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ESSAY

The Desert of Ourselves

The intellectual and creative turn of artificial intelligence

Éric Sadin

Since ChatGPT went public in November 2022, we have been living through the 'intellectual and creative' turning point of artificial intelligence. In other words, systems have been delegated the task of taking over our most fundamental faculties – first and foremost those of producing language and symbols. How can we fail to grasp the scale of the social, cultural and civilisational consequences? In this respect, we are living through a moment of great gravity that calls on us not to allow ourselves to be misled by soothing rhetoric that conveys only a strictly utilitarian vision of the world and of economic interests alone. It is our duty to diagnose the extent of the issues at stake, so that we can take action – with a clear conscience. If we fail to do so, we will soon be witnessing a humanity absent from itself. The intellectual and creative turning point of artificial intelligence, or the desert of ourselves.

2025

200 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Writer and philosopher Éric Sadin is one of the world's leading thinkers on digital technologies, their characteristics, their economic drivers and their social, political and civilisational impact. To date, he has written nine theoretical books on these decisive issues of our time. He is invited to give lectures around the world and his essays have been translated into several languages. He regularly writes for *Le Monde*, *Libération*, *Le Figaro*, *El País*, *Pagina12*, *Corriere della Sera*, *Die Zeit*... His most recent publication is *La Vie spectrale. Penser l'ère du métavers et des IA génératives* (Grasset, 2023).

Materials: **Book available July 2025**

"Before the American sociologist Shoshana Zuboff gave a name to 'surveillance capitalism' – the economy that monitors our lives – Éric Sadin had been writing books on the subject for years. This philosopher with a flamboyant style has established himself as one of the world's leading thinkers in this field."

– *El País*, May 2022



2025

128 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Michel Blay is a philosopher and historian of science, and an honorary director of research at the CNRS, and the author of *Les Raisons de l'infini. Du monde clos à l'univers mathématique* (Gallimard, 1993), *Dieu, la nature et l'homme. L'originalité de l'Occident* (Armand Colin, 2013) and *Critique de l'histoire des sciences* (CNRS éditions, 2017).

Renaud Garcia teaches highschool philosophy. His research primarily treats anarchism, social critical theory and decline. He recently published *Pierre Kropotkin ou l'économie par l'entraide* (Le Passager clandestine, 2014) and *La Nature de l'entraide* (ENS éditions, 2015).

Materials: **Book available**

Nature exists

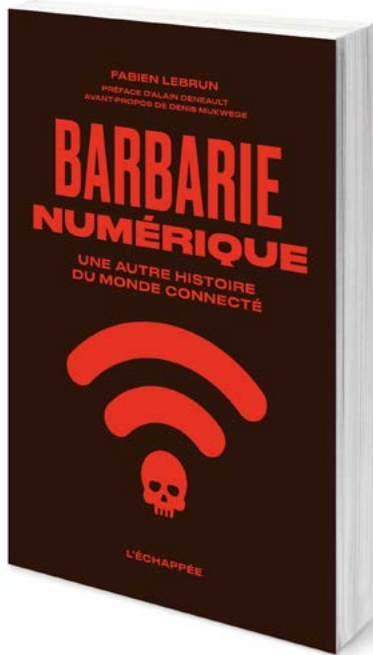
Beyond the reign of the machine and the thinkers of the living world

Michel Blay and Renaud Garcia

At a time when the idea of "nature" has been marginalized in environmentalist circles, this book rehabilitates it and revives the so-called "naturalistic" current.

Who, in the ranks of authorized critics, takes offence at the fact that thinkers of the living world and their postmodern companions, disciples of Bruno Latour, Phillippe Descola and Donna Haraway, consider the concept of nature to be reactionary? The result is an incongruity: they defend an ecology without nature. By removing this notion and replacing it with the more inclusive "living" and "non-human", including machines and "intelligent" systems, the "descolatourians" endorse technological development. They accept the expansion of industrialism, or the technical order, born of the marriage of capital accumulation and Galileo-Newtonian physical science.

During the Belle Époque, anarchists intuitively grasped the extent of the harmful effects of industrialism, which was destined to artificialize nature to the point of total control. This book aims to revive the thread of their revolt. Nature deserves to be meditated upon and experienced for itself, in its enigmatic character, by those who are born of it, work alongside it, then accept their death. These are the people whose honour it is to indissolubly link nature and freedom: we call them "naturians".



2024

Introduction by **Denis Mukwege**
Foreword by **Alain Deneault**
432 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

A researcher and member of the magazine *Illusio*, **Fabien Lebrun** is the author of *On achève bien les enfants. Écrans et barbarie numérique* (They Kill Children, Don't They? Le Bord de l'eau, 2020). He is a specialist of the ecological and geopolitical impact of new technologies, as well as the educational and ethical issues surrounding digital technology.

Digital Savagery

A different history of the connected world

Fabien Lebrun

A powerful investigation into the tragedy unfolding in the Congo, the heart of the digital industries and the object of all kinds of covetousness.

From the 1990s onwards, the explosion in the production of electronic goods, characteristic of the transition of capitalism to its digital stage, triggered a war for technological metals in the Congo (DRC) that has only grown in intensity. This in-depth investigation shows that dematerialisation is indeed a myth.

It feeds on limitless extractivism in regions, such as the Great Lakes in Africa, that have suffered the ravages of globalisation for centuries: from the slave trade to the colonial terror of Belgian King Leopold II (for the 'red rubber' needed for the car industry) to today's blood minerals (including coltan, essential for smartphones, and cobalt, for the energy transition).

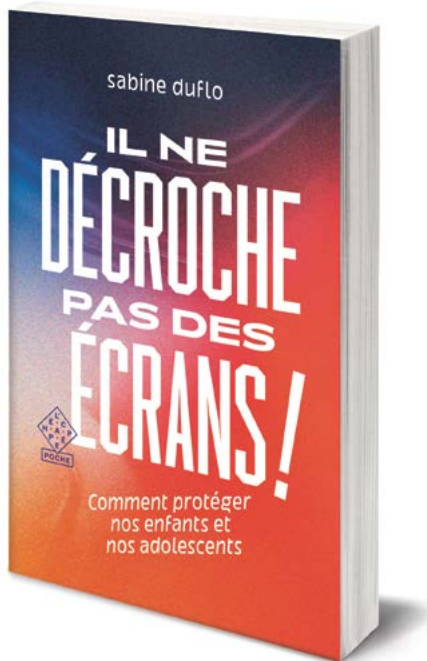
The smooth world of our screens is synonymous with a digital savagery that is manifesting itself in the Congo in the form of a militarised economy and institutionalised crime, widespread pillaging, forced labour, rape as a means of warfare, the destruction of forests and the annihilation of biodiversity... So many catastrophes that make the Congo one of the greatest tragedies in contemporary history, the high price to be paid for a connected world.

"Last but not least, this book is more than just an indictment. It questions our collective relationship with technology and suggests ways of thinking about a more ethical and reasoned use of digital technology. Without adopting a technophobic stance, the author argues for an urgent awareness of the social and environmental issues at stake, at a time when the needs of the digital industry, and particularly those of artificial intelligence players, are colossal."

— *La Dépêche*

"Barbarie numérique, Fabien Lebrun's new book, adds another layer to the story. Its great merit lies in reinscribing these facts in a more global history, a counter-narrative to our capitalist and colonial modernity. Whereas criticism of the connected world is all too often confined to denouncing its after-effects, i.e., once the computer equipment is in our hands – the loss of attention, the psychological disorders linked to screen addiction, etc. – the sociologist takes a closer look at the effects of the Internet. –The sociologist is interested in the geopolitical impacts and human activities that take place earlier, which we tend to marginalize, but which nevertheless defy belief."

— *ReporTerre*



2024

Introduction by **Michel Brillié**
Conclusion by **Maurice Berger**
320 pages | 12 x 18,5 cm

Sabine Duflo is a clinical psychologist and family therapist, and founder of CoSE (Collectif surposition écrans).

Materials: **Book available**

They won't take their eyes off their screens!

How to protect our children and teenagers

Sabine Duflo

The almost uninterrupted contact that children and teenagers have with screens leads to communication and attention problems, learning and comprehension difficulties, anxiety, and profoundly alters family and social relationships...

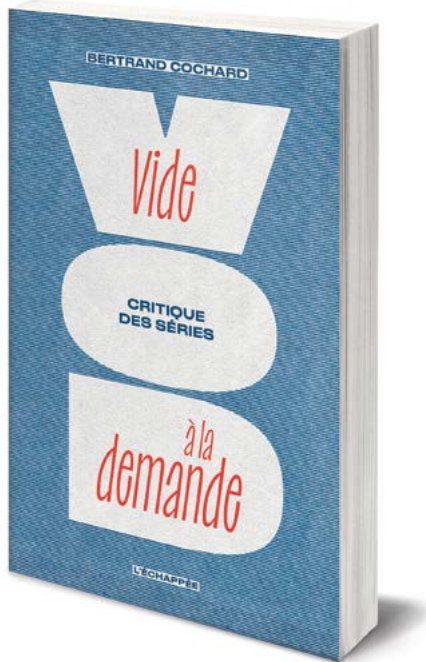
Based on a study of numerous cases from all ages and social backgrounds, psychologist Sabine Duflo explains the processes that lead to these different symptoms, which are treated as illnesses when in fact they are usually responses to an environment where the digital has replaced the human. She proposes a method tailored to each age group, with simple recommendations for combating the toxicity of screens.

