Rights list

2022-2023
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Jacques Rancière, one of the most read radical thinkers in aesthetics, philosophy and political theory, is a man of few words when it comes to intervene in current affairs. Principled and wise, the philosopher never tells people in the streets what they should or should not do. He is however a sharp critic of dominant ways of thinking equality, democracy as mere formalities. In this essay, one will find his major interventions of the last 30 years, not only lambasting increasing oligarchic governance, anti-immigrant laws, neoliberal “reform”, but also showing how new forms of protest (the indignados, the Gilets Jaunes, Nuit debout) should transform our understanding of popular autonomy from the State, and resist both populist and anti-populist temptations in the so-called “post-truth” age.

Jacques Rancière is Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at the University of Paris-VIII.

Publication: January 2022 / 272 pages

Rights sold: Rebecca Publishing Korea, Laertes Ediciones Catalan, Katakrak Spanish, Passagen Verlag German, Polity English

“It is an understatement to say that by gathering thirty years of interventions in the public debate, Jacques Rancière offers with ‘Les Trente inglorieuses’ a collection of thoughts that are absolutely indispensable for understanding the political stakes we live in.” DIACRITIK

“Democracy is ‘the power specifically exercised by those who have no specific quality to exercise power’. It is in this way that it remains a scandal, assures Jacques Rancière, who, with the help of his «ferocious philosophy», invites us to seek the paths of an egalitarian politics in the logic of democratic revolts.” LE MONDE
Reflections on the commune-form
Kristin Ross

When the State recedes, the commune-form flourishes. This was no less true about Paris in 1871 than in more recent vernacular occurrences of the commune-form, in France and elsewhere. Contemporary territorial struggles like the zad at Notre-Dame-des-Landes or the pipeline occupations of North America have reactivated ways of appropriating social space. They have fashioned new political forms of inhabiting that act to interrupt the destruction of the lived environment. But they have also altered what we can see about the recent past, and given new names and a new understanding to what we can see. Long-lasting land-based struggles of the 1960s and 1970s like Sanrizuka in Japan or the Larzac in southern France become newly visible for what they are: the defining battles of the era. At the same time, the work of anti-productivist theorists like Maria Mies or Henri Lefebvre, who produced in the 1970s a thinking grounded, like the commune-form itself, less in ideology than in everyday life and its transformation, becomes newly available for the present as a “usable archive” of legacy ideas. Pragmatic, non-accumulative processes that make up the working existence of commune life – defense, subsistence, appropriation, composition and the complementarity of practices, solidarity in diversity – emerge in these reflections as crucial elements of the form that Marx once called “the political form of social emancipation,” and that Kropotkin deemed “the necessary setting for revolution and the means of bringing it about.”

Kristin Ross is a professor of comparative literature at New York University. She is the author of numerous books, including Fast Cars, Clean Bodies: Decolonization and the Reordering of French Culture and May ’68 and its Afterlives.

Publication: April 2023 / 150 pages
We Will Always Be Barbarians
Louisa Yousfi

In the colonial era, the masters of old defined «equal» citizenship as entailing, from the colonized, «assimilation», ie adopting values and cultures of the metropolis and leaving their own. In postcolonial Europe, assimilation still seems to be the criterion of acceptability for non-white people in their jobs, in the cultural sphere or facing the repressive state apparatuses. In this exquisite and lively essay, Louisa Yousfi unpacks what it means to resist this process of assimilation/subalternization. She names this subjective and affective resistance on the part of the (post)colonized, following Algerian novelist Kateb Yacine’s insight, barbarism. In a short and breathtaking reading of major novelists (Chester Himes, Mohammed Dib, Toni Morrison, Ralph Ellison) and rappers, she delineates aesthetics and politics of the barbarian. How can the racially dominated salvage and nurture the part of their selves which seems at odds with (white) conventional sociality in the modern world? Louisa Yousfi’s proverbial style proves that aesthetics and politics are inseparable and that a literary and linguistic revolution is part and parcel of a genuinely decolonial path of liberation.

