Digital preservation and valorisation of cultural heritage

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Leonardo da Vinci JASON Seminar in Funchal, Madeira

17th of october 2006



The repurposing (re-authoring) of digital audiovisual resources in cultural heritage.

A concrete example:
The Huarpe Civilization and Culture

Conference Topics

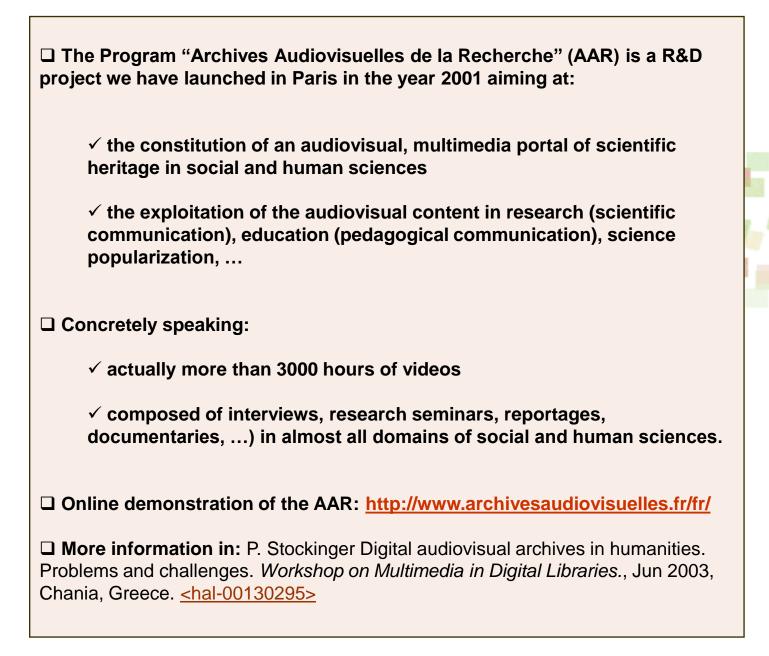
- ☐ The main topics of this conference are the following three ones:
 - 1. Short presentation of the French program « Audiovisual archives of research » (Archives audiovisuelles de la Recherche) and of its missions and challenges.
 - 2. Presentation of an ungoing re-authoring project of an audiovisual source corpus: « Guanacache. The Water of thirst » videos about the world and the life of the huarpe farmers living in the region of Mendoza in Argentina.
 - 3. The anatomy of re-authoring of a given source corpus of texts: the principal activities, objectives and tasks.

1st topic

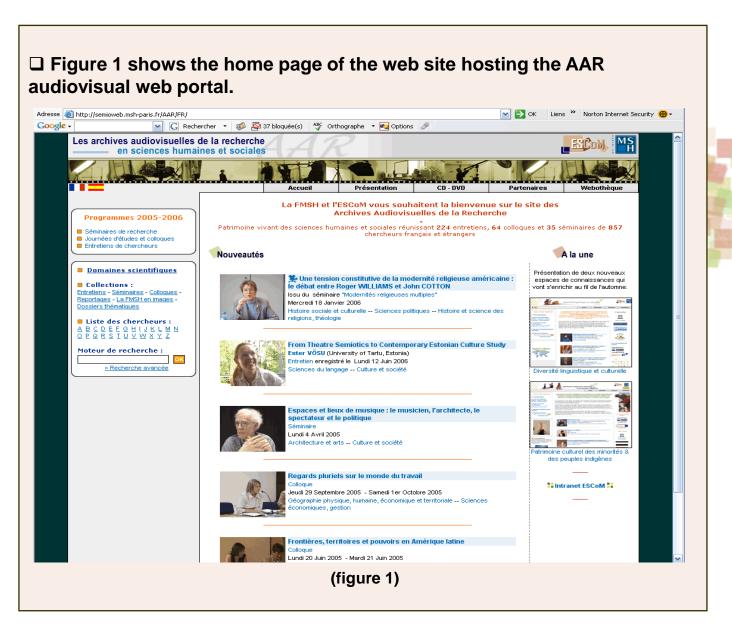
- The Program « Audiovisual Archives of Research in Social Sciences and Humanities » -



