maximal efficiency. Hamant, O. 2021 « Plants Show Us the Light », Trends in Plant Science 26.2 : 97-99.

Arp, T. B., J. Kistner-Morris, V. Aji, R. J. Cogdell, R. van Grondelle & N. M. Gabor 2020 « Quieting a Noisy Antenna Reproduces Photosynthetic Light-Harvesting Spectra », Science 368.6498 : 1490-1495.

### constitution of transformative experience



	Production of scalable knowledge	Transformative practices
Shift in intention	set the experiment in a framework	orienting oneself in the open field of experience
	diagnosis	care
	usefulness	habitability
	produce knowledge	to live a transformative experience
Shift in posture	intentionality of consciousness	presence to the world
	bifurcation of the experience	back to things themselves (pure experience)
	subject vs object	reciprocity

Production	
of scalable	knowledge

Transformative practices

Shift in questions

science of causes research questions art of effects responding to issues

Shift in conditions

composition of disciplinesecology of practicescollaborative networkinquiry collective

Shift in valuation

Reproducibility across situations and scales objectivity

**singularity**, producing differences through repetition intensity of change

# Focus on a case study...

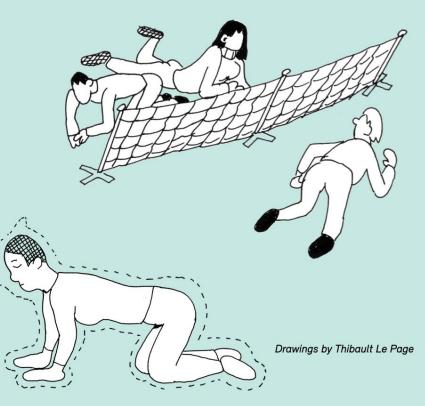
### Une Assemblée Pastorale (UAP)

Pastoral Assembly

Immersive movement practice to foster transformation and speculate from animal beings with the return of wolfs.

Pratices developed in the Montagne Limousine from 2017 to 2022 with a group of farmers and residents.

Initiated by Quartier Rouge, Boris Nordmann and Benoît Verjat actively developed with groups of breeders, inhabitants, mayors, hunters, regional park keeper, naturalists, learners in agricultural high schools, local union, associations, art students, body practitioners and researchers (ethology, geography, anthropology, territorial mediation, evaluation of practices and political ecology).



### participants

Local NGO / cultural mediator (Quartier Rouge)

artist, designer

**contributor/testers group** (breeders, mayor, regional park keeper, naturalists, hunters, inhabitants, doctors...)

> **local working group** (commission multi-usage du syndicat de la Montagne Limousine)

local NGOs

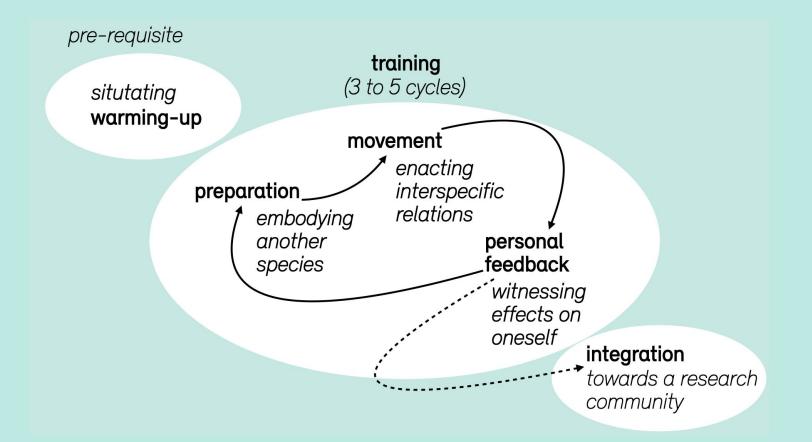
agricultural college, art school ...

