

# Editorial

# Science in painted body.

Roberto Polanco - Carrasco

Volumen 6. Número 1. Junio 2012. DOI:10.7714/cnps/6.1.103

As part of the celebrations of 200 years of independence in the square of the citizens of Santiago de Chile (in front of the government palace) were installed large photographs of the work of Robert Edward, work of this photographer is based on naked painted bodies. During one of the days of the sample, a middle-aged couple that was passing by complaining loudly about the filth and pornography to be allowed in these times and more above the street in front of the presidential palace.

The real story told by Robert Edward as one of the comments it hurts to hear of their work, surprised at the ignorance, prejudice and, above all, lack of knowledge about this type of work. While his first public registers to early 90, the origins of Painted Bodies (nonprofit cultural project) date

back to mid 70's. Key influence on the author were the records of the German photographer Leni Riefenstahl on the life of the Nuba, a culture of northeastern Africa where his body as a protagonist. The tradition of applying colors and designs on their bodies are not confined to ritual, as is usual in most tribes, Nuba paint her body in accordance with daily mood.

The motivation of the Nubaa to paint the body work together with Trülzsch Lehndorff and came together in what would become known as the Painted Bodies project, the basic question of this project, in the words of Robert Edward, what could be create a contemporary painter using the human body as a support? After an investigation into the possible type of paint used and the search for models willing to be

painted, it was the eighties which saw the birth of the first attempts at the hands of local artists such as Mario Toral and Carmen Aldunate. Those initial experiments, spontaneous and simple, were those upon which to proceed with the project to become as known today.

*“The natural nervousness until today overwhelms alike models and painters in their first meeting, always has been minimized by an environment that favors professionalism. In clean rooms with mirrored walls, a makeup expert was present at all times to provide assistance and building trust to the painter and his model, who soon overcome their inhibitions to focus on creative work. “ Robert Edward.*

Returning to our couple in front of the palace of the currency and his complaint about the filth exposed, is ask if they know all the work behind paint 4 square meters of these mobile material means a living body. Likely they do not know and this is not the result of an author or jealous of his discoveries that save only for himself and his close.

Most likely to be due to simple ignorance or lack accompanied by a frank disinterest in learning new ideas or proposals. This lack not only can be seen in the field of art, we can also see it in the sciences, are not strange to see how, both professionally and teaching continue to circulate ideas from the past, true “teachers myths” that reluctant to make way for new evidence resulting from modern studies of the brain.

Ignorance, as basic tool for judging new ideas, it then be a central problem in training in psychological science, the scientific illiteracy (is not enough to quote in APA style to be scientifically literate), the lock is usually more hard to beat in our initial training. The task of giving way to new ideas is even more difficult if the vehicle through which they move, do not have the space required within the basic plans for vocational training. Scientific journals generally have neither the space nor the level of use as a teaching tool that should be in the curricula of psychology at several universities

in Latin America. This is worrying especially in this era where there is a strong movement for open access to scientific information, coupled with increasingly organized labor of our Latin American journals to improve our management and visibility; there we have one of our first challenges.

Should we develop our editorial work only within the margins that are possible to measure or quantify, or will demand new task force that eventually generate measurement methods commensurate with the importance of these actions? Beyond rates of attendance and factor H, Ezequiel Benito in this issue in the discussion seeks to install an S index of social relevance of research journals published in Latin America. Along with supporting the proposal, we propose the study and development of an index L, reading and use of articles published at the academy, as a first indicator in the development of our researchers. This could be an index about to the number of times articles of an author who has been used in teaching both undergraduate and graduate students, divided by the number of articles published by the author in two years.

Be used in the basic programs of the subjects, be occupied for undergraduate research work, to be known and read at the level of faculty are ones of the first steps to a significant increase in the rate of scientific

literacy in psychology., Will be the future researchers to nurture specialty publications.

The road is not easy and not necessarily popular, like the work of Robert Edward., For successful, we must rely on the firm belief that we are moving in the right direction and further that only insofar as we work so generous and together we can move beyond petty and always reach the questioned (but necessary) impact factor.

The cover of this issue is dedicated to research, daring and teamwork, open and generous looking for body no longer like a taboo, and we seek that science no longer has seen as something alien and even immoral in the practice of psychology.