Publication: March 2022 / 128 pages
A Popular History of Psychoanalysis
Florent Gabarron-Garcia

It has been a few decades since Freud became a bad name, not only in mainstream psychiatry, but also in radical thought. Freud and Lacan were accused of sexist and class biases through their theorizations of a universal Oedipus and symbolic castration, along with strict sexual difference, as sine qua non to the development of a “normal” subjectivity. This timely book addresses both these prejudices against psychoanalysis and the unfortunate depoliticization of many practitioners and thinkers in the field. Recalling Freud’s radical moments (his promotion of free clinics in Weimar led by his socialist leaning colleagues), or lesser known figures such as the Marxist Feminist psychoanalyst Marie Langer, and institutional experiments like the Saint Alban and La Borde clinic (where Guattari, Deleuze’s famous partner-in-crime, worked), Gabarron-Garcia shatters the all too comfortable narrative of psychoanalysts as respectable bourgeois placidly interpreting family complexes sheltered in their consulting room. Through this history where popular revolutions cross-fertilize the exploration of the unconscious as well as collective clinical practices, this book is a most relevant essay for those who wish to resist the generalized conformist, chimiotherapic-centered and repressive management of madness in late neoliberal capitalism.

Publication: September 2021 / 224 pages

Rights sold: Ubu editora Brazil
Gassing, maiming, and subjugating
The politics of the nonlethal weapon
Paul Rocher

Nonlethal weapons drive police brutality. This forceful argument is at the heart of Paul Rocher’s demonstration, which breaks with the wide-spread idea that nonlethal weapons ensure a more ethical crowd control. Thereby, he provides a unique understanding of contemporary protest movements, from Hong Kong to Egypt and the USA, that have become unthinkable without the extensive use of rubber bullets, tear gas and water cannons. This original account about the rise of police brutality is bolstered by a political economy depicting the attractiveness of nonlethal weapons as expression of authoritarian neoliberalism.

Publication: June 2020 / 200 pages

Rights sold: Katakrak Spanish

What Does the Police do?
And How to Do Without It
Paul Rocher

“Far from being a simple study of the so-called non-lethal weapons used by the police, this book allows us to understand why and how this so-called legitimate violence is inherent to the political project it defends.” LUNDI MATIN

“Paul Rocher deconstructs the security myth according to which tear gas, defensive bullet launchers, etc., would guarantee a ‘softer’ maintenance of order. Experimented with in the colonies, and then in the face of social and labor movements in the 1970s, these weapons ‘whose non-lethality has never been proven’, and which feed a profitable international market, are today in the hands of police forces who have a comfortable margin to evaluate the seriousness of ‘public order disturbances’.” LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE

After police provides an encompassing analysis of neoliberal policing, which, despite generalized austerity, has very successfully managed to escape public spending cuts. It demonstrates that neoliberalism goes hand in hand with unprecedented police hold on societies. The argument however does not stop at this comprehensive critique of contemporary policing. Rather, it more profoundly retraces the police as a state body that is formally distinct from society, and which, due to structural selectivities, permanently oppresses the victims of an inherently unequal society. Thereby, based on an historico-theoretical Marxist analysis, the book goes beyond existing critical accounts insisting either on the functions of the police or its role during primitive accumulation, to show that the police, as such, is genuinely sealed from popular pressure. Hence, as a consequence, Beyond Police lays the organizational groundwork for a harmonious social order without police.

Publication: September 2022 / 250 pages
Decolonial Feminism

Françoise Vergès

“A vibrant and compelling framework for feminism in our times”, Judith Butler

In this powerful manifesto, Francoise Verges argues that feminists should no longer be accomplices: it is time to fight the system that created the boss, built the prisons and polices women’s bodies. A Decolonial Feminism grapples with the central issues in feminist debates today: from Eurocentrism and whiteness, to power, inclusion and exclusion. Delving into feminist and anti-racist histories, Verges also assesses contemporary activism, movements and struggles, including #MeToo and the Women’s Strike. Centring anticolonialism and anti-racism within an intersectional Marxist feminism, the book puts forward an urgent demand to free ourselves from the capitalist, imperialist forces that oppress us.

Publication: February 2019 / 152 pages

Rights sold: Pluto English, Ubu Brazil, Passagen Verlag German, Ombre corte Italy, Traficantes de Sueños Spain, Audiatur Bokhandel Danemark, Forlaget Aleatorik Denmark, Virus editorial Catalan, Hosei University Press Japan, Topovoros Books Greece, Orfeu Negro Portugal

A Feminist Theory of Violence

Françoise Vergès

The mainstream conversation surrounding gender equality is a repertoire of violence: harassment, rape, abuse, femicide. These words suggest a cruel reality. But they also hide another reality: that of gendered violence committed with the complicity of the State.