"This book is one way of getting teenagers off screens"
— [Marion Rousset, Télérama](#)

"A reference book for resisting the dehumanization underway, and the destruction of human relationships and inner life by hyperconnection."
— [La Décroissance](#)

Rights sold to:

La Cebra (Spanish/World)



2024

176 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Bertrand Cochard is an agrégé and doctor of philosophy. He teaches aesthetic philosophy at Nice's municipal art school (Villa Thiole). He recently published *Guy Debord et la philosophie* (Hermann, 2021), with a preface by Étienne Balibar.

Materials: **Book available**

Emptiness on demand

Critique of our passion for series

Bertrand Cochard

Since they became available "on demand", on every screen, series have colonized our lives. Accessible all the time and everywhere, they fill even the smallest downtime and allow us to "switch off" after a day's work, while invading our conversations and shaping our imaginations. This phenomenon, which affects all social classes, all ages, all cultural levels and all political sensibilities, is inextricably linked to a digital infrastructure that is damaging our ways of living and thinking: reduced attention and sleep, information overload, overexcitement, consumerism, and so on. Although series are the object and form of our times, they have remained under the critical radar – "intellectuals" preferring to rehabilitate this supposedly minor genre, adorning it with all manner of virtues, not the least of which: an instrument of political emancipation, a refuge for aesthetic creation and even a therapeutic tool.

This essay takes up the exact counterpoint to these discourses and develops a radical critique of series. Combining reflections on free time, fiction, imagination, the history and the economy of attention, it reveals the deleterious effects of this "pastime" on our lives, which are now too full, or more accurately, too empty.

"In the face of so much convergent discourse, it's invigorating – and rather gratifying – to hear a radically discordant voice."

– Roger-Pol Droit, *Le Monde des Livres*

"Above all, this book has the merit of making us hear another song, a discordant sound in the chorus of lauders who see series as so many magnifying glasses capable of better revealing reality."

– Robert Maggiori, *Libération*

"It's gratifying to see a researcher who could be satisfied with the laurels he's already won and stay within the rules, quietly working against the tide."

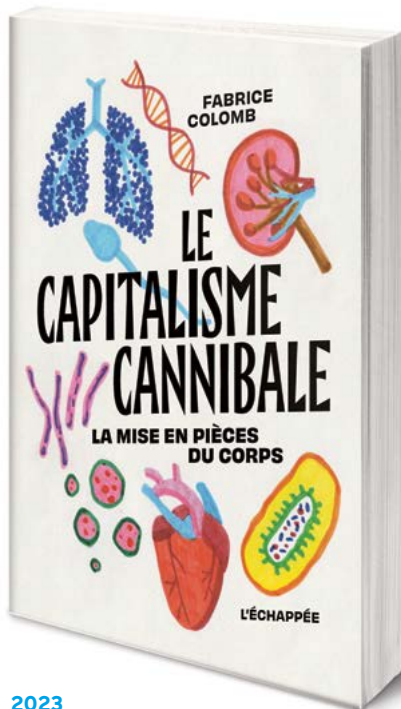
– Anne Crignon, *Le Nouvel Obs*

"A gritty, disturbing and salutary essay."

– Paul Roger, *La Vie*

"Original, his essay doesn't so much criticize the content of the series (sometimes very good) as understand what their growing success over the last twenty years is a sign of."

– Samuel Lacroix, *Sciences Humaines*



2023

272 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Fabrice Colomb is a sociologist and lecturer and researcher at the University of Evry-Paris Saclay.

Materials: **Book available**

Cannibal Capitalism

Tearing the body apart

Fabrice Colomb

Plasma, corneas, liver tumors, ova, mother's milk, stem cells, sperm... have legally become commodities. These biological samples are traded on markets worldwide, some to combat aging or chronic diseases, others to fight infertility or increase muscle mass.

This book traces the transition from a « cosmic body» to a « warehouse body», resulting in the creation of a vast bazaar of spare parts available to the bioeconomy. Using biotechnologies, the elements of the body are transformed into growth-generating resources. To demonstrate this, the author draws on his investigations into biobanks and the transformation of plasma into drugs.

They help us to understand why this commodification goes unnoticed, thanks in part to the bluff of state-orchestrated bioethics. Bioethics creates the illusion that institutions and experts are a bulwark against the unbridled development of technoscience and capitalism. In fact, it accompanies the process of tearing the body apart by a truly cannibalistic capitalism.



2023

240 pages | 16 x 22,5 cm

Patrick Chastenet is a professor in political science at the University of Bordeaux, where he has been teaching a course on ecological political thought since 2009. He is a contributor to various periodicals and is president of the Association internationale Jacques Ellul. He has published over twenty books, including *Introduction à Jacques Ellul* (La Découverte, «Repères», 2019).

Materials: **Book available**

The Libertarian Roots of Political Ecology

Patrick Chastenet

An introduction to the rigorous and clear-sighted thoughts of five “libertarian” precursors.

The five thinkers presented here by Patrick Chastenet share the same love of freedom and nature. Three of them claim to be anarchists, two are close to it, and all have deeply enriched the libertarian soil of political ecology. The author became friends with Jacques Ellul, of whom he is a reknowned specialist. He sympathised with Ivan Illich and Bernard Charbonneau before discovering the works of Élisée Reclus and Murray Bookchin.

His book, rigorous and lively, introduces us to the thoughts of these precursors, still too little known, but whose topicality has not finished surprising us.

“Black and Green»: the beautiful fruits of anarcho-ecology”
— Thomas Legrand, *Libération*

“An invigorating read (...), a dense and convincing essay.”
— Jean-Pierre Tuquoi, *Reporterre*

“This interesting and richly documented book offers an analysis of five libertarian authors who were precursors of political ecology.”
— Michaël Lowy, *En attendant Nadeau*



2023

144 pages | 12 x 18,5 cm

Olivier Lefebvre is a former engineer who left the profession in 2019.

Materials: **Book available**

Letter to Doubting Engineers

Olivier Lefebvre

I am speaking to engineers because I know them well. I am – or was? – one of them. As the architects of a technological future that shapes our lives and structures our societies, more and more of them are experiencing cognitive dissonance. Something in them knows that their work is digging the furrows of unsustainable trajectories for our lives and for the Earth.

So why aren't more engineers defecting? This is the question that I propose to elucidate in this book, from a resolutely political perspective. It would indeed be more than preferable for them, but also for all of us, if they refused to resign themselves, if they stopped doing harm as soon as possible, and if they escaped from their gilded cages.

"This little book is a must for all cognitive dissonance engineers."

– Hortense Chauvin, *Reporterre*

"Olivier Lefebvre has produced an invaluable document that is both intimate and sincere, as well as extremely well-documented."

– Philippe Vion-Dury, *Socialter*

"Olivier Lefebvre, a former robotics engineer, tries to explain why, in his opinion, many managers refuse to quit their jobs despite this tug-of-war between their values and the reality of their work."

– Séverin Graveleau, *Le Monde*



2022

272 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Guillaume Vallet is a lecturer in economics at the University of Grenoble-Alpes. His work focuses on the history of economic thought, money, gender and the body.

Materials: **Book available**

The Muscle Factory

Guillaume Vallet

This book provides an original and comprehensive analysis of bodybuilding practices, which can be compared to the functioning of a real “matter factory”.

The proliferation of fitness gyms, homes equipped with various types of devices, muscular bodies displayed on social networks, the wide-spread sale of macronutrients, etc. The fascination and quest for muscle is no longer limited to bodybuilders, but affects a growing proportion of the population who train hard to produce a desired body. In an uncertain world, where there is a feeling of vulnerability and dispossession, this work allows us to plan a project of and for ourselves. If the body is a space of sovereignty that is part of the construction of our identity, it is also apprehended as a resource that can be valued as capital, even capable of exercising a form of power. The process of transforming “matter” is similar to a factory in which the product is the physical part of oneself. Building muscle requires a great deal of involvement, and the mobilisation of many means, rationally managed with a view to maximising gains while reducing production costs.

In order to analyse the functioning of this factory, its origins and its psychological, social and economic implications, the author draws on numerous works on the subject, on his field investigations and... on his own practice as a bodybuilder. He thus plunges us into the heart of the muscle-making machine.

“In this essay, Guillaume Vallet looks back at the tremendous popularity of sports activities designed to build muscle.”

—Marion Messina, *Marianne*

“A socio-economic analysis of the quest for the perfect body.”

—Adélaïde Ténaglia, *Le Monde*

“How the France of 36,000 steeples became the France of 4,500 fitness clubs.”

—Ronan Planchon, *Le Figaro*



2022

256 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Yves Marry spent four years in Burma in Burma, where he witnessed the sudden arrival of the Internet and smartphones.

Florent Souillot has been in charge of digital at Gallimard-Flammarion since 2009. Together, they founded and run the association Lève les Yeux, a collective fighting to help reclaim our attention.

Materials: **Book available**

The War for Attention

How not to lose it

Yves Marry and Florent Souillot

The war for our attention is at the heart of the digital economy, and this book examines its weapons and gives us the means to fight it.

It's a war in which we spend most of our time in front of a screen. A war in which we are both victims and participants when we react on Twitter, when we rate a driver on Uber, when we swipe on Tinder... A war that is causing a lot of damage, especially among the young: obesity, sleep and concentration disorders, isolation... not to mention the threat to social ties and democratic debate, and the acceleration of the ecological disaster. A war being waged by the largest companies to capture our brain time. This war is the war for attention. Attention is the basis of our freedom and well-being and is a rare and precious resource. It could disappear if its exploitation, an immense source of profit, is not curtailed. For this, manuals for the «proper use» of digital technology will not be enough. Refusing the false promises of "green techno-solutionism", this book is a weapon to lead the collective reclaiming of our attention. Informed by fieldwork, it proposes a dive into the workings of the attention economy as well as concrete policy proposals. Or how to make disconnection a pillar of the future ecological transition, in the service of a convivial and degrowing society.