1st topic The AAR Program



1st topic The AAR Program



1st topic

The AAR Program

☐ List of principal challenges:

- ✓ transform this material in a useful tool for formal (secondary, higher) education;
- ✓ transform this material in a useful tool for informal learning (life long learning, u-learning, ...);
- ✓ open this material to a multilingual and multicultural knowledge market ;
- ✓ use this material for other objective bounded purposes: political communication, social communication, ...;
- ✓ re-use this material in order to contribute to the dialogue "culture, science and citizen";
- ✓ prepare this material as a knowledge heritage of the actual generation left for future generations;
- ✓ prepare this material for its critical use in the construction of new knowledge.

2nd topic

- « Guanacache. Water of thirst » -



2 nd	topic	
Gua	anaca	che

☐ "Guanacache. Water of thirst" is a web site, actually under construction within the European R&D project LOGOS, financed by the 6th framework IST- Program.
☐ It is a web site dedicated, generally speaking, to the life world, culture and traditions of the descendants of an indigenous population living in the region of Mendoza in Argentina, nearby the Chilean frontiers on the foot of the Andes.
☐ The indigenous population, the Huarpe, who are extremely poor and disadvantaged peasants or croppers elevating in the desert small troops of sheep.
☐ Two centuries before, the Huarpe have still leaved in a fertile region of lakes but because of the Spanish "encomienda" and the massive European immigration in the 19th century their social structure and their natural environment has been completely destroyed.
☐ For more information:
✓ <u>Pueblo Huarpe</u>

☐ Within the framework of the <u>AAR Program</u> , a series of interviews have been realized with the Argentinean writer and journalist <u>Gregorio Manzur</u> .
☐ Gregorio Manzur is in contact with the Huarpes since his youth, has visited them for many times and is an active defendant of their rights.
☐ The interviews have taken place in the apartment of Gregorio Manzur, in Paris, and have been organized by Elisabeth de Pablo, responsible of the audiovisual program of cultural heritage of minorities and indigenous people at ESCoM in Paris, as well as Alice Maestre and Richard Fillon from ESCoM, responsible for the filming and post-production.
☐ The interviews themselves have been prepared with Gregorio Manzur following a standard scenario used for the filming of interviews within the AAR program. (more information; cf. P. Stockinger: Peter Stockinger. Le Programme « Archives Audiovisuelles de la Recherche » : La génération d'archives audiovisuelles en ligne de la recherche [Rapport de recherche] ESCoM-AAR (Equipe Sémiotique Cognitive et Nouveaux Médias - Archives Audiovisuelles de la Recherche); INALCO. 2004, pp.63. khal-01303666 >
☐ A first interview consisted in the (dialogical) realisation of a sort of general narrative
✓of the huarpe life world (their living conditions, the natural environment, their beliefs and traditions,) ✓as well as of the very old relationship between Gregorio Manzur and this population.

☐ The following interviews have been undertaken on the basis of the first interview in "targeting" on more specific "subjects": ✓ which either have been proven to be more or less central ones in the first interview; ✓ or which, contrarily have been obliterated, "forgotten" or simply considered as not sufficiently relevant in the first one. □ Note: this sort of approach is inspired form the ethnographic experience of field study: ⇒ the interviewee (journalist, researcher, teacher, ...) : ✓ is considered to be a – more or less productive, cooperative, ... – "informer" of the interviewer (occupying the role of the ethnographer or, more generally speaking, investigator in an unknown "terrain"), ✓ with whom a relation of confidence has to be built progressively as well as strategies or procedures for eliciting knowledge and values (i.e. the "culture"). ☐ One of the most basic strategies is to plan a series of interviews following a scenario adapting with respect to the experiences of the first interview.

- ☐ The "intellectual results" of this series of interviews: A rather systematic overview of the central aspects of the life world, culture and social structure of the huarpe croppers narrated in a very concrete and attractive style by Gregorio Manzur:
 - √ the specific and difficult living conditions in a natural environment which is essentially a dessert;
 - √ the living and survival strategies in such an environment;
 - √ the ingenious traditional and practical knowledge for habiting such a specific world and for establishing a working social organisation without almost any economic resources;
 - ✓ the very rich religious tradition which, essentially, is a syncretism of Christian (especially, catholic) references and indigenous ones;
 - √ the relationships between this population with the "outer world": the modern one which constitutes a big menace for the small and traditional one of the huarpes;
 - √ the specific "philosophy of communication" of the huarpe that
 emphasises the value of silence
 - √ the extremely brutal and sad history of colonisation and immigration having destroyed the huarpe and their world.

