
Contents

Introduction	vii
Chapter 1. Non-Negotiable Conditions for a Scientific Stereoscopy	1
1.1. Operating principles against metaphysical principles	2
1.1.1. Ventriloquist philosophy	3
1.1.2. Two materialisms and one idealism: the initial bet of science.	8
1.1.3. Ontology: a catch-all concept and a bottomless pit	11
1.2. A “strong agenda” for interdisciplinarity?	17
1.2.1. Popperian demarcation, or exclusion decreed from the outside	17
1.2.2. Scientific self-management and the requirement of symmetry	20
1.2.3. Symmetry and reflexivity in the nature/culture couple	24
1.2.4. Two modes of interdisciplinarity.	30
1.3. Materialism in the face of the ideal.	34
1.3.1. The illusory sphere of the ideas	35
1.3.2. The three entries on human worlds	41
1.4. The line drawn on the side of science: frame of reference	45
1.4.1. The observation of the facts and the strangeness of mathematics.	46
1.4.2. The permanent priority of the frame of reference	53
1.4.3. Scientific clarity and the impurity of scientists	58
1.5. “Reframed” comparison	62
Chapter 2. Relations Above All (and Before Any Cause)	69
2.1. The power of bonding: social relations and ecological interactions.	71
2.2. The polarity of relationship: domestication between nature and culture	77
2.2.1. The asymmetry of domestication.	77
2.2.2. Symmetry and reflexivity in domesticators.	84
2.2.3. Original asymmetry and historical symmetries	91

2.3. Relations in a process: the “causes” for the Neolithic	94
2.4. Locks and openings	106
2.4.1. Robert Cresswell’s locks: an analysis tool to be imposed	106
2.4.2. Palm wine and coffee: time is money	109
2.5. The vintage and the expert	113
2.5.1. Hierarchy takes time	115
2.5.2. The curse of the Languedoc vineyard	117
2.5.3. The oenologist, between technocracy and aesthetics	120
Chapter 3. Uncertain Ensembles, Imperfect Cohesion and Disruptive Events.	129
3.1. Systems and structures: the search	131
3.1.1. Empirical or autochthonous ensembles	132
3.1.2. The structure and forgotten morphology	135
3.1.3. Systems open to all winds	139
3.1.4. Generalized structuralism, the subject and the event	145
3.2. The undesirable and sterilized event	152
3.2.1. Whitehead versus Braudel.	152
3.2.2. The rot-proof event at the source of culture	160
3.3. Events and cohesion in an accelerated Neolithization	165
3.4. The event: a referee for theories?	171
3.5. The forgotten service of the fundamental in favor of the applied	175
Chapter 4. The Spiral of Research: Centrifugal and Centripetal Approaches	179
4.1. Ensembles, scales and frameworks: methodology versus methods	181
4.1.1. The “enriched” scales	181
4.1.2. Inclusions and overlaps among ensembles	184
4.1.3. Edges, ecotones, borders and ruptures.	186
4.1.4. Complementarities and competitions	191
4.2. Spiral research: from center to periphery, or the other way around?	194
4.2.1. Centrifugal contrasts and centripetal understandings	195
4.2.2. The construction of the ecological niche	203
4.2.3. Constructions and mosaics	207
4.3. Solidary comparison and interdisciplinary	213
Conclusion	219
References	225
Index	241