"Florent Souillot and Yves Marry warn against overexposure to screens, and explain the reasons behind the war waged by major digital companies to capture the gold of the 21st century: our attention."
—Ronan Planchon, *Le Figaro*

"A stimulating read that ends with a goal: to save the endangered species that is our attention."
—Catherine Marin, *Reporterre*

"La Guerre de l'attention (The War for Attention) deals with a crucial subject: the capture of our available brain time by screens."
—Pierre Thiesset, *La Décroissance*

"Instead of handing out computers and tablets in schools, it would be a good idea to give the book 'La guerre de l'attention' to those dear pupils. An unstoppable indictment of a danger that concerns us all."
—Fabrice Nicolino, *Charlie Hebdo*



2021

288 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Materials: **Book available**

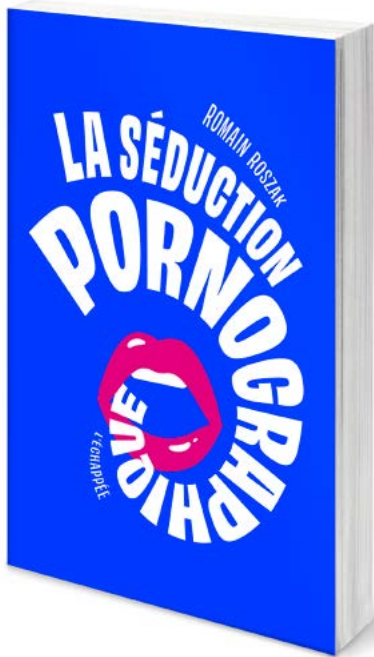
For a Revolutionary Anarchism

Collective Mur par Mur

Today, the struggle against all dominations has replaced the class struggle. In contrast to this trend, this book defends a truly revolutionary anarchism.

Since its first formulations in the nineteenth century, anarchism has always referred to heterogeneous and sometimes contradictory ideas and practices: from clandestine revolutionary organisations to the most legalistic trade unions, via individualist desertions and alternative schools. Today, imbued by postmodern ideology, it mostly takes the form of identity-based demands. The struggle against all forms of domination has replaced the class struggle, and the denunciation of the norm has replaced one of anarchism's primary aims: the destruction of power.

In contrast to this tendency, this book defends a revolutionary anarchism that aims at the destruction of the state and of capital. It is not a question of repeating the old naturalist and progressive clichés of the 19th century, nor of seeking ideological purity, but of taking up the thread of the history of this current of thought and struggle by putting it in touch with our times. The aim is to try to answer these fundamental questions: What is power and exploitation? What resists it? How do we move from resistance to revolution? What must be destroyed and for what purpose? What could be an anarchist society, free from labour and the economy?



2021
304 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Romain Roszak is an associate professor of philosophy. He contributed to the collective work *La Sexualité en images. Regards croisés sur l'érotisation des corps* (Hermann, 2018).

Materials: **Book available**

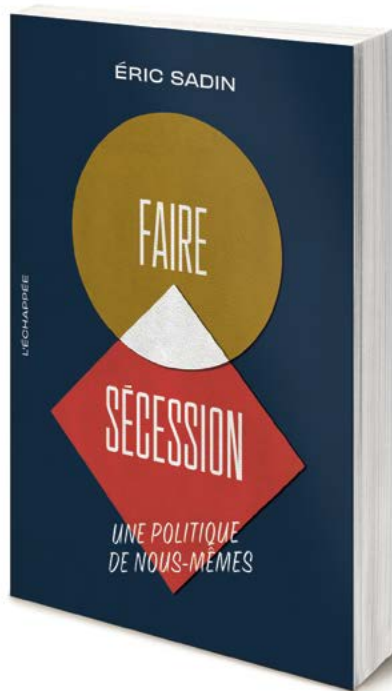
The Pornographic Seduction

Romain Roszak

Pornography, of which this book is a rigorous critique, lies at the heart of the leisure and pleasure industries on which the capitalism of seduction is based.

If representing sexuality used to be a challenge to the established order, this is no longer been the case since the 1970s, when capitalism entered its consumerist and sensualist phase. The transformation of pornographic images, but also of the mechanism in which they are inserted - practices, norms, laws, access modalities -, responds to the emergence of the leisure and pleasure industries. These markets of desire, tasked with revitalising a struggling mode of production, can only meet their clientele on this condition: a happy life must be redefined as the unlimited pursuit of sexual enjoyment.

An unprecedented economic windfall, and better served than ever by digital technologies, pornography is today the new Western totem, especially for a caste of intellectuals who promote it with women's empowerment and alternative porn, and elevate it to the rank of cultural practice with porn studies. To the point of sweeping aside any truly critical approach, whether Marxist or radical feminist. By revealing this collusion of theory, marketing and propaganda, this book risks breaking the totem pole.



2021

224 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Writer and philosopher **Eric Sadin** has been studying the hidden effects of technology for many years. He writes articles and columns in French newspapers (*Le Monde*, *Libération*...) and gives conferences in prestigious academic institutions. His books have been translated in many countries.

Materials: **Book available**

Breaking Away Politics of Ourselves

Eric Sadin

This book renews the perspectives of emancipation, by drawing up a register of concrete actions.

The unthinkable is currently happening: neoliberalism is dying. All its excesses – and a global pandemic – confirmed its harmfulness. That is why we now hope for a fairer world that could come out of taking into account ecological matters, an increase of citizens' involvement as well as the return of the welfare state. In short: a picture-postcard view.

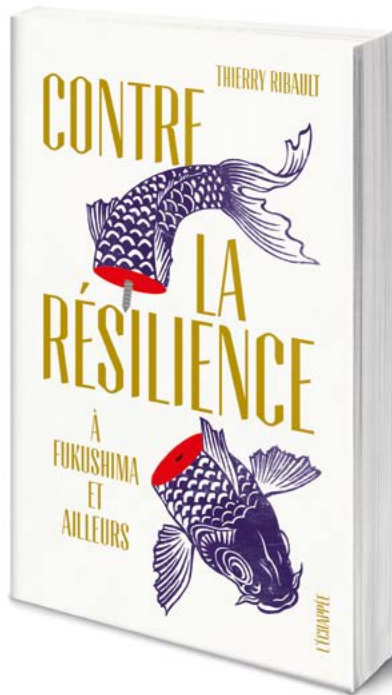
However, none of these will save us from the power of algorithms, from the complete commodification of our lives by the digital industry, or from a "telesociability" leading to our collective isolation. They all give birth to new types of dependencies, ignored by "major politics". Although we are aware that the most important challenge of our time is to be involved in the issues that concern us, this aspiration is too vague and isn't channeled into any common project geared toward this goal.

This book goes against the mainstream and aims to renew the possibilities of emancipation, suggesting concrete actions. In order to do so, we need to criticize discourses that defend private interests, we need to stop accepting unfair situations and to create vibrant collectives in all areas of life that favor experimentation and individual expression – while making sure not to offend anyone, nor to ruin the biosphere.

After so many disillusionments, the time has come to stop trusting outside authority to quickly and fully commit ourselves to politics for ourselves.

Rights sold to:

Luiss University Press (Italy)



2021

368 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Thierry Ribault is a researcher in social sciences at CNRS. He cowrote *Sanctuaries of the Abyss. Fukushima: Chronicle of a Disaster* with Nathalie Ribault (Éditions de l'Encyclopédie des Nuisances, 2012).

Materials: **Book available**

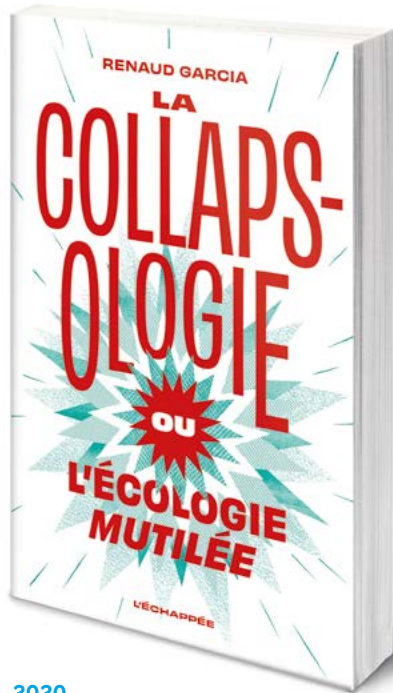
Against Resilience In Fukushima and Elsewhere

Thierry Ribault

A comprehensive and critical analysis of resilience, as an ideology of adaptation and a technology of consent to the unacceptable.

Resilience is nothing but a cruel fantasy promoted as a therapeutic tool to face current and future disasters. Its proponents even call for a catastrophe whose damage feeds our ability to overcome it. Those who call for it are giving in to a true disaster as its damages will feed our ability to overcome them. That is why the «human element» – which is the last obstacle to complete adaptation – is now in the way. Everything competes to transform us into a malleable matter, capable of “bouncing back” no matter what, able to turn our destruction into reconstruction and our misfortune into happiness, thus enslaving us to our condition of survivors.

Both an ideology of adaptation and a technology of consent to current reality – as disastrous as it is –, resilience is one of the many solutionist myths of our time. This essay, thanks to ten years of theoretical work and a thorough investigation that starts with the nuclear accident of Fukushima, is hoping to add its critical perspective to the current discourse.