- ☐ The series of interviews have been filmed with two digital cameras and appropriate material for sound tacking
- ☐ The output of this filming in form of a physical documentation is:
 - ✓ DV cassettes containing the whole interviews without any modifications, ameliorations, etc. ("rushes")
 - ✓ These DV cassettes are transformed in avi and mpeg files for being processed further
- □ Other materials documenting on the one hand the series of interviews and on the other hand the "subject" of these interviews (i.e. the Huarpe life world and culture):
 - ✓ photos illustrating different aspects of the Huarpe life world which have been digitized in jpeg
 - √ texts which are parts of a monumental book of some 600 pages written by Manzur about the Huarpe civilisation, transformed in protected pdf files
 - ✓ a lexicon (vocabulary) explaining central notions and terms belonging to the Huarpe life world
 - √ bibliographical resources
 - ✓ other online documents (especially reports, ...)
 - √ specialised web sites

- ☐ This whole material constitutes what we call a "source corpus" or again the archive stricto senso of the series of interviews dedicated to the life world and culture of the huarpe.
- ☐ The source corpus or again the archive stricto sensu can be a closed one or an open one
 - ✓ a closed source corpus: remains unchanged especially: no new data are introduced
 - √ an open source corpus: it can evolve and this in at least two
 directions
 - new, original data;
 - "derived" data from the original ones (i.e. reprocessed or again re-authored ones)
- ☐ The source corpus: the starting point for reprocessing activites

- ☐ In this sense "reprocessing" = "re-authoring" in taking into account:
 - 1. The specificity of the source corpus"
 - 2. The specificity of the intended "product"
 - 3. The specificity of the re-authoring activity itself (the tasks, the methods, the resources, the knowledge, the technologies, etc.)
- □ "Re-authoring" as an intercultural processing or again as a very broadly speaking intercultural translation process:
 - √ the specific profile, the specific "nature" of a given source corpus
 - ✓ has to be transformed, adapted, modified, ... with respect to the target destine, his/her knowledge/values, interests/desires, preferences, etc. i.e. with respect to his/her "cultural filter".
- □ Re-authoring as a (digital) technology mediated and/or enabled process:
 - ✓ It is based on production (authoring) and delivery technologies
 - ✓ It's "products" can be "consumed" only by the means, with the help of (digital) communication, visualisation, archiving, ... technologies.

- ☐ What are the specificities of our source corpus documenting the huarpe life world and culture?
 - √ French colloquial style of the interviews
 - √ narratives are dominating: personal experiences, examples,
 - ✓ sometimes already rather specialised historical and geographic knowledge is presupposed,
 - ✓ ethnographic information in academic sense is provided rather scarcely,
 - ✓ interviews are punctuated with not explained terminological expressions concerning especially the fauna and the flora of the world of the huarpe,
 - √ very valuable iconographic material : "genre", people, activities,...,
 - √ recorded voices as possible linguistic material,
 - ✓ most of background information about the huarpe is in Spanish, almost nothing in German, or French,
 - ✓ a lot of background information in English has to be seriously worked through (tourist information, problem of "evangelisation" ...).