Scientists (ethologist, geographers, historian, ecologist

Milieu (Montagne Limousine)

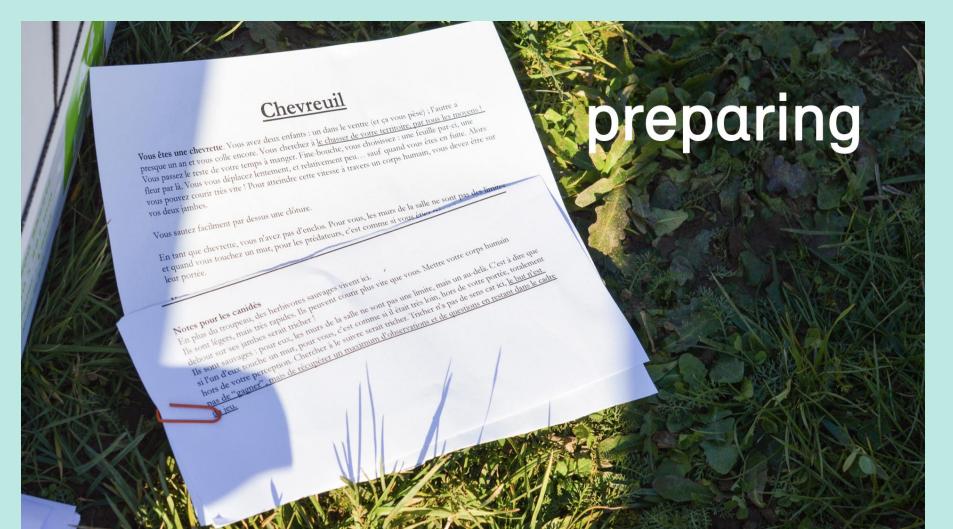


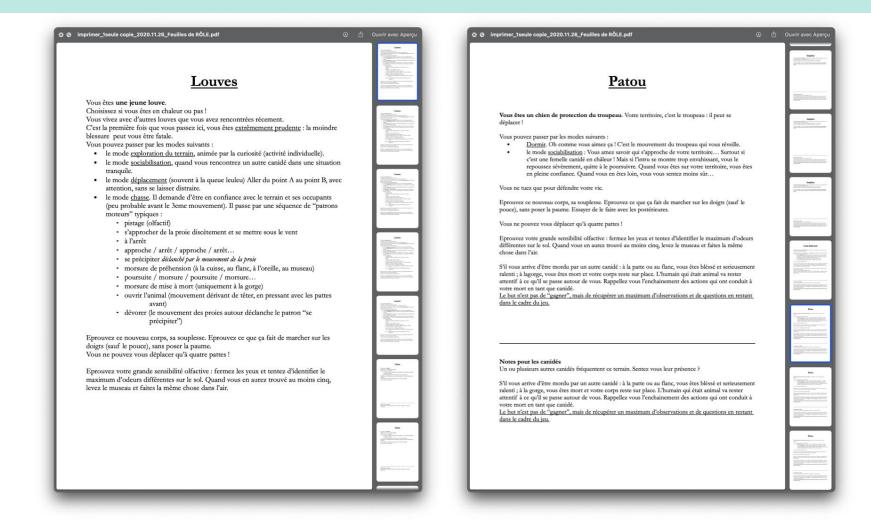
# finding presence, enter the experience gradually



# preparing

embodying another species

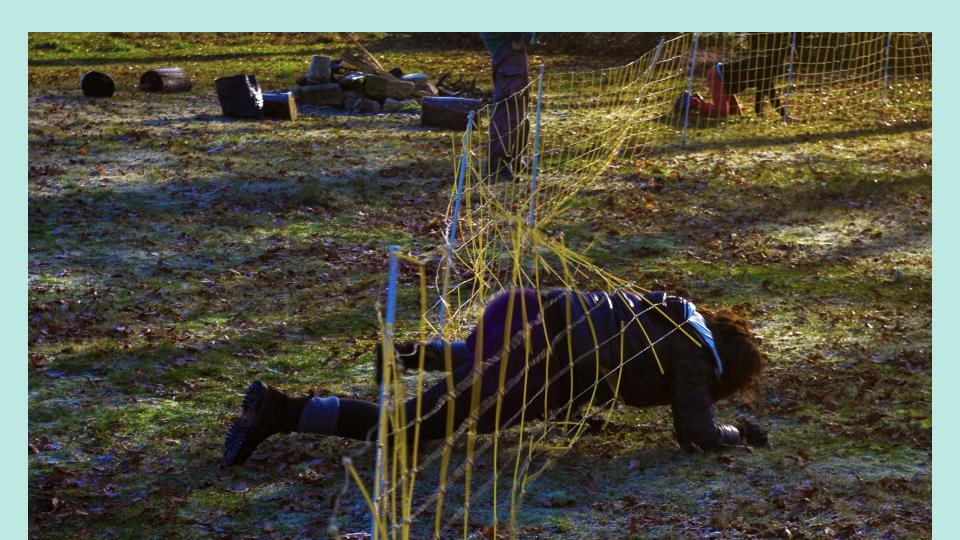




# movement

enacting interspecific relations





# retours pourso

# personal feedback

witnessing effects on oneself

## SOLO DUO HOLO



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The second se	3			

### moments

present around me I see / hear / meet ...

to my left, in front of

memory "protagonist

feelings

present in me I feel / I feel...

in my belly, my foot...

body" memory or "inner witness" projections

<u>elsewhere</u> I think / think about...

a memory, concern, link...

