

TOWARDS INTENSE LIFE

by

Julio Molina y Vedia

Translated from the Spanish by

Mariano Hernán Spina

Revised by

**Benjamin Arbitman Hodous
& Haydée Fabricant**

Foreword by

Florencia Molina y Vedia

UNWORK INC.

HACIA LA VIDA INTENSA

(SOCIOLOGÍA SUBJETIVA)

POR

JULIO MOLINA Y VEDIA

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FOREWORD

I'll try to write about a grandfather I barely knew, but who is nevertheless rooted in me, in those flings of the mind which lead me, time and again, to question the barbaric society I live in.

When, about a year ago, my brother Juan and I were surprised by a stranger (Mariano Spina) who had read 'Hacia la Vida Intensa' by Don Julio —as we called him— thanks to a reissue released by The National Library of the Argentine Republic in 2007, and was asking for permission to translate it into english, I immediately understood that one of Don Julio's most esteemed wishes, to find 'friends' who shared his way of *being-in-the-world*, was somehow becoming a reality. In this search he was obstinate, but didn't accomplish much. One of the strongest attributes of his personality was the absolute authenticity of his ideas, independent of passing fads and free from personal interest. This is the environment I grew in, marked by his ideas, which were implicit and needed no enunciation.

When I say that I barely knew him, it's because the memory I have of him is a silent one, that of a figure who communicated without talking. The search for that intensity, alluded in the title of this book, emanated from his eyes. I can't help but thinking about how disgruntled he would be by the increasingly light culture surrounding us. It was obvious to him that nothing could be insubstantial or weak, and that life depended on that, taking the risk of being judged as authoritarian, unbalanced and arbitrary.

His sister Delfina, who was also my grandmother on my mother's side (my parents were first cousins), was intrigued by the "transcendent being". My mother once said that 'granny Delfina' broidered tablecloths (among other activities like painting, writing and singing), in order to leave fragments of herself for the unknown future, which is the present I'm currently living.

Being part of such a powerful history impresses me, and I almost feel obliged to perpetuate it, against the tide which is obviously flowing in the opposite direction.

We have with us an ideal which sees no boundaries, no constraints of space or time, which upsets and revolts due to its 'politically incorrect' nature, and must fight against the heavy machinery of mass media, which steers towards the homogenization of the individual, while celebrating the growth of the destructive power of technology.

Entangled, to a certain extent, with the romantic self, strong and vigorous, Don Julio lead a knowledgeable life, trying to forge the path of history in search of that intense life.

Florencia Molina y Vedia
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