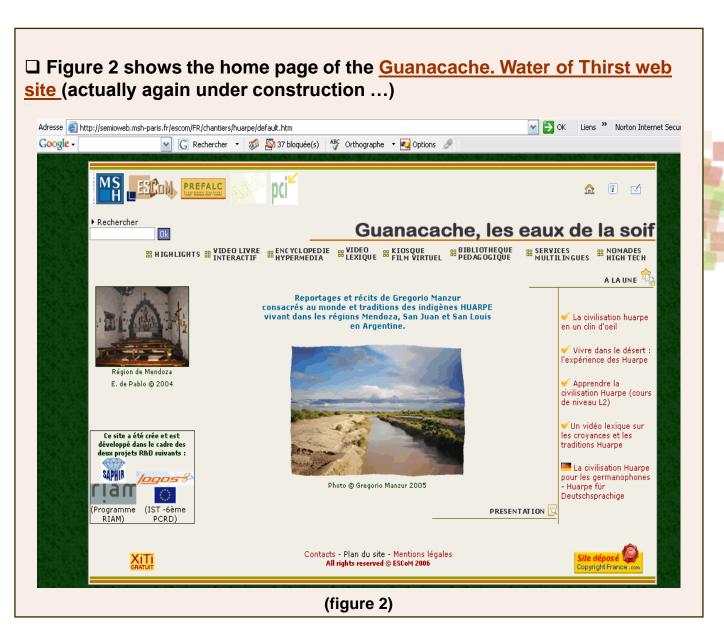
- ☐ What are potential target destines?
 - ✓ French speaking people interested in the huarpe civilisation: for personal reasons or professional ones but with few or no ethnographic, sociological ambitions or knowledge;
 - ✓ Specialists (ethnographers, sociologists, botanists, ecologists, ...) looking for thematically very circumscribed and already well structured information
 - ✓ Professionals (physicians, journalists, agronomists, ...) who need practical information in order to be able to survive there
 - √ NGO and other associations engaged in the defence of the rights of the huarpe, the valorisation of their traditions and their life world
 - ✓ Students in Latin America Studies (level B or M) for whom a series of 10 lessons have to be prepared on indigenous peoples living in South America (three lessons should be dedicated to the huarpe puesteros)
 - ✓ People having some very local, ephemeral interest to understand a notion, a term, a lexical expression related to the huarpe civilisation (in reading, for instance, a book, consulting a web site, seeing a film, ...)

☐ What are the specific products we want to deliver? ☐ For a French speaking destine (or a destine able to understand more or less well colloquially French spoken interviews) ✓ interactive video-book of a general grade, supposed to be more or less accessible by anybody and covering a maximum of subjects ordered in "video chapters" √ thematic hypermedia encyclopaedia for people looking for special topics richly commented and documented ✓ video-lexicon for understanding terms, expressions used either in the interviews or in any other production related to the topics of the interviews ✓ pedagogical folders prepared following an international standard of learning objects (LOM) as a material for a Bachelor or Master degree study ✓ virtual film corner composed of sequences extracted from the interviews and/or other original sources ☐ For non-French speaking destines (German speakers, ...) √ a condensed version of the above quoted services.