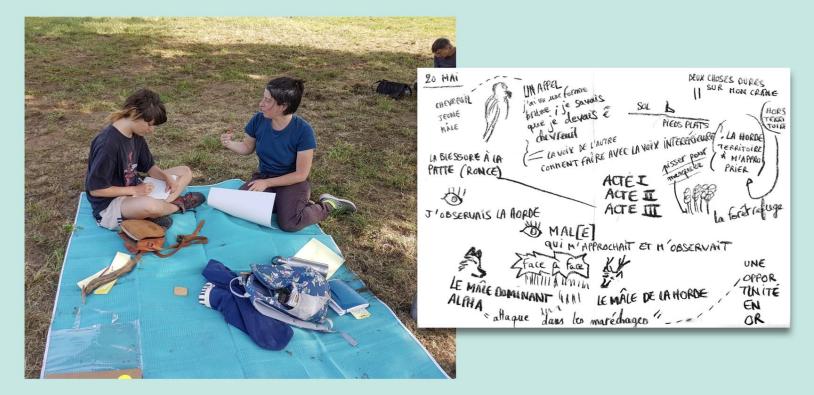
cognitive" memory

# integration

forming a research community.



### SOLO DUO HOLO



## SOLO DUO HOLO



What impact does breeding have on protection?

#### What is the cow's ancestor?

Is the sacrifice of the cow to the wolf acceptable or even effective? What happens to the herd-breeder relationship in the presence of wolves?

### Why continue breeding?

How to educate the wolf not to attack?

### Why didn't Eric build a watchtower in the big oak tree?

If I were a wolf, how would I attack a cow? Can you make a cow inedible for the wolf?

### How do cows feel about the insta What is the specificity of the farm

Why and how can cows and wolve What kind of combat sport could of As a wolf, where do I fit in on Eric'

How can the calving period be add Can we free the cows? How can I not be too docile? How can I avoid being too wild?

Where do I place my balance betw

When does the mother detach her

Cher mouton,

Jourquei tout à l'Aune tun' es par venu nous soin quand on densait le tuck? Alice était tout près de boi et tu la regardais avec tes drôles de Aufilles, duis j'ai évay: de m'allanger comme toi et je me suis dit que te étais trop trèn installé pour donner, d'près j'ai été fauler la Kourlière et c'était très agrécable. J'espère que te as l'occasion de faire sa souvent. Par contre g'ai pas trouvé la végétation très l'onfortable là-bas, c'est les malinis je vois, sa pique drôlement et vaux mieux pas se les

### Arts to navigate through experience

Arts of Immersion connect and maintain the field, stream of consciousness...

### Arts of presence

incarnation, protective fields of experience, progressiveness, know how to come back...

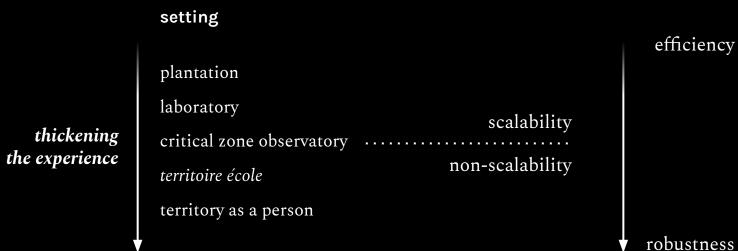
### Arts of effets

suspension of judgment, follow unexpected consequences, care for the anecdotes, storytelling ...

Arts of the integration turn experience into "praxis"... make space for local experience to affect others

Arts of the experience treat all beings well, return to the things themselves...

