

A TRIBUTE TO A COHERENT MAN

José Mujica finished his mandate as President of Uruguay. He got the charge with a public ceremony (it was the first time in Uruguay), cheered from tens of thousands people, in 1st of March of 2010. “Pepe”, an ex-militant of the guerrilla fighters group called Tupamaros among ‘60s and ‘70s, was jailed for over 10 years during the last military dictatorship. The oath took place in front of his wife, Lucia Topolanski, of 65 years old, the most voted senator in the history of Uruguay and who even was a guerrilla fighter. The charismatic new President relied his “political” message to something symbolic more than to the words: he arrived at the oath with an electric car, he decided to go on with cultivate his passion for floriculture and to stay in his own house instead of going to the House of the President, going on with cooking for his wife. Few weeks later his election presented itself with his own car under the headquarters of the presidential building, he was going to get off when a guard hurried to say him that it was forbidden to park there. Mujica answered that he had to get in the building, so the guard asked him “How much time will you stay?”. Mujica, unperturbed, said that he would have stayed there for 4 years, unless anything unexpected happens. An international committee wrote a report to the commission who bestow the Nobel Prize, asking to give him the 2014 one for Peace. The report, among other lots of things, remembered that he had been jailed for over ten years in inhuman conditions, and that he always has been a determined promoter of alternative measures to get social equality and to guarantee the human rights respect. I want you to remember, with his own words, the life of a man who was a warrior and then became President of his birth nation, keeping coherently with his principles, a linear behaviour of simple man, determined to conduct the struggle against injustices and abuses, which are the normality and the rule in that subcontinent.

Andrea Cantaluppi

MY IDEA OF LIFE AND SOBRIETY

“My idea of life and sobriety is a far away concept from austerity, a word that you misused in Europe, cutting everything and leaving people without a job. I consume the necessary but I don’t accept the waste. Because when I buy

something I don't buy it with money, but with the time of my life that it needed to gain it. And the time of my life is a good with which one has to be stingy. One has to store time for things that he likes and which motivate him. I call this time for itself freedom. And if you want to be free you have to be sober in consumes. The alternative is being a slave of your job to let yourself huge consumptions, which take away your time for living.”