2020

160 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Renaud Garcia is a French philosophy teacher. His research primarily involves critical social theory, degrowth and anarchism. His recent publications include: *Pierre Kropotkin ou l'économie par l'entraide* (Le Passager clandestin, 2014) and *La Nature de l'entraide* (ENS editions, 2015).

Materials: **Book available**

Collapsology or Mutilated Ecology

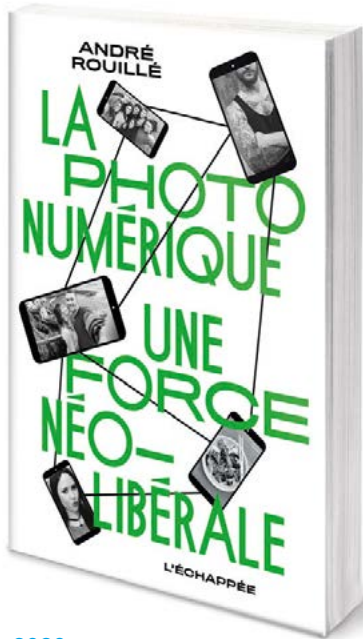
Renaud Garcia

In this new book, Renaud Garcia reveals what really lies underneath the discourses of collapsology and its most zealous advocates.

From devastating fires killing thousands of animals and plants to pandemics and climate change, everything conspires to bring the modern project of controlling nature via human engineering to a halt. The collapse of industrial societies seems certain – or least very likely. Because the future has no future, new political voices are shaped by collapsology, an ecological discourse that keeps taking over. Although this realization may seem encouraging, collapsology – meaning the study of past, current and future collapses as well as the solutions to prepare for it – could be nothing but a new spectacle. Scientific analyses, major ethical orientations and practical advice to survive all contribute to conceal a decisive part of political ecology, despite the latter having offered the most relevant critique of industrial capitalism, and the surest ways out of it. In this sense, collapsology is mutilated ecology.

Rights sold to:

La Cebra (Spanish/World)



2020

192 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

André Rouillé, a teacher-researcher at the University of Paris-8, has been running the paris-art.com website dedicated to art, photography, design and dance. He has published eight books on the history and aesthetics of and aesthetics of silver photography, which have been translated into English, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian and Chinese.

Materials: **Book available**

The Digital Photo

A Neoliberal Force

André Rouillé

Digital photography has ushered in a new era characterised by the profusion of aberrant images, the emergence of new powers and the manufacture of the neoliberal individual.

Analog photos were static image-things, to be looked at. Digital photos are dynamic images, to be exchanged. They circulate in uninterrupted flows on the planetary networks: both incorporeal and active, they are forces in their own right.

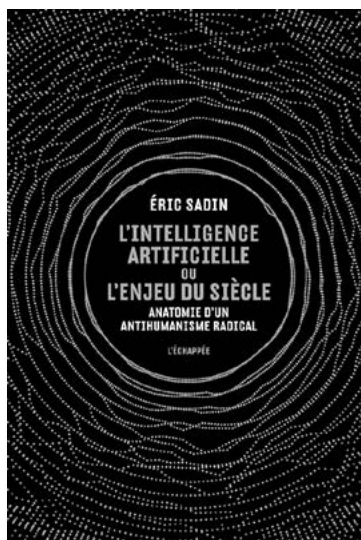
They surreptitiously and continuously instil neoliberal rationality into everyone's subjectivity: instantaneity, acceleration, fluidity, circulation, horizontality, sharing and ubiquity. This dissemination of the market model - even where there is no question of money - explodes the old boundaries between here and elsewhere, nation and world, private and public.

In the wake of Theodor Adorno's theorization of art as a social fact, the author, one of the best experts on the history of photography and images, develops a comprehensive critique of the aesthetic, technical, economic and political processes at work today. He shows how the photo-digital has ushered in a new era characterised by the profusion of aberrant images, the emergence of new powers, the rise of a new economy and the manufacture of a neoliberal individual.

AI: THE ISSUE OF THE CENTURY

ANATOMY OF A RADICAL ANTIHUMANISM

ERIC SADIN



2018
304 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm
Materials: **Book available**

AUTHOR

Writer and philosopher, ERIC SADIN has been studying the hidden effects of technology for many years. He writes articles and columns in french newspapers (*Le Monde*, *Libération*...) and gives conferences in prestigious academic institutions. His books have been translated in many countries.

This book dissects AI, its history, its main features, its scope, what's at stake. It urges readers to live a life based on fundamentally different aspirations.

It's our time's obsession. Businesses, politicians and researchers all swear by it, because it allows us to hope for endless economic prospects as well as for a rapidly emerging world that is perfectly secure, optimized and more fluid. What's so intoxicating? AI – artificial intelligence.

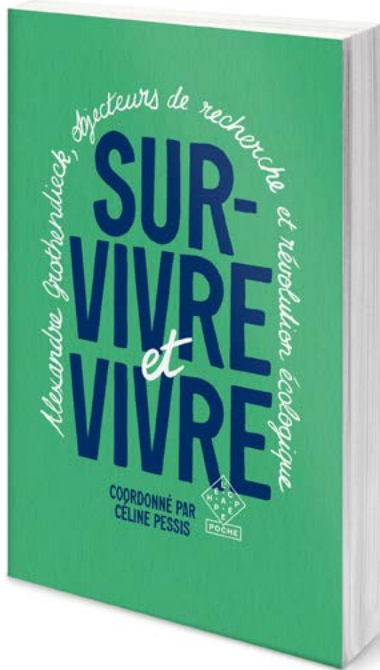
We hear so much about it that it prevents us from realizing its main purpose: dictating the truth. It presents itself as a powerful tool, allowed to evaluate our reality in a more reliable way than we do ourselves. AI seems to be destined to dictate its rule and how the world should run. Nowadays, technologies are becoming “demanding forces,” which leads to the disappearance of the legal and political powers that make us humans, i.e. freedom of judgment and action.

Each “truth” is meant to encourage us to act in a certain way in our everyday life, thus creating a “robotic invisible hand” that analyzes everything that happens and tries to monetize it or to use it in a utilitarian way. We must fight against this antihumanist campaign and make our case for rational ways based on the plurality of human beings and life's intrinsic uncertainty, as opposed to a supposedly perfect – albeit normative – rationality. This is our time's major political challenge.

Rights sold to:

Luiss University Press (Italy)
Caja Negra Editora (Spanish/World)

PHILOSOPHY



Survivre et vivre

**Alexandre Grothendieck, scientific objectors
and the ecological revolution**

Céline Pessis (Ed)

Survivre et vivre, the movement founded by Grothendieck, questioned the benefits of techno-scientific development.

In the post-68 era, Survivre et vivre, the movement of critical scientists gathered around mathematician Alexandre Grothendieck, denounced the militarization of research and the destructive orientation of technoscientific development. Rapidly becoming the spearhead of an anti-scientific rebellion, these “scientific objectors” have created an “ideological laboratory of the ecological revolution”, the story of which is told in this book, which is also an anthology of articles from their journal.

2025

320 pages | 12 x 18,5 cm

Céline Pessis is a teacher-researcher at AgroParisTech. Her work sheds light on various forms of socio-ecological conflict in France in the second half of the 20th century. She co-edited *Une autre histoire des “Trente Glorieuses”*. *Modernisation, contestations, pollutions* (La Découverte, 2013).

Materials: **Book available end of 2025**



2023
192 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Michel Blay is a philosopher and historian of science, and an honorary director of research at the CNRS. is the author of the following books *Les Raisons de l'infini*, *Du monde clos à l'univers mathématique* (Gallimard, 1993), *Dieu, la nature et l'homme*, *L'originalité de l'Occident* (Armand Colin, 2013) and *Critique de l'histoire des sciences* (CNRS éditions, 2017).

Materials: **Book available**

The Rule of Technology

How it came to be, and how to get out of it

Michel Blay

As the ecological crisis demonstrates, humanity is on a headlong rush that could lead to its own destruction through the complete alteration of its living environment. By taking a journey through time and the history of ideas, this book helps us to understand how we got here, while giving us the keys to a radical reorientation.

The tipping point came at the turn of the 16th and 17th centuries. It was during this period that a new representation of Nature as a machine began to emerge, and with it the idea that only mathematical laws could account for reality. Measurements, algorithms and energy calculations took precedence over any other form of relationship with the world. As Nature becomes a sum of quantifiable data and a commodity to be made profitable, it is irresistibly drawn into the sphere of economics. This is the type of world order in which we are still trapped: that of the machine and the masters of the machine.

This essay, for its part, defends the need for another way of accessing reality: a more sensitive and sensible way of being in the world, and a companionship with Nature, of which the work of the peasant and the words of the poet are the most striking examples. In so doing, he calls for a rediscovery of the living world, that is, of freedom, against the order of Technology.

"A salutary book."

—Jacques Luzi, *Écologie & Politique*

"Michel Blay explains, among other things, how the Christian conception of the living can nourish a critique of technology and provide the keys to a radical reorientation."

—Théo Moy, *La Croix*

"This book underlines the fact that this order of technology, driven by technocracies motivated by selfish financial calculations, threatens life itself on Earth, by failing to take life into account."

—Nicolas Mathey, *L'Humanité*



2023

192 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Anselm Jappe is a theorist of the critique of value, whose publications include *La Société autophage* (La Découverte, 2017), *Béton. Arme de construction massive du capitalisme* (L'échappée, 2020) and *Sous le soleil noir du capital* (Crise et Critique, 2021).

Materials: **Book available**

A Permanent Plot Against the Whole World

Essays on Guy Debord

Anselm Jappe

A collection of texts on Guy Debord that will disturb those who claim to be a Debordist. His thought has lost none of its critical power.