# Types of infrastructures



robustness

# Types of infrastructures

th ex

	setting	collective	model	effect
	plantation	entrepreneurs network	research & development	reduction
	laboratory	research teams	experimentation/objectivity	bifurcation
hickening	critical zone	pluridisciplinary collective	instrumentation/knowledge	diagnosis
xperience	territoire école	community of practices	praxis	transformation
	territory as a person	territorial body	tradition	care/healing

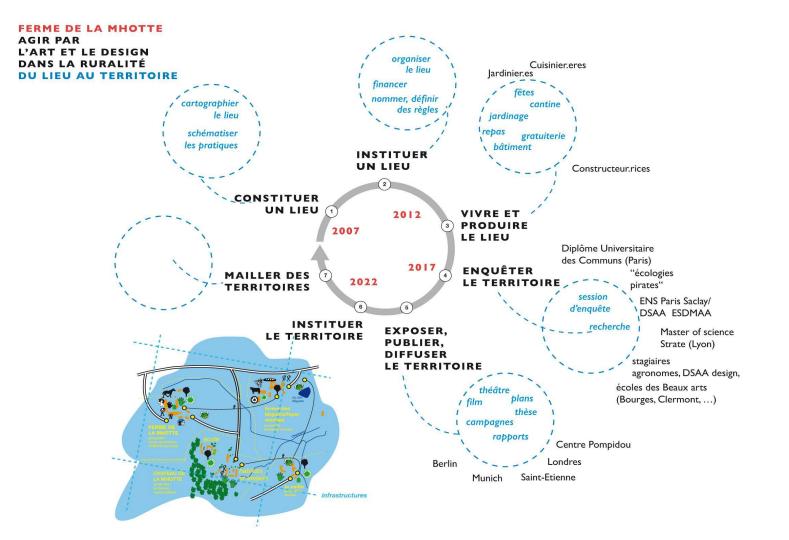
The *territoire école*, an infrastructure and a medium for an ecology of transformative practices...

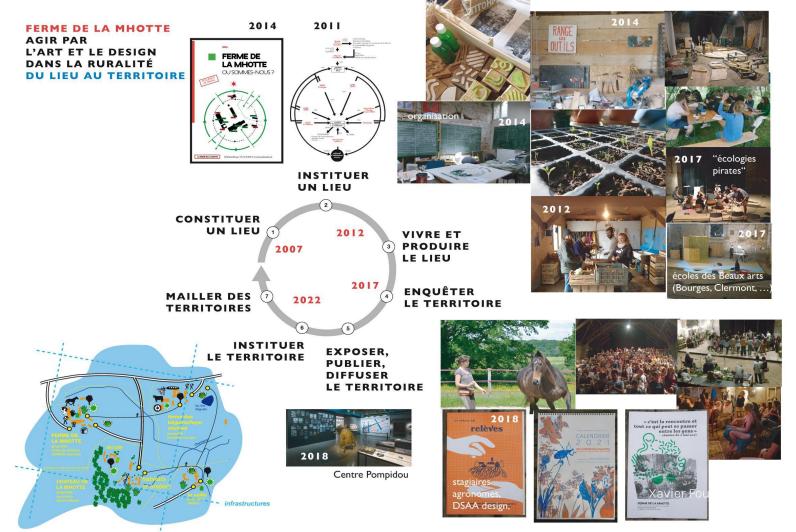
#### FERME DE LA MHOTTE AGIR PAR L'ART ET LE DESIGN DANS LA RURALITÉ DU LIEU AU TERRITOIRE

### temps du territoire ≠ temps du "projet"

PÉRIODE I	PÉRIODE 2 PÉRIOI			PÉRIODE 3
FERME DE LA MHOTTE	4 habitants et/ou actifs adultes	l 2 habitants et/ou actifs adultes	20 habitants et/ou actifs adultes	25 habitants et/ou actifs adultes
1992	2007	2012	2017	2022
gites	volontariat	<ul> <li>création Fonds de dotation Terres franches (sortie de la propriété)</li> </ul>	recherche edition riso	brasserie
magasin théâtre chevaux	maraîchage gratuiterie communs	• changement de gouvernance	nx habitats cantine	brasserie
	préparation	dév	veloppement	remaniement

TERRITOIRE ÉCOLE		
structuration des liens avec autres lieux	2021 • création association de territoire "Vallées du Chamarron"	
þréparation	développement	Xavier Fourt, Ferme de La Mhotte, 2022





### LE TERRITOIRE ÉCOLE DES VALLÉES DU CHAMARRON