In this book, Françoise Vergès denounces the carceral turn in the fight against sexism. By focusing on ‘violent men’, we fail to question the sources of their violence. There is no doubt as to the underlying causes: racial capitalism, ultra-conservative populism, the crushing of the Global South by wars and imperialist looting, the exile of millions and the proliferation of prisons – these all put masculinity in the service of a policy of death.

Against the spirit of the times, Françoise Vergès refuses the punitive obsession of the State in favour of restorative justice.

Publication: November 2020 / 192 pages

Rights sold: Pluto Press English, Ubu editora Brazil, Akal Spanish, Ombre corte Italy, FMKnjige Serbia, Tigre de Paper Catalan, Passagen Verlag German

A new book will be published in 2023
The Times of the Landscape
On the Origins of the Aesthetic Revolution
Jacques Rancière

Jacques Rancière is well-known for his exploration of aesthetic modernity. In literature, cinema or photography, the French philosopher has convincingly shown the aesthetic conditions of political emancipation. In this new book, Rancière goes along the same path to unravel the revolution that happened in the theory of painting and the theory of gardens in Europe around the year 1789. In an epoch marked by a growing interest in human ecologies, nature and landscapes, this intervention at the crossroads of politics and aesthetics is more than timely.

Publication: February 2020 / 144 pages

Rights sold: Polity English, Akal Spanish, Passagen Verlag German, The Commercial Press Mainland China, Phaidon Publishing Co Korea

What Times Are We Living in?
A conversation with Eric Hazan
Jacques Rancière

“What helped Hazan, Rancière focused on the meaning of the word insurrection, on the idea of emancipation and the end of work.” Télérama, Juliette Cerf

Publication: May 2017 / 73 pages

Rights sold: Passagen Verlag German, Casus Belli Spain, Metis Turkey, Rebecca Publishing Korea, Polity English, Leesmagazijn Netherlands

The Politics of Aesthetics
Jacques Rancière

“A tour de force! Through a revitalisation of the term “aesthetics”, Rancière is able to raise novel questions concerning the nature of history, the sense of our modernity, the relationship between work and art and between science and art, and the peculiarity of aesthetic experience (showing, in essence, that it cannot be contained but informs all our forms of life and activities).”, Keith Ansell Pearson, professor of Philosophy, Warwick University

Publication: May 2017 / 73 pages

Rights sold: Continuum English, Editoria 34 and EXO Brazil, B-Books German, Apeiron Finland, B-Books Korea, Salamanca Spanish, Valiz Netherlands, SITE editions Asogatan Sweden, Resling Israel, Ha! Art Poland, Hosei up Japan, Lom Chile, Mucsarnok/Kunsthall Hungaria, Derive Approdi Italy, Dafne editora Portugal, Ekdosseis tou Eikostou Protou Greece, Cappelen Damm Akademisk Norway, Idea Design & Print Romania, Prometoe Libros Argentina, DK editions Arabic, Faculty of Media and Communications Serbia, Eesti Kunstiakadeemia/Estonian Academy of Arts Estonia, Polity English, Akal Spanish, Passagen Verlag German, Business Weekly complex Chinese
The Intervals of Cinema
Jacques Rancière

“Whether detailing Bela Tarr’s signature panning shots or the role of flames in Vincente Minnelli, Rancière is a passionate and acute cinephile.”
Alberto Toscano, Film Quarterly

“His art lies in the rigor of his argument—it’s careful, precise unfolding—and at the same time not treating his reader, whether university professor or unemployed actress, as an imbecile.”
Kristin Ross

Publication: April 2011 / 130 pages

Rights sold: Verso English, Encore Turkey, Passagen Verlag German, Ellago Spain, Manantial Argentina, Contraponto Brazil, Pellegrini Italy, E-Um Publishing House Korea, Orfeu Negro Portugal, Red Swallow LLC Russia, Lindelöws Bokforlag AB Sweden, Seido sha Japan, Diancan Art and Collection, Traditional Chinese

The Future of the Image
Jacques Rancière

“A series of gratifying knotty and close discussions of nineteenth and twentieth century literature, film and painting.” The Guardian

Publication: October 2003 / 128 pages

Rights sold: Politopias Spain, Diaphanes German, Pellegrini Italy, Heibon-Sha Japan, SITE editions Asögatan Sweden, Verso English, University of Saint Petersburg Russia, Yeongian Han Korea, Krytyka polityczna Poland, Nanjing UP China, Octavo Netherlands, Prometeo Libros Argentina, Art & Collection Taïwan, Orfeu Negro Portugal, Contraponto Brazil, Fakultet za Medija i Komunikacije Serbia, Latvian Centre of Contemporary Art Latvia, Beirut art center Lebanon, Stereoma Siolas Greece, Ketebe Yayinlari Turkey