"A suspicious look of permanent conspiracy against the whole world": this was Guy Debord's definition of the Champ Libre editions that published him. It could well apply to Debord's entire public trajectory. Having apparently become «acceptable» since his death in 1994, even transformed, according to some, into a national icon and glory, the founder of the Situationist International has not, however, become, despite all the allegations to that effect, an author like any other.

This book aims to rescue the disturbing power of his work: it examines, among other things, the end of art and the end of politics, his reading of Marx, his contribution to historical reflection, and the possible parallels (or not) with the writings of Theodor Adorno, Hannah Arendt and Jean Baudrillard. His curious recuperation by the art world is evoked, as well as the question of his «timeliness». The most different people claim to identify with be Debord and the situationists: it is worth reminding them that the author of *The Society of the Spectacle* always wanted to oppose the whole world, or almost. After reading these texts, historians and artists, activists and filmmakers, will wonder whether they were right to count Debord among their friends.



2020

320 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Jeanne Burgart Goutal holds an agregation in philosophy. She is also a yoga instructor. She has been studying ecofeminism for almost ten years, combining theory with practice. She contributed to several reference books on this subject, most notably *Féminismes du XXI^e siècle* (PUR, 2017) and *Dictionnaire des féministes* (PUF, 2017).

Materials: **Book available**

Being Ecofeminist

Theories and Practices

Jeanne Burgart Goutal

A lively philosophical journey through the great diversity and complexity of ecofeminism, from its origins to the present day.

Women's oppression combined with the destructions of nature embody a model of civilization that we need to leave behind: that is the main take of ecofeminism, a movement developed more than 40 years ago. However, this term encompasses a great variety of militant thoughts and practice.

This book shows how flourishing and diverse ecofeminist theories are: it is a radical critique of capitalism and technoscience, a rediscovery of traditional wisdoms and skills, a women's re-appropriation of their bodies as well as a way to cultivate an intimate bond with the cosmos. This philosophical journey alternates between reporting and analysis as the author takes us among ecofeminists in Europe, where some of them try to live a self-sufficient life, until the North of India, to meet Vandana Shiva, the star of the ecofeminist movement. The author unveils the ambiguities of ecofeminism, where you can find Westerners looking for social alternatives and personal awakenings, NGOs following their own political and commercial agendas, but also the concrete struggles of women and indigenous communities of the South leading practical fights.

Rights sold to:

Setu Prakashani (English/India, South East Asia)

LIMITS

AGAINST CAPITALISM AND ABSTRACTION

RENAUD GARCIA



2018

320 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm
Materials: **Book available**

AUTHOR

RENAUD GARCIA is a French philosophy teacher. His research primarily involves critical social theory, degrowth and anarchism. His recent publications include: *Pierre Kropotkin ou l'économie par l'entraide* (Le Passager clandestin, 2014) and *La Nature de l'entraide* (ENS éditions, 2015).

Against the frantic development of capitalism, against the ongoing commodification of many aspects both outside and inside ourselves, some voices are rising to take *limits* into account.

Limits are part of our relationship to the world: they give it density and richness. At every moment of our lives, we are set in a definite place within the vast world, which influences who we are and how we bond with others. However, capitalism is relentlessly trying to take over this essential cultural dimension, to cut the roots connecting us to our immediate environment.

Industry has made our food tasteless. Technology is giving us the illusion of being everywhere while being nowhere at all. Work has turned into an absurd and disembodied activity. The wellness ideology is forcing us to manage our body and soul like an efficient business. These new forms of estrangement feed on the same process of abstraction and impoverishment of existence.

Drawing various examples from philosophy, sociology and literature, this brilliant book explains how to resist the destructive logic of capitalism, restoring a powerful political meaning to our lost sensitivity.

Rights sold to:

La Cebra (Spanish/World)

IN FAVOR OF AUTONOMY CASTORIADIS'S POLITICAL THOUGHTS

ARNAUD TOMÈS AND PHILIPPE CAUMIÈRES



2017

240 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm
Materials: **Book available**

AUTHOR

ARNAUD TOMÈS teaches philosophy in Strasbourg. He published *Castoriadis. L'imaginaire, le rationnel et le réel* (Demopolis, 2015).

PHILIPPE CAUMIÈRES teaches philosophy in Agen. He wrote *Castoriadis. Critique sociale et émancipation* (Textuel, 2011) and *Castoriadis. Le projet d'autonomie* (Michalon, 2007).

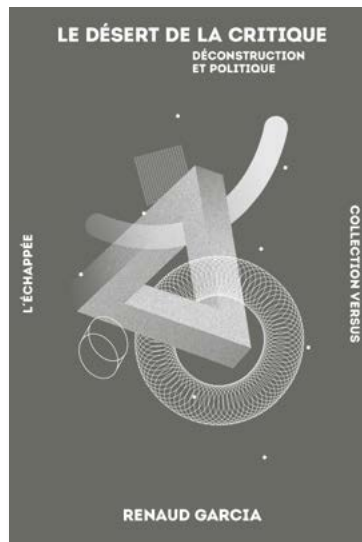
For the first time, a book that gives us a clear, meaningful and striking overview of Cornelius Castoriadis's political thoughts.

Originally drawn to Marxism, but quickly aware of its shortcomings, Cornelius Castoriadis wanted to reinvent revolution. According to him, modernity confronts two projects for our society: one that favors rational control of what's real and one that favors autonomy for everyone. Castoriadis highlighted the origins of the project for autonomy, which date back to Ancient Greece. He analyzed its modern iterations, from the Russian Revolution in 1917 to the upheavals in the 1960s. More importantly, he studied the circumstances that allowed emancipatory politics to develop in our time: fights are organized by the people themselves; there are equality and a sense of limitations. This project for autonomy represents a future for a society aware that power is everyone's concern.

This book explains and questions this complex and multi-dimensional thought. This book is also the first clear, meaningful and striking overview of Castoriadis's doctrine.

A CRITICAL DESERT DECONSTRUCTION AND POLITICS

RENAUD GARCIA



2015 and 2021
224 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm
Materials: **Book available**

AUTHOR

RENAUD GARCIA teaches high-school philosophy and aims to apply the principle of a refusal to achieve. His research primarily treats anarchism, social critical theory and decline. He recently published *Pierre Kropotkin ou l'économie par l'entraide* (Le Passager clandestine, 2014) and *La Nature de l'entraide* (ENS editions, 2015).

PRESS

"Renaud Garcia gives his readers several essential keys to understanding the pitiless post-modern world as it evolves – and especially how it doesn't." ⇨ *Le Figaro*

"Through his deft writing style, Renaud Garcia questions, in this indispensable, soon-to-be classic, *Desert of critical inquiry*, the paradox stipulating that theories of deconstruction not only prove to be ineffective for understanding the world as it crumbles, but also participate in a march towards the chaos capitalism embodies." ⇨ *A contretemps*

An analysis of the influence of the deconstruction theories on the contemporary radical lefts, and of the way they neutralize all social criticism.

Human nature? A dangerous fiction. Analytical thinking? An instrument of cultural standardization. Truth? A relative object masking devices of power. Language? A jailer of creativity. Universalism? A Western alibi for world domination. The body? A plaything of technological innovation. Such are the commonplaces of "deconstruction". This rather esoteric concept has been transformed into a systematic program, consistently suspecting a relation of domination behind every idea or behavior. While theories of deconstruction to be more subtle on the question of mores, they are blind to the generalized merchandizing of life, the influence of cultural industries and urbanization. Whoever evokes the need for deceleration, speaks of alienation or puts the experience of the body in a limited environment back at the heart of the analysis, henceforth commits the ultimate crime: reintegrating a conservative approach into critical thinking. Too busy deconstructing and deconstructing themselves over and over again, "radical" leftists have neglected the social field, which an opportunistic far right has invested by exploiting the distress of history's losers.

This work examines the reasons behind this intellectual and political sabotage, by analyzing deconstruction's influence on contemporary social criticism. Likewise, it calls for a renewal in the struggle against capitalism based on completely novel theoretical foundations.

Rights sold to:

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La Cebra (Spanish/World)

THE SITUATIONIST MOVEMENT

AN INTELLECTUAL STORY

PATRICK MARCOLINI



2013

340 pages | 16,5 x 22 cm
Materials: **Book available**

AUTHOR

For over ten years PATRICK MARCOLINI, philosopher and historian of ideas, has accumulated and analyzed documents of the Situationist movement, met with its actors and brushed shoulders with those pursuing the adventure.

This book tells the story of the situationist group, from its cultural roots to the very diverse movements it still influences today.

In the 1960's and 70's, everywhere around the world, rebellion broke out against the growing grip of merchandise and governments on most aspects of life. Led by Guy Debord, alongside intellectuals and groups influenced by Marxism and Anarchism, the Situationists forged many critical tools of this generalized uprising. But instead of coming from the worker movement, they stemmed from the 20th century's artistic avant-garde: Dada, Surrealism and Lettrism.

Artists on the loose, at odds with society, part-rebel, part hoodlum, the Situationists were brought together around a radical program: the refusal of life conditions modern man was bound to, both in advanced capitalist societies and communist regimes, and the will to experiment with new forms of existence and communities breaking away from established order.

This book analyses the cultural roots of Situationist theories and practices. It explores their diverse, often contradictory posterity: ranging from revival to radicalization, "recuperation" and exploitation, on the part of post-modern intellectuals or within contemporary art, among strategists of neo-capitalistic power as well as in the ranks of today's rebels.