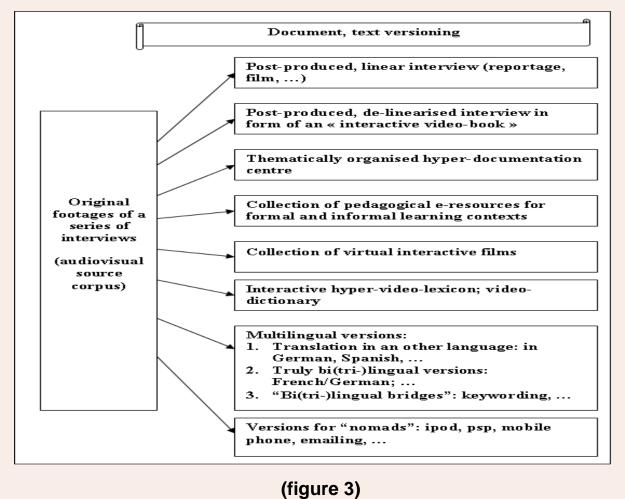
3rd topic

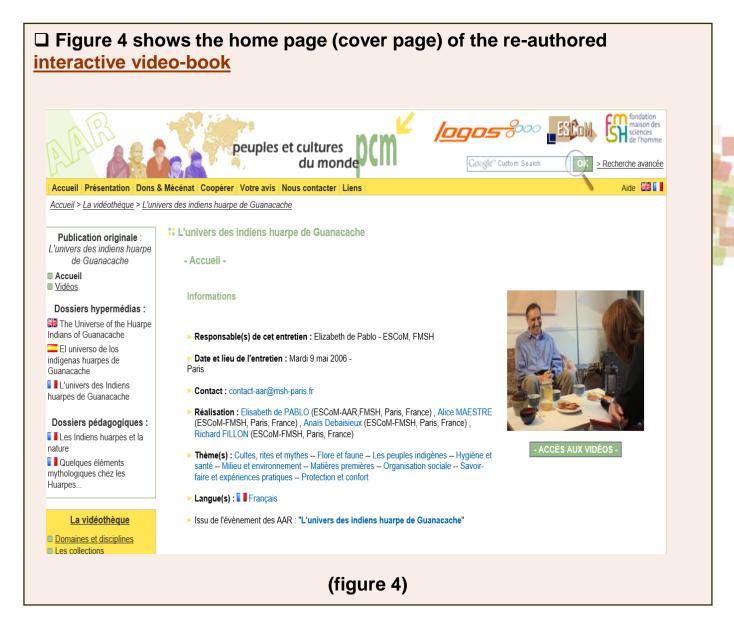
- Guanacache - (re-)authored versions -

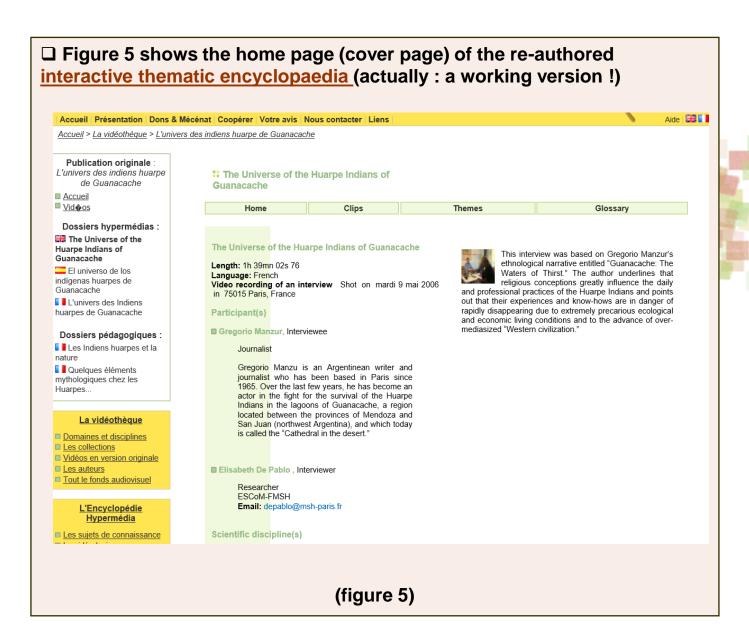


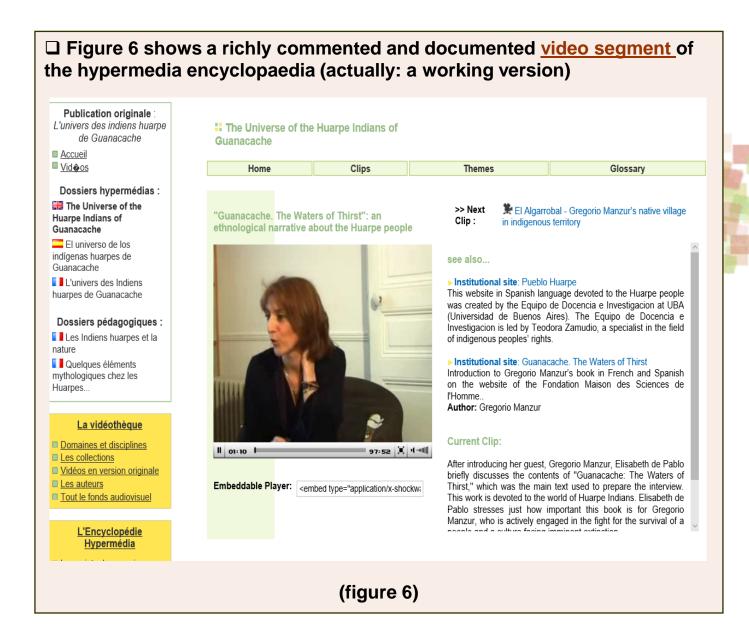


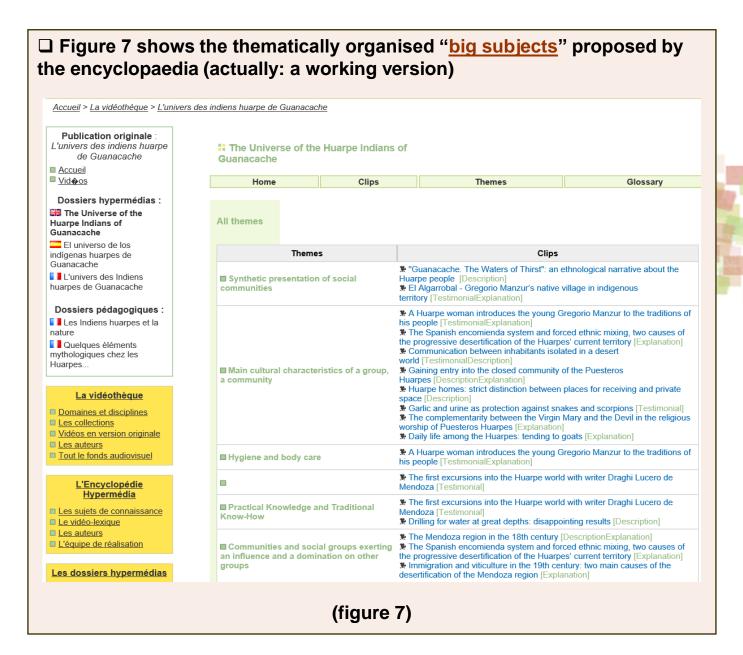
☐ Figure 3 shows the re-authored versions of the source corpus composed by DV cassettes containing several hours of interviews, reportages, other footages), images, sound tracks, bibliographical notices, web links, terminological tables, etc.:

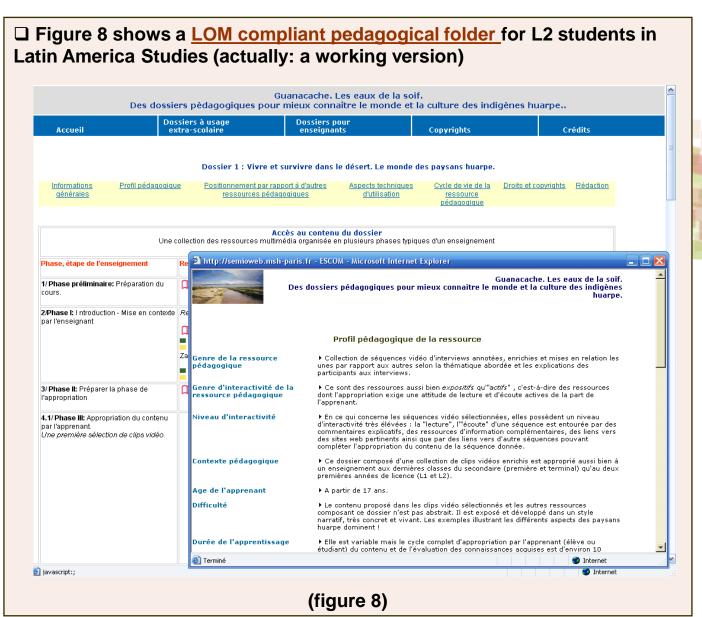


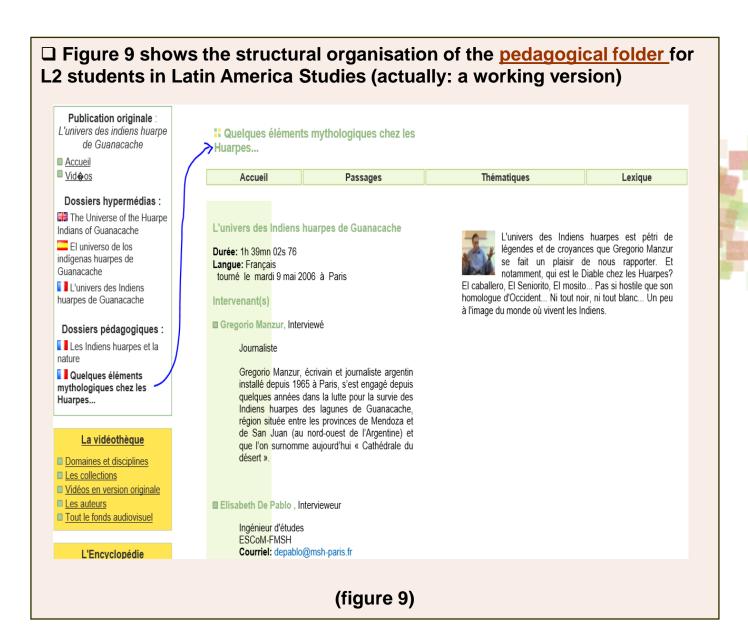


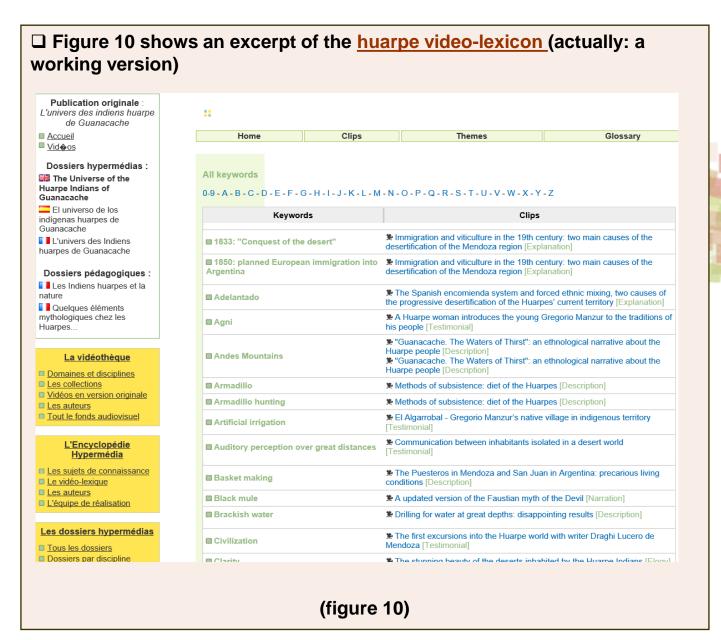












☐ Figure 11 finally shows the home page of the <u>German version</u> of the Guanacache portal (actually: a working version)

Guanacache. Das Wasser des Dursts. Die Huarpe Indios im Nordwesten von Argentinien.

Guanacache auf Deutsch Alle Videoseguenzen Thematische Schwerpunkte

Copyright

Impressum



Willkommen

Guanacache ist ein multimediales Portal, über die Welt und das Leben der Huarpe Indios, die in den Wüstenzonen von Mendoza am Fusze der Anden im Nordwesten Argentiniens leben.

Ausgangspunkt dieses Portals sind die Arbeiten und Zeugnisse des argentinischen Schriftstellers und Journalisten Gregorio Manzur, der die meisten Jahre seines Lebens diesem Volk und seinen Traditionen gewidmet hat.

Das Portal selbst baut sich um eine Serie von kurzen online Videos auf, die Gespräche zwischen Gregorio Manzur und Elisabeth de Pablo aufzeichnen.

Die originale Fassung der Videos und des gesamten Portals sind in <u>französischer Sprache</u>.

Die deutschsprachige Version bietet eine inhaltliche Auswahl der originalen Fassung an.

Die Gesprächspartner

Gregorio Manzur, Gesprächsgast

Autor, Journalist und auch Schauspieler aus Argentinien, der seit seiner Kindheit im Kontakt mit den Huarpe Indios lebt.

Elisabeth de Pablo, Gesprächsführerin

Informations- und
Dokumentationsingenieur der Equipe
Sémiotique Cognitive et Nouveaux
Médias (ESCOM) in Paris und
technischer Leiter des audiovisuellen
Portals "Patrimoine Culturel des
minorités et neuples
indigênes" (Kulturportal von
Minderheiten und indigener
Bevölkerunge).