On the Shores of Politics
Jacques Rancière

It is frequently said that we are living through the end of politics, the end of social upheavals, the end of utopian folly. Consensual realism is the order of the day. But political realists, remarks Jacques Ranciere, are always several steps behind reality, and the only thing which may come to an end with their dominance is democracy. ‘We could’, he suggests, ‘merely smile at the duplicity of the conclusion/suppression of politics which is simultaneously a suppression/conclusion of philosophy.’ This is precisely the task which Ranciere undertakes in these subtle and perceptive essays.

Publication: October 1998 / 198 pages

Rights sold: Metis Turkey, Shanghai Trans. China, Lom editiones Chile, Praxis publishers Russia, SITE editions Asögatan Sweden, La Cebra Argentina, Cronopio Italy, Chil Korea, Fedon Serbia, Koshisha Japan, KKYM, Lda Portugal, L’Harmattan Hungary, Korp. Ha! Art Poland, Passagen Verlag German, Verso English
**Hatred of Democracy**  
Jacques Rancière

“This tastily sardonic essay is partly a scholarly sprint thought the history of political philosophy, and partly a very enjoyable stream of insults directed at rival penseurs.” *The Guardian*

Publication: 2005 / 112 pages

Rights sold: Inscript Japan, Amorortu Spanish, Cronopio Italy, Verso English, Antigona Portuguese, TankeKraft Forlag Sweden, August Verlag German, Naklada Ljevak Croatia, Książka i Prasa Poland, Pedio Greece, Idea Design & Print Roumany, Shanghai Sanhui China, Boitempo Editorial Brazil, Dar Alanweer Arabic, Karpos Serbia, İletişim Publishing Turkey, Moller forlag Danemark, Octavo Netherlands, Rebecca Publishing Korea, Shanghai Culture and Press Simplified Chinese

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**The Emancipated Spectator**  
Jacques Rancière

“French philosopher Jacques Rancière is a refreshing read for anyone concerned with what art has to do with politics and society.” *Art Review*

Publication: October 2008 / 160 pages


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**Althusser’s Lesson**  
Jacques Rancière

“The tensions between politics and theory that prompted Rancière to write *Althusser’s Lesson* still continue to traverse contemporary radical thought. Originally an intervention into the post-1968 theoretico-political conjuncture, the long-awaited new edition of this legendary text promises to introduce a new generation of theorists and militants to the productive contradictions that lie at the foundations not only of Althusser’s and Ranciere’s work, but of the continually renovated and renewed Marxist tradition itself.” Peter D. Thomas, Brunel University, London, UK

Publication: February 2012 / 272 pages

Rights sold: Continuum English, Laika German, Libros del Zorzal Argentina, Greenbee Korea, Koshisha Japan, Nanjing UP China, Lom Chile
**Capitalism, Desire and Servitude**  
Frédéric Lordon

“This ambitious but always clear book aims to reopen the conceptual framework of capitalism.” *Le Monde*

In this fascinating new essay, Lordon brings together the critique of political economy of Karl Marx with the anthropology of the passions of Benedict Spinoza. For Lordon, it is crucial in order to understand the nature of the wage-labour relationship to factor the affects, desires and passions of the workers, the manner in which they invest themselves emotionally in their labour and their own servitude and domination.

**Publication: September 2010 / 216 pages**

**Rights sold:** Geulhangari Korea, Książka i Prasa Poland, Metis Turkey, Verso English, Sakuhin Sha Japan, Tinta Limón Argentina, Derive Approdi Italy, Chongqing University Press China

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**Imperium**  
*Structures et affects des corps politiques*  
Frédéric Lordon

Abolishing the State is among the mottos of most of today’s radical movements: it is the defining horizon of the extraparliamentary left and exerts a considerable influence on a broader spectrum of progressive forces through anti-Statist outlooks. This book, while sympathizing with this general impetus, critically examines the relevance of an anti-State agenda from the left. Lordon locates a crucial blindspot in the hope of a vanishing State. This political project relates to a political philosophy of social transparency and contractual arrangements that leaves aside the institutional dimension of collective life.

