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ESSAY



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 renowned 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.



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.



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 widespread 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.



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.



2021

288 pages | 14 x 20,5 cm

Materials: **Book available**

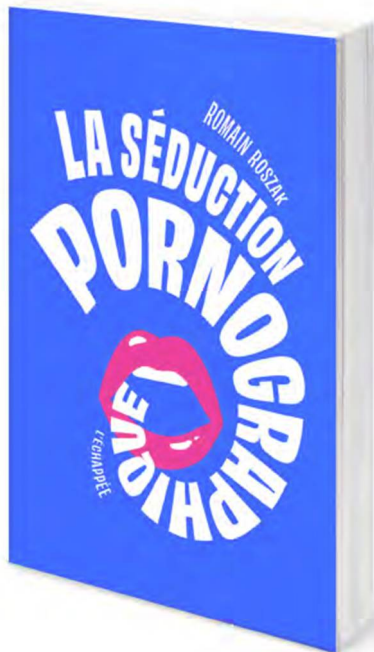
For a Revolutionary Anarchism

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**

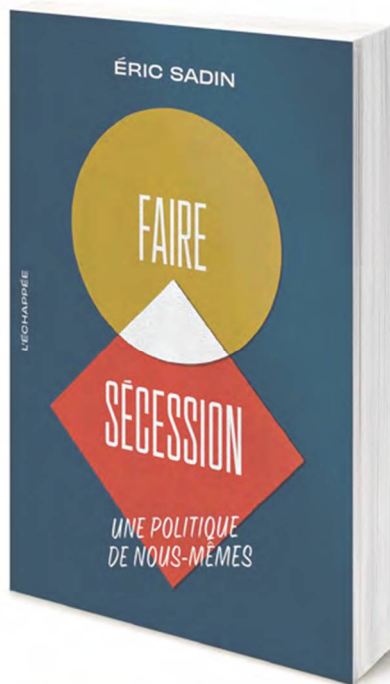
The Pornographic Seduction

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.

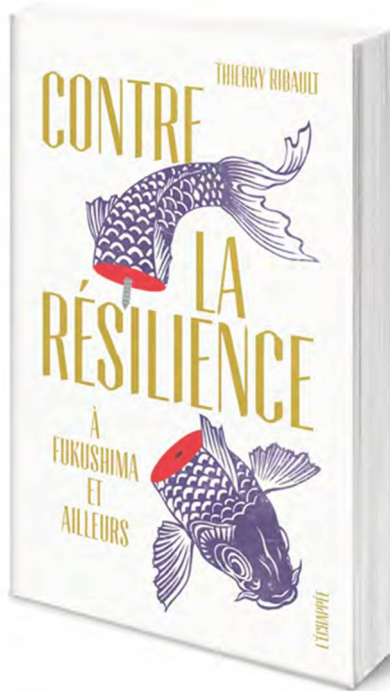
The unthinkable is currently happening: neoliberalism is dying. All its excesses – and a global pandemic – confirmed its harmfulness. That is why we now hope for a fairer world that could come out of taking into account ecological matters, an increase of citizens' involvement as well as the return of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



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**

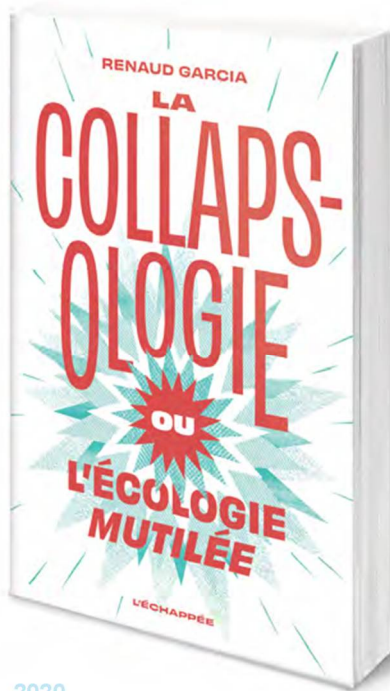
Against Resilience In Fukushima and Elsewhere

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**

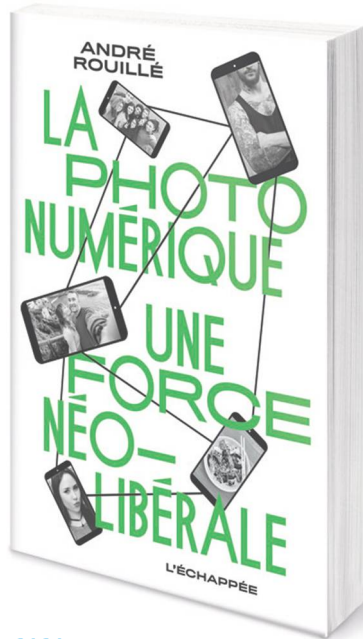
Collapsology or Mutilated Ecology

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:

Libera Università Internazionale degli Studi Sociali (Italy)
Caja Negra Editora (Spanish/World)

PHILOSOPHY



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 xx^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.

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 editions, 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.

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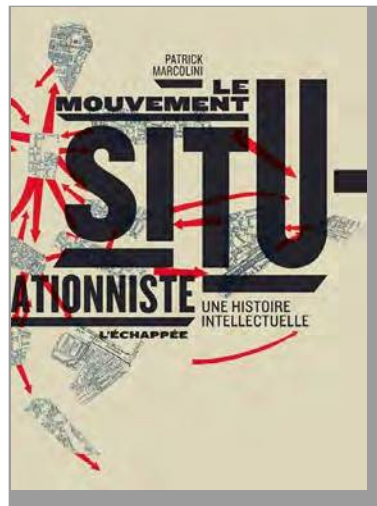
Elèuthera (Italy)

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.

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*

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.