- Der interessierte deutschsprachige Leser/Hörer findet hier::
- ▶ eine Auswahl von Videosequenzen über die Huarpe Kultur wobei die französischsprachigen Sequenzen durch Zusammenfassungen im Deutschen und deutschsprachige Schlagwörter wiedergegeben werden;
- die M\u00e4glichkeit, die Welt und Kultur der Huarpe Indios nach einigen wenigen thematischen Schwerpunkten zu
 erforschen wobei hier wieder franz\u00f6sischsprachiges Material mit Hilfe von Zussamenfassungen und Schlagworten ins
 Deutsche "\u00fcbersetzt" worden sind;
- ▶ eine Vielzahl von links und online Resourcen, die das Videomaterial kritisch und sachgemäsz ergänzen.
- Offizieller Partner: das lateinamerikanische Austauschprogramm, geleitet von Dr. Dominique Fournier, der Stiftung Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris.
- Mehr Informationen über die Huarpe Indianer (nur in spanischer und französicher Sprache):.
 - Pueplo Huarpe Portal Cultural Virtual
 Erste Hand Information über die Huarpe
 Indianer auf ihrem eignen Webportal.
 - Los Huarpes.

Ein Artikel in französischer Sprache über die Huarpe Indianer bei Wikipedia

(figure 11)

4th topic

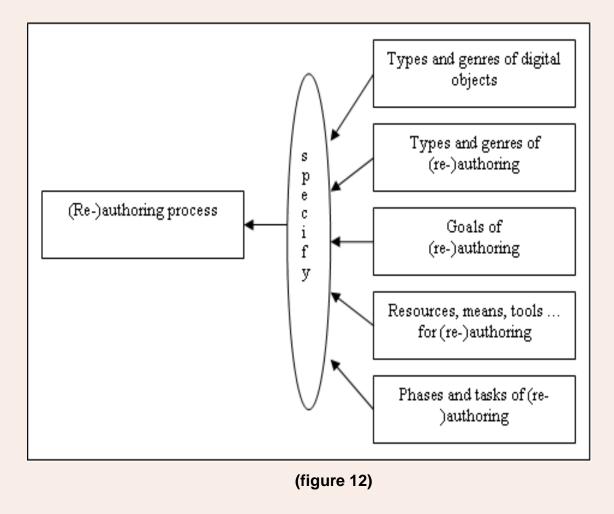
- The anatomy of intercultural (re-)authoring and reading -



Figure 12 shows in a nutshell the general context of the (re-) authoring process of a source corpus « New » (corpus of modified, Existing (corpus of) digital objects adapted) digital objects is the input for is the output for (Re-)authoring process

(figure 12)

☐ Figure 13 identifies the principal components to be taken into account in the re-authoring of a source corpus



In considering more precisely the (re-)authoring process (figure 11 and 12) itself, it has to be explained with respect to:

1/ The type and genre of (re-)authoring:

- ✓ content selection in a given corpus of existing digital objects,
- √ explanation & completion of selected content;
- ✓ existing digital object versioning;
- ✓ content translation; existing digital object interlinking;
- ✓ creation of new content parts;
- √ (visual, sound, ...) content expression modification; etc.;
- ✓ the specific type and genre of digital objects: technical and scientific texts; audiovisual ethnographic documentaries; cultural heritage images; etc.;

2/ The goals of a (re-)authoring process:

- ✓ contexts of use (learning, teaching, science popularisation, ...);
- ✓ destines (pupils, students, any person, specific social group, ...);
- ✓ publishing genre (courses, thematic folders, glossaries, infoflashes, games, ...);
- √ forms of distribution; etc.;

3/ The resources, means and tools of the (re-)authoring process:

- √ human resources (authors, domain specialists, translators; publishers; ...);
- ✓ intellectual resources (ontologies; thesauri; publishing models; aids, hints and more developed explanations and methodologies; ...);
- ✓ technical resources (indexing tools; annotation tools; translation tools; publishing tools; ...);
- ✓ economic resources (budget, ...).

4/ The process of (re-)authoring itself: the phases and tasks composing a (re-)authoring chain:

- √ "corpus constitution";
- √ "segmentation";
- √ "description and indexing";
- ✓ "translation";
- √ "versioning"
- √ "documenting and commenting"
- √ "publishing"
- ✓ "testing"
- **√** ..