Written by one of the most prominent French heterodox economists, deeply influenced by the philosophy of Spinoza, this book elegantly discusses the pitfalls of both State-centered and anti-State politics – through a close reading of Pierre Bourdieu, Alain Badiou or Étienne Balibar. It is compelling for emancipatory politics to invent new forms of collective belonging and non-exclusive popular sovereignties.

**Publication: September 2015 / 350 pages**

**Rights sold:** Verso English, Passagen German
**Living Free of?**

**Institutions, police, labour money**

Frédéric Lordon

In this short interview book, Frédéric Lordon shows how the intellectual conjuncture reflects this *Zeitgeist* and provides the rationale behind it – notably through a close reading of the works of Deleuze, Badiou, Rancière and, most of all, Agamben. Lordon argues that all these discourses boil down to cutting the heart of politics itself. In demanding that emancipation be at distance from any collective exercise of power, Agamben’s politics gives little space for agency, deliberation, and decision. Restoring the true meaning of collectives, Lordon shows how inescapable it is to govern the commons, although this constructive dialogue outlines a most urgent point of agreement: the vital need for a radical critique of the capitalist State and police apparatus.

*Publication: October 2019 / 250 pages*

*Rights sold: Verso English*

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**Figures of Communism**

Frédéric Lordon

A decade ago, a handful of the world’s most prestigious radical philosophers organized memorable events to relaunch the “Communist hypothesis”. It is now our task to make it more than a mere hypothesis, a coherent program. In this essay, French philosopher and economist Frédéric Lordon shows how urgent it is to fulfil this promise. Global warming, increasing poverty, neofascisms, State racism, constitute all in themselves a threat to humanity. But Lordon argues that we cannot expect the people to give a blank cheque to radical intellectuals and parties after the tragedy of Soviet and Eastern bloc experiences. That is why, unless communists lay down their project of society, and elaborate their strategy to go from A to B, they are likely to be ignored by workers and the oppressed. Rather than complaining about the overwhelming influence of reactionary media on poor people’s brains, Lordon proposes a clear blueprint for socialist construction and radical reform. The system he argues for is a very original combination of generalized self-management, forbidding capital accumulation while retaining market mechanisms, with a general regulation of wages and social security as an investment fund.

This book provides a very complete ABC of why we should transcend capitalism and how socialism might work. A timely intervention when younger generations get increasingly aware that neoliberalism needs to be overcome for the sake of humanity.

*Publication: March 2021 / 282 pages*

*Rights sold: Verso English, Errata naturae Spanish*
Pocket Pantheon
Alain Badiou

In this accessible work, France’s leading radical thinker takes his readers on an incisive journey through twentieth-century philosophy. On the way he pays homage to great thinkers who have influenced him, whether as teachers, allies or opponents: from Althusser, Lacan and Sartre to Deleuze, Derrida and Foucault. Although Pocket Pantheon is at times critical, Badiou defends both his subjects and their work by setting them against the contemporary landscape of pop philosophers and media commentators.

Publication: February 2008 / 184 pages

Rights sold: Walter Konig German, Agra publications Greece, Il nuovo melangolo Italy, Verso English, Laiovento Galicia, Fondo de cultura economica Argentina, Brunaria Spain, Ghil Korea, Encore Yayinalari Turkey, Nanjing University Press China, Karpos Serbia, Martins Editora Brazil, Editura Tact Romania

The Adventure of French Philosophy
Alain Badiou

Edited by Bruno Bosteels

Over forty years of French philosophy through the eyes of its greatest living exponent. The Adventure of French Philosophy is essential reading for anyone interested in what Badiou calls the “French moment” in contemporary thought. Badiou explores the exceptionally rich and varied world of French philosophy in a number of groundbreaking essays, published here for the first time in English or in a revised translation. Included are the often-quoted review of Louis Althusser’s canonical works For Marx and Reading Capital and the scathing critique of “potato fascism” in Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari’s A Thousand Plateaus. There are also talks on Michel Foucault and Jean-Luc Nancy, and reviews of the work of Jean-François Lyotard and Barbara Cassin, notable points of interest on an expansive tour of modern French thought.

Guided by a small set of fundamental questions concerning the nature of being, the event, the subject, and truth, Badiou pushes to an extreme the polemical force of his thinking. Against the formless continuum of life, he posits the need for radical discontinuity; against the false modesty of finitude, he pleads for the mathematical infinity of everyday situations; against the various returns to Kant, he argues for the persistence of the Hegelian dialectic; and against the lure of ultraleftism, his texts from the 1970s vindicate the role of Maoism as a driving force behind the communist Idea.

Publication: October 2012 