PRESS

"Patrick Marcolini narrates the extravagant takeover of Situationism, be it empathetic or warped, associated with the names Asger Jorn, Raoul Vaneigem or Guy-Ernest Debord. His book overshadows seven eighths of the movement's weighty bibliography, answering nearly all the questions. It is enlightening and beautiful to read." ⇨ *Le Monde*

"With *The Situationist Movement*, Patrick Marcolini evokes the legacy and sources of a group founded by Guy Debord, destroyer of the society of the spectacle. An admirable study without being idolatrous" ⇨ *Marianne*

"It's not primarily the pertinence of this movement's elaborate concepts which interests Patrick Marcolini, but rather the fact that it contributed in molding our current lifestyles, favoring a shift from 'the passage of the spirit of esthetic, authoritarian and repressive capitalism to a new spirit of hedonist, permissive capitalism.'" ⇨ *Sciences Humaines*

Rights sold to:

Nanjing University Press (China)
Arpa Editores (Spanish/World)

HISTORY



2025

Introduction by **Freddy Gomez**
384 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Pierre Ansart (1922-2016), a philosopher by training and a member of the French Resistance, was for many years Professor of Sociology at the University of Paris-VII. A specialist in Proudhonian thought, he also studied the role of ideologies and emotions in politics.

Materials: **Book available**

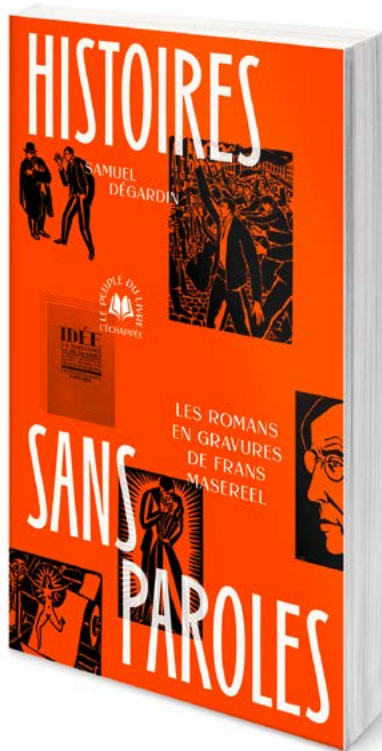
The Birth of anarchism

Pierre Ansart

Slandered by Marx, misappropriated by the far right, neglected by libertarians themselves, Pierre-Joseph Proudhon, the founder of anarchism, remains an unloved, almost unknown figure. In this masterly essay, Pierre Ansart gives us the quintessence of his social thought, while resituating it in its original milieu: the world of the workshop and the small factory, where the worker-craftsman, proud of his know-how, both manages and executes.

Proudhon not only rejected capitalism as a system of exploitation. He rejected the model of the big company, of mechanization at all costs, of generalized acceleration. The society of which this advocate of self-management dreamed was made up of small, decentralized production units, in which workers would control their activity from start to finish, favoring the tranquil rhythms of yesteryear.

Proudhon's anarchism reflects the moral universe of people who had not yet been fully engulfed by technology and the economy, and is therefore like a critique of the old world addressed to the modern world. But there's nothing "reactionary" or outdated about it. On the contrary: it seeks to invent new social forms capable of revitalizing old freedoms, while adding social equality to them.



2024

320 pages | 14 x 23 cm
150 illustrations

A leading specialist in the work of Frans Masereel, on whom he wrote his doctoral thesis, **Samuel Dégardin** has contributed to the republication of six of his silent graphic novels, and is co-author of a book on his travels in the USSR (*Voyages au pays des Soviets*, Snoeck, 2022) and another on the Mexican engraver Posada (*Confessions d'un squelette*, Martin de Halleux, 2019).

Materials: **Book available**

Stories without Words

The Novels in engravings of frans masereel

Samuel Dégardin

In 1918, after having contributed illustrations to a press opposing the arms trade, Frans Masereel (1889–1972) published *25 Images de la passion d'un homme*. While the book already featured the Belgian artist's favorite themes – the man-eating city and class struggle – its originality lay in its form: a narrative made up entirely of engravings. The novel without words was born.

From the Great War to the Cold War, Masereel produced some fifteen of them, stigmatizing capital and its dealers, the wheel of misfortune affecting the proletariat, and the death instinct that had led Europe into chaos. They were mainly distributed by publisher Kurt Wolff, in popular editions with prefaces by Mitteleuropa writers (Max Brod, Hermann Hesse, Thomas Mann).

Other engravers of the interwar period took up this sequential narrative mode with its strong political and social connotations: the Germans Carl Meffert and Otto Nüchel, the Spaniard Helios Gómez, the Czech Helena Bochoráková-Dittrichová, the Americans Lynd Ward and Giacomo Patri...

Masereel's graphic novels may be devoid of words, but they are not lacking a story. This book will take you through the various chapters, focusing on the revival of wood engraving, the renaissance of the xylographic book and the influence of events on the destiny of an artist engaged in the struggles of his time.

"The fruit of extensive research, the book continues with an exclusive look at each of the books produced."

— Zoé Monti, *Arts et Métiers du livre*

"A precise and comprehensive illustrated biography, this book provides a better understanding of the work of an incredible artist."

— Franck Guigue, *Planète BD*

"The result of in-depth research, this book invites us into Frans Masereel's distinctive world of rebellion and poetry."

— Dominique Sureau, *Alternative Libertaire*



2024

272 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

20 period illustrations

Marina Touilliez has a degree in Political Science and has been working on the history of racism and issues of memory in France and Germany for over fifteen years. She lived in Berlin where she was in charge of research at the Commission for the Compensation of Victims of Spoliation (CIVS) due to the anti-Semitic legislation in force during the Occupation.

Materials: **Book available**

Parias

Hannah Arendt and the «Tribe» in France (1933-1941)

Marina Touilliez

Fleeing the Gestapo, Hannah Arendt arrived in France in October 1933. She stayed there for eight years, which would have a profound effect on her life and her future work. When she arrived in Paris, the economic crisis of 1929 signalled the end of the Roaring Twenties and the refugees were paying the price. The 27-year-old woman, who had been promised a brilliant academic career in her homeland, had to come to terms with the unhealthy rooms of the hôtels garnis, the fierce struggle to find work and racism.

In the Latin Quarter and in Montparnasse, those who fled Hitler manage to keep another country alive in exile. There she meets Heinrich Blücher, nicknamed "Monsieur", a false dandy and true revolutionary on the run, who will become her husband. They are both part of a family of magnificent oddballs who meet at 10 rue Dombasle, around the brilliant Walter Benjamin. They form this "tribe" from which each one draws the strength to continue.

But with the approach of war and the influx of new refugees from Austria and Spain, the French administration created a new category of people to be interned: the "undesirables". On 15 May 1940, Hannah Arendt was summoned with 5,000 other "undesirable" women to the Vélodrome d'Hiver and then "transferred" to the Gurs camp 800 km away. For six weeks, she experienced the "hell of Gurs" and came close to despair. When the Nazi armies invaded France, she took advantage of the chaos to flee the camp, but the whole of France had become a mousetrap that closed in on the German refugees. Not all the members of the "tribe" will escape.

"In a wonderful essay, Marina Touilliez describes the constellation of solidarity that surrounded the exiled thinker in the mid-1930s (...). Once you've closed the book, you'll want to quote its most powerful pages, and retrace all the places it takes you."

— Jean Birnbaum, *Le Monde des Livres*

"These eight years of poverty are brilliantly and meticulously recounted by Marina Touilliez in this investigation. »

— Émilien Bernard, *Le Canard enchaîné*

"Marina Touilliez delivers a breathless exploration of Arendt's refugee life and that of her people."

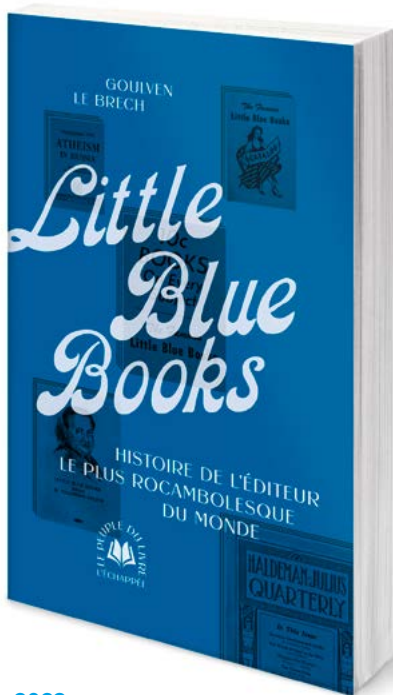
— Alexandre Jadin, *Philosophie Magazine*

"There are books that acquire such a consistency over the pages that the very idea of interrupting their reading for a single moment costs us."

— Alexandre Chollier, *Le Courrier*

"This well-documented book is an ideal gateway to the work of this great 20th-century mind."

— Antoine Cheltiel, *Franc-Tireur*



2023

208 pages | 14 x 23 cm
50 period illustrations

Goulsen Le Brech lives in Caen, he is assistant to the director of collections at the Institut Mémoires de l'édition contemporaine (Imec).

Materials: **Book available**

Little Blue Books

The Story of the World's Most Adventurous Publisher

Goulsen Le Brech

One of the most amazing and little-known publishing adventures of the 20th century took place in... Kansas. It was there that Emanuel Haldeman-Julius laid the foundations of paperback publishing. The son of Russian immigrants, a literate dandy and self-made man, he travelled the United States and met Mark Twain, Jack London and Emma Goldman. His love of literature, his socialist commitment and his philosophical ideal inherited from Voltaire led him to create a collection of small books: Little Blue Books.

Between 1920 and 1950, he sold hundreds of millions of them and thus propagated his ideals of emancipation, self-education and the fight against religious obscurantism. He published the philosophers Bertrand Russell and Will Durant, the Powys brothers and the feminist Margaret Sanger. Jealous of his spectacular financial success and frightened by his temerity, the guardians of the moral and political order took offence, in particular the powerful boss of the FBI, Edgar Hoover, whom he dared to attack. Haldeman-Julius was sentenced to prison for tax evasion. On 31 July 1951, he was found mysteriously drowned in his swimming pool.

Based on documents never before published in France, the author tells the story of this humanist intellectual, coupled with a formidable businessman, who was the most incredible publisher in the world.

"Goulsen Le Brech traces the life of the inventive promoter of the American paperback. A true novel!"

—Anthony Dufraisse, *Le Matricule des Anges*

"It's hard not to wonder what has become of our relationship with knowledge, truth and free thought, as we close this fascinating book and this account of a crazy, idealistic gamble that is unique in the history of publishing."

—Anne Both, *Le Monde des Livres*

"The first French investigation of a character reminiscent of Citizen Kane."

—Frédérique Roussel, *Libération*



2022

320 pages | 16 x 22,5 cm

François Jarrige is a lecturer in contemporary history at the University of Burgundy. He is the author of *Technocritiques. Du refus des machines à la contestation des technosciences* (La Découverte, 2014) and co-author, with Thomas Le Roux, of *Face à la puissance. Une histoire des énergies alternatives à l'âge industriel* (La Découverte, 2020). He writes a bi-monthly column in the journal *La Décroissance*, of which this book is a collection.

Materials: **Book available**

Progress Is (Sometimes) Stopped

History and Degrowth

François Jarrige

Contrary to the famous adage that “you can’t stop progress”, this book, through the lens of history, proves that there is no technological fatality.

Did you know that in the century of the steam engine, people were already concerned about the over-consumption of energy and the limits to growth? Were you aware that the “electricity fairy” had been rejected by people who were reluctant to accept modern comforts and did not want to depend on large technical systems? That our ancestors castigated the “pedestrian-crushing” motorists and attacked the acceleration of transport? That workers opposed the sacrosanct “development of productive forces”? That environmentalists before they were known as such were warning about the destruction of nature by industrial civilisation?

Contrary to the famous adage that “you can’t stop progress”, recourse to history shows that there is no technological fatality. Humanity is not doomed to adapt, resigned, to the implacable reign of machines. The race for power has always faced profound challenges. The texts gathered here are based on the memory of these movements of resistance to nourish the current reflection on the necessary degrowth. While indefinite expansion leads us to the abyss and the artificialization of the world intensifies, bifurcations remain possible. And they are vital.

“Drawing on his work on the history of technology and industrialization, François Jarrige puts the notion of progress into perspective and demonstrates its ambivalent aspect.”

— Mathieu Vidard, «La Terre au carré», *France Inter*

“A striking panorama of two centuries of industrial growth thought to be indisputable (...). This well-argued recourse to history is a timely contribution to the debates that are driving our societies as they face the test of their own survival.”

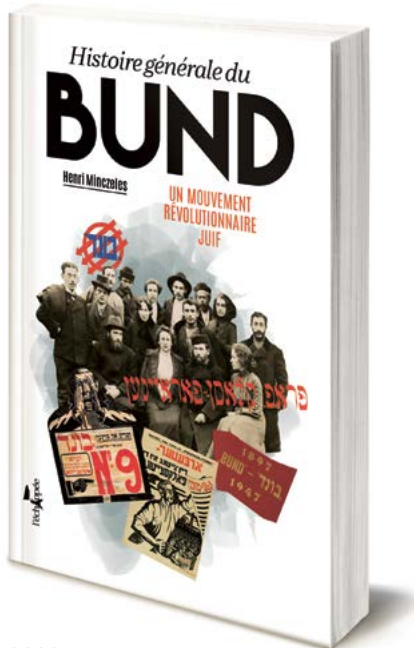
— Claire Legros, *Le Monde*

“In an in-depth and committed essay, historian François Jarrige sets out to restore the credibility of the often-discredited concept of degrowth.”

— Mark Hunyadi, *Le Temps*

“An invigorating panorama of how, sometimes, “progress” can be brought to a halt.”

— Philippe Vion-Dury, *Socialter*



2022

450 pages | 13 x 20 cm

Henri Minczeles (1926–2017), specialist of the Eastern European Jewish communities, graduate from EHESS, has published amongst others: *Vilna, Wilno, Vilnius, Jerusalem of Lithuania* (La Découverte, 1993), *A Story of the Jews of Poland* (La Découverte, 2006) and *the Jewish Workers Movement, A Story of Origins* (Syllepse, 2010). He was one of the animator of the Centre Medem in Paris.

Materials: **Book available**

A General History of the Bund A Jewish Revolutionary Movement

Henri Minczeles

The epic of the Bund, the Jewish socialist movement, from its birth to the Stalinist purges, through the revolutions of 1905 and 1917 and the Warsaw ghetto uprising.

Secretly created in 1897, the Bund was the Jewish workers social-democrat organisation, the first Jewish, socialist, marxist and secular political party. This movement gathered Jews from Poland, Lithuania and Russia to relentlessly fight the autocratic Tsar. More than a political formation, the Bund was developed as a true cultural movement, of which Yiddish was the flowing sap. Often criticized amongst the Jewish population: religious, zionists of all kind, communists and liberals, the Bund took part in every battle against Russian, Soviet and Nazi oppressions.

This is the story of this movement, from its birth up until the last Stalinian purges, revisiting 1905 and 1917 revolutions, as well the insurrection of the Varsaw ghetto.

This book also depicts the lives and the actions of the leaders and the activists of the movement, which the Shoah hacomd buried and whose ashes history had blown away.

"The Bund, pioneer of secular Judaism and promoter of Yiddish cuteness."
— Michel Juffé, *La Nouvelle Quinzaine Littéraire*

"The memory of a Jewish revolutionary utopia."
— Rachel Binhas, *Marianne*

"A veritable reference on the history of this movement."
— Francis Pian, *Le Monde Libertaire*

Rights sold to:

La Tormenta (Spanish/World)



2019

288 pages | 13 x 20 cm

50 period illustrations

Anne Steiner, a lecturer in the Department of Sociology at the University of Nanterre. of the University of Nanterre, is currently working on the workers' movement, and more particularly the anarchist movement during the Belle Époque. She has devoted numerous articles to it and two books published by L'échappée *Le Goût de l'émeute* (2012) and *Le Temps des révoltes* (2015).

Materials: **Book available**

The Outsiders

Individualist and Illegalist Anarchists in the "Belle Époque"

Anne Steiner

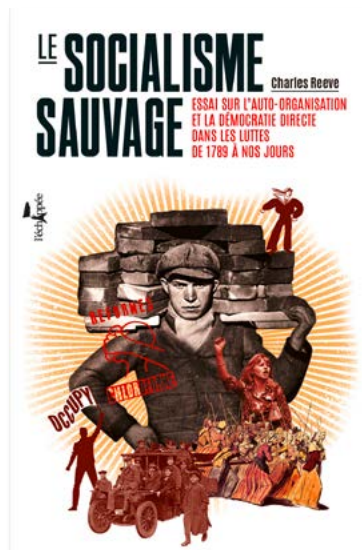
The reference book on the history of individualist and illegalist anarchist circles in the Belle Époque.

They were twenty years old in 1910 and defined themselves as "outsiders". Refusing to submit to the dominant social order, they also rejected any involvement in trade union or political organisations. For them, individual emancipation must precede collective emancipation. Their refusal of bourgeois norms, as well as of the prejudices specific to the working classes, leads them to invent other relationships between men and women, between adults and children, and to develop a transgressive art of living. Their rejection of wage labour led them to experiment with community life and to invent other modes of consumption, but also to take the path of illegalism - of which the tragic journey of the "Bonnot gang" is the most famous illustration. In revolt against her family, Rirette Maîtrejean, who arrived in Paris at the age of sixteen, became one of the figures of this milieu. Her journey serves as the main thread of this fascinating story. Alongside her, we discover all the actors of this anarcho-individualist epic who experienced Libertad's precept: "It is not in a hundred years that one must live as an anarchist". A demand that many paid for with their freedom and even with their lives.

WILD SOCIALISM

AN ESSAY ON SELF-GOVERNMENT AND DIRECT DEMOCRACY FROM 1789 TO THE PRESENT

CHARLES REEVE



2017

320 pages | 13 x 20 cm

Materials: **Book available**

AUTHOR

Born in Lisbon in 1945, CHARLES REEVE has lived in Paris since he deserted the Portuguese colonial army in 1967. He is the author of many essays, among which: *Le Tigre de papier, sur le développement du capitalisme en Chine, 1949-1971* (Spartacus, 1972); *La Mémoire et le feu. Portugal, l'envers du décor de l'Euroland* (L'Insomniaque, 2006) and *China blues, voyage au pays de l'harmonie précaire* (with Hsi Hsuan-wou, Verticales/Gallimard, 2008). He writes currently for the New York magazine *The Brooklyn Rail*.

A stimulating analysis of the emergence of spontaneous and autonomous protest movements throughout contemporary history.

The global crisis of political representation invites us to reactivate the principle of direct democracy. Shaped during the French Revolution in 1789, this idea has gained consistency and thrived through many periods of social turmoil. Its legacy can be found in a vast array of protest movements throughout contemporary history.

From the formation of the Soviets during the 1905 Russian Revolution to the *German worker's councils* in the 1920's, from the May 68 events in France to the *15 de Mayo movement* in Spain, from *Occupy* to the *Arab Spring*, most of these "wild" and autonomous forms of uprising share a common trend: their defense of self-government has always been rejected by the leaders of institutional socialism, colliding with the authoritarian principles of parliamentary system.

This well-argued book aims to revisit the key moments in the history of the Left, describing and discussing them in the light of these spontaneous and divergent movements. It never loses sight of a perspective of self-emancipation.

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Edition Nautilus (Germany)

YOUNG LORDS

THE HISTORY OF THE LATINO BLACK PANTHERS (1969-1976)

CLAIRE RICHARD



2017

256 pages | 13 x 20 cm

Materials: **Book available**

AUTHOR

CLAIRE RICHARD is a writer, journalist and a translator. She used to live in New York, where she discovered the Young Lords. She now lives in Paris.

The fascinating story of the Young Lords, the Latino Black Panthers, a movement unknown by the public who fought for racial emancipation in the USA in the 1960s.

August 1960, *El Barrio*, the Puerto Rican area of New York City. Young people are in the streets, wearing fatigues and berets a la Che Guevara. In their hands, brooms, not guns. They clean the streets neglected by public authorities. A riot erupts. *El Barrio* had just discovered its Black Panthers, the members of the Young Lords party. They are between 16 and 25 years old and come from Puerto Rican families who immigrated to the US.

Inspired by the Black Panthers, they want to replace the racist and capitalistic state with community and political alternatives. Thus, they march for Puerto Rico's independence and are active in the neighborhoods, where they set up health programs in particular. To them, revolution is also a personal change.

In 1971, they are a few thousands on the East coast. Their newspapers are read, their actions are effective. However, the movement split up in 1976, torn by inner conflicts, weakened by strategic mistakes, undermined by COINTELPRO.

The fascinating story of the Young Lords was a decisive moment for Latinos' political vision in the USA, and an unknown part of the fights for emancipation that happened in the 1960s.

Rights sold to:

Mimesis (Italy)

THE DIGGERS

REVOLUTION AND COUNTER-CULTURE IN SAN FRANCISCO (1966-1968)

ALICE GAILLARD



2014

160 pages | 13 x 20 cm

Materials: **Book available**

AUTHOR

ALICE GAILLARD is co-author of the film *The Diggers of San Francisco* for which she met most of the group's members.

PRESS

"A fascinating story of those practicing anarchists."
⇨ *Le Monde diplomatique*

The thrilling story of the Diggers, a small group of rebellious young people who tried to politicize the flower children in the streets of San Francisco.

Autumn 1966. Chanting the slogan "Everything is free, do your own thing", a small group of young rebels wanted to radicalize flower children who were beginning to converge upon San Francisco. Named after English peasants of the 17th century led by Gerrard Winstanley, who had seized seigniorial land to cultivate with others, the Diggers of San Francisco overtook the Haight Ashbury district and cultivated the seeds of utopia.

Partisans of the "guerilla theater", they staged their dreams of a free and carefree life, handing out free meals, opening free shops, organizing gigantic parties..., making the street their own theater of critical, political, subversive and festive action.

Now part of counter-culture's big picture thanks to Emmett Grogan's autobiographical novel Ringolevio, the Diggers soared through the 60's like one of those "orgasms of history", vibrating here and there, as intense as it was short, and for which it's as much a question of revolution as pleasure...

Rights sold to:

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Nautilus (Germany)

RAF

URBAN GUERRILLA IN WESTERN EUROPE

ANNE STEINER AND LOIC DEBRAY



2006

256 pages | 13 x 20 cm

Materials: **Book available**

AUTHOR

ANNE STEINER, assistant professor in the sociology department of the University of Nanterre, presented her thesis on revolutionary violence in Western Germany in 1985. Her latest research deals with the individualist anarchist movement.

LOIC DEBRAY, professor of mathematics, writes for the magazine *Temps critiques* where he develops a political analysis of the individual.

Based on new sources, the story of the most famous guerrilla group in Europe in the 70's: the Red Army Faction.

In 1972, while western youth protested against the Vietnam War, bombs were exploding in American headquarters in Frankfurt and Heidelberg. Soldiers were killed and computers controlling the American army's logistics in Vietnam were destroyed. For the first time, the revolutionary group named Red Army Faction attacked imperialism at the very heart of the metropolises, in Western Germany.

For the militants of the RAF, the student movement's motto "We must fight here and now" became an ethical doctrine. Other attacks were perpetrated against judges and policemen. In 1977 the group held hostage the leader of the Federation of German Industries, a former high-ranking SS officer in the Third Reich. This event proved decisive for the RAF's writings and underlying ideology, for it was primarily the group's theoretical output which best defined its coherence and singularity.

Interviews conducted with former militants, sympathizers and lawyers give insight into itineraries, showing the importance of encounters and the context in which this group with such radical practices emerged.

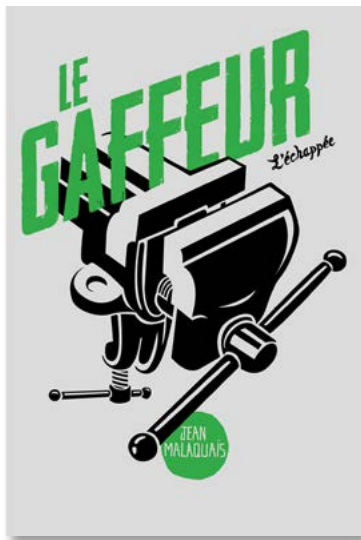
Rights sold to:

LOM Ediciones (Chile)

FICTION

THE BLUNDERER

JEAN MALAQUAIS



2016
304 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm
Materials: **Book available**

AUTHOR

A Polish author of Jewish descent born in 1908, JEAN MALAQUAIS arrived in France in 1926. Self-taught, friend of Gide, he obtained the Renaudot prize in 1939 for his first novel : *Les Javanais*. Exiled in Mexico and Venezuela, he wrote *World without visa*, a fresco of Marseille during the Occupation.

PRESS

“What I retain is the memory of a man [Malaquais] who never stopped fighting alone, with steadfast resolution, against an inhumane world. I’m led to believe the profound humanity emanating from him, however brief our encounter, represents an indestructible arm against barbarism, whose hordes assail us from all sides.”

⇨ *Raoul Vaneigem*

“We feel an urge to invite sociologists and political analysts to let go: in other words to join the ranks of poets. Malaquais reminds us here that the latter have always had a head start over the spineless, conceited thing we call Science.” ⇨ *Jean-Pierre Sicre (founder of Phébus editions)*

Kafka meets 1984 meets Brazil. *The Blunderer* is one of these great works that describes an imaginary world in order to help us not accept ours.

Returning home, an ordinary employee finds his apartment under siege, his wife vanished and his existence completely denied by an all-powerful administration. Afterwards, this unsettling and harrowing story describes the descent into hell of this man around whose neck the noose of a gigantic bureaucracy is tightening.

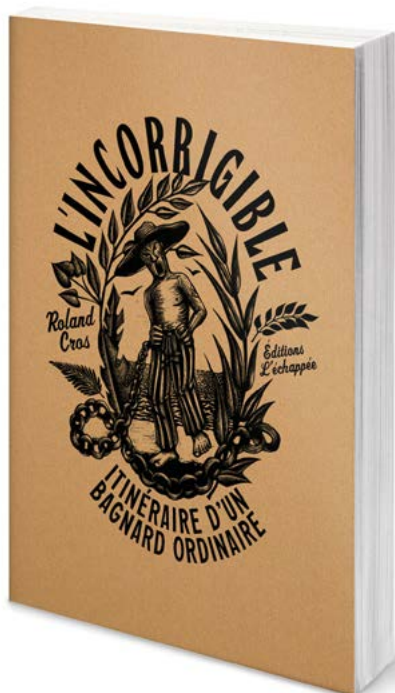
Dark and unsettling, this novel of an astonishingly prophetic nature could only have been written by a maverick of literature, coupled with an authentic revolutionary. It constitutes an implacable denunciation of conformism, the identity’s dissolution, communication networks and the mutilation of consciousness...

Ranging between Kafka’s *Trial*, 1984 by Orwell and Terry Gilliam’s *Brazil* we find one of the all-time great works to describe an imaginary world, helping us protest against our own.

Rights sold to:

Cliquot (Italy)

GRAPHIC



2023

Afterword by **Jean-Marc Delpech**
192 pages | 17 x 24 cm

Roland Cros as worked as a photographer and documentary filmmaker. A land-art artist, he also engravings on wood, lino and even chainsaws. He is the author, of *Pogo. Regard sur la scène punk française (1986-1991)*.

Materials: **Book available**

The Incurrigible

Itinerary of an ordinary convict

Roland Cros

Colonial prisons were designed to reform, colonize and remove. Over time, the idea of a possible rehabilitation for convicts sentenced to forced labor was replaced by a purely expiatory and humiliating sentence. It has to be said that delinquents were quickly seen as infected cells in the social body that needed to be eliminated by sending them as far away from metropolitan France as possible, mainly to French Guiana.

Louis Cros, who bears the same name as the author - he really did exist and could have been one of his ancestors - fits the bill. He is one of those who are described as «incurrigible». An anonymous man among the anonymous, crushed by the penitentiary machine for committing two petty thefts and, as stated by the court that judged him, «indulging in idleness». Here is his story, that of an ordinary convict, told in 90 magnificent « mute » engravings in the vein of Frans Masereel, Lynd Ward or Otto Nückel. These masterfully detailed engravings depict a historical reality and a tragic destiny, reminding us that injustice has always struck indiscriminately.

