



Jean-Pierre ROLL

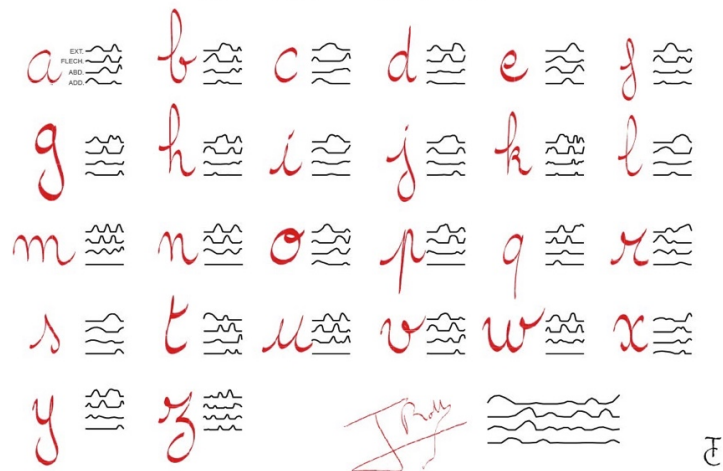
Talking with one's body

PM Gagey, A & ML Marino, Ph Villeneuve

At least you, Jean-Pierre, you will have discovered useful things!

Thanks to you, we know that we can talk with our body. By your patience and your tenacity in plugging microelectrodes into the nerves of benevolent subjects and looking at the screens of the oscilloscopes, you have deciphered the language of the body, its alphabet and its syntax that play with vibrations around 80Hz [1]. Speaking to the body in its language, you made it do what you wanted in the field of postural control, at your orders he leaned right, left, forward, backward, as you wanted! And you made him perceive all the illusions that you and your team could imagine.

L'ALPHABET CORPOREL

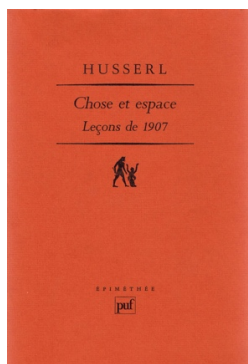


And it happened, in your old age, you discovered a vibrator exactly in accordance with your specifications but much less expensive than those you had ordered for your lab. With it, you started to talk with your body, you vibrated these areas where the old age brings about pains, and that worked out! As people says

on internet. So, this vibrator did not leave the pocket of your jacket, as Maria-Luisa told me. Fate did not give you time to find what remains to be explained.

But why you, Jean-Pierre, have you discovered useful things?

I do not know everything, but you put me on a good track by entrusting me that your bedside book was "Ding und Raum, Vorlesungen, 1907" by Edmund Husserl,



in its French version of course. This text was so important to you that you spoke about it in Lyon at the tenth SIRER / ACRAMSR congress in 2005 [1].

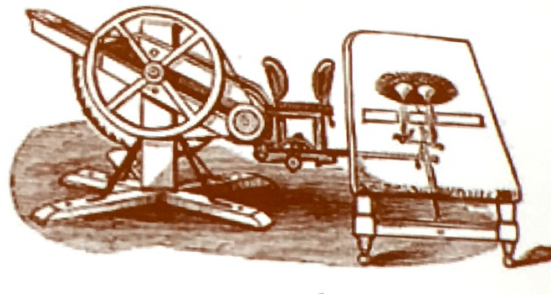
But what nugget contains this fabulous text?

It's easy to understand, but difficult to explain! We need to do some contemporary history because things have changed in your life. In your youth it was still necessary to fight against the denial of the imagination that rationalism and positivism had so well installed in the imagination of our contemporaries! The reason, and only it, had to reign, reject beliefs, dreams, suppositions, and even "A fact whose determinism is not rational must be rejected by science," wrote Claude Bernard [3]. Today things are changing, a member of the Academy of Surgery dares to write an article that whispers: rationalism could perhaps have harmful effects in Medicine [4]. But this change was not easy: we could not criticize reason in the name of belief! We had to wait until philosophers criticized reason in the name of reason. And Edmund Husserl was one of those philosophers, like Gaston Bachelard [5], who converted us to the imaginary.

Let us recognize that you needed being very clever to understand this return to the imagination through the texts of Husserl: "It is thus the constitution — I could also say the original manifestation — of the empirical objectivity in the lower experience, that we want to study. In other words, they are experiences of simple intuition or intuitive grasping, on which alone the higher acts of the specifically logical sphere are built, and thereby only bring scientific objectivity to form. [6]"

I imagine that in the attic of your imagination awaited the images of the « Tremousoir de l'abbé de Saint Pierre » of which Voltaire celebrated the virtues, I know it's not true... but so tempting ! We will probably never know what was in your imagination, this little dream that you have dared to believe in, in spite of the

rationalistic prohibitions, and which has allowed you, and at least you, to discover useful things!



"I left for Champs, my sweet angel, instead of dinner; I put myself in the Abbe Saint Pierre's 'trémousoir', and here I am a little better "(Voltaire)

Thank you, Jean Pierre, for all that you did for us, with so much simplicity and kindness ... You agreed to talk with a little Italian doctor, an occupational physician, a chiropodist, as if we were your peers.

References

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