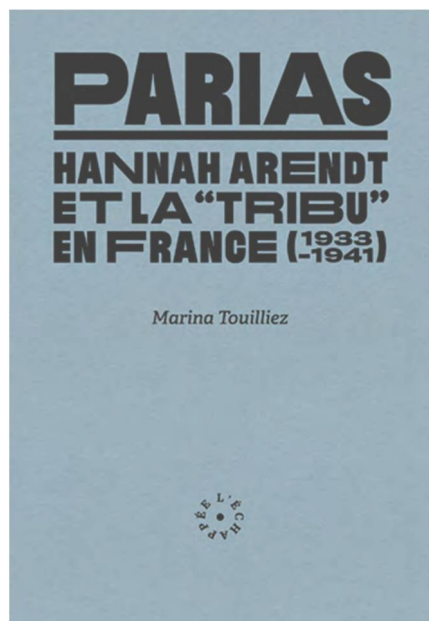
Artists on the loose, at odds with society, part-rebel, part hoodlum, the Situationists were brought together around a radical program: the refusal of life conditions modern man was bound to, both in advanced capitalist societies and communist regimes, and the will to experiment with new forms of existence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

Rights sold to:

Nanjing University Press (China)

HISTORY



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 end of 2023**

Parias

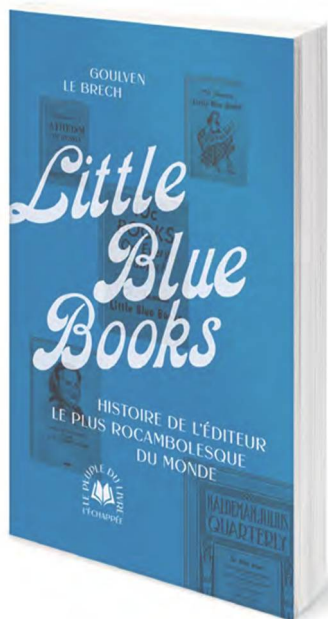
Hannah Arendt and the «Tribe» in France (1933-1941)

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.



2023

208 pages | 14 x 23 cm

50 period illustrations

Goulven Le Brech lives in Caen, he is assistant to the director of collections at the Institut Mémoires de contemporain publishing (Imec).

Materials: **Book available**

Little Blue Books

The Story of the World's Most Adventurous Publisher

Goulven 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.



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

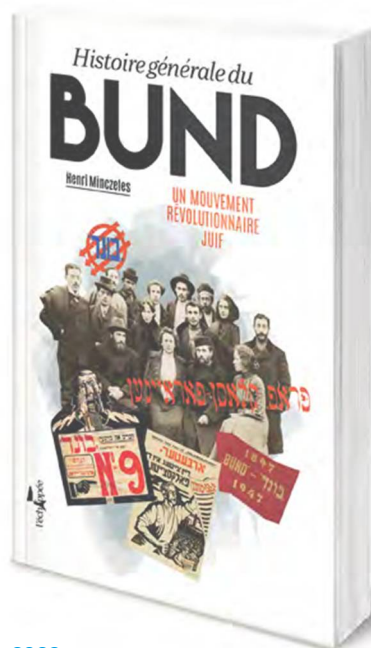
François Jarrige

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.



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 had buried and whose ashes history had blown away.

[Rights sold to:](#)

Ediciones 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

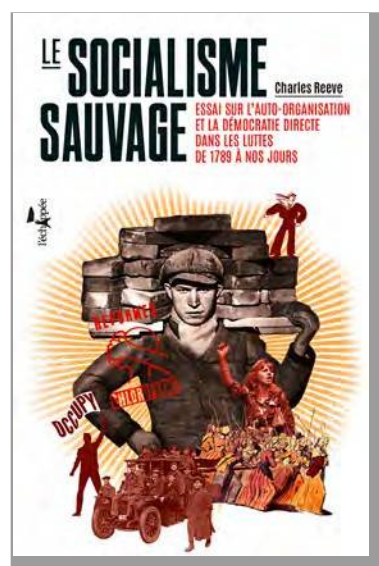
The reference book on the history of individualist and illegalist anarchist circles in the Belle Époque.

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.

Rights sold to:

Virus Editorial (Spanish/World)

Antígona (Portugal/World)

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...

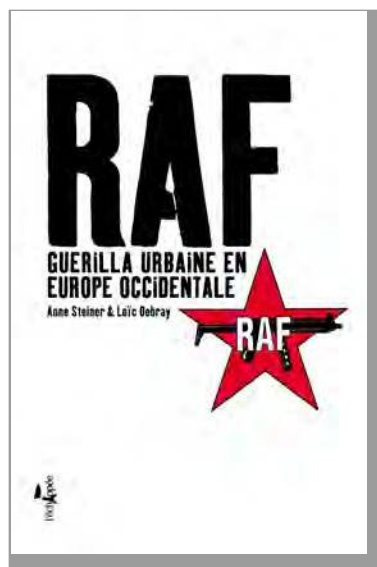
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RAF

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.

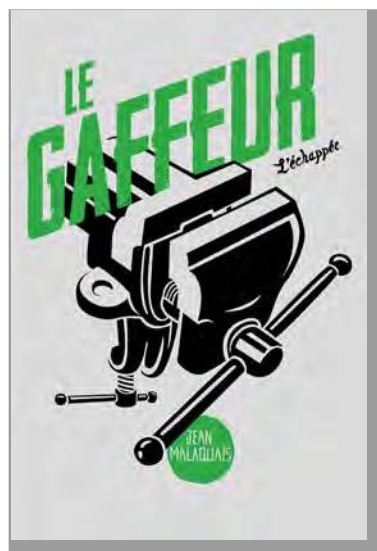
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LOM Ediciones (Chile)

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 éditions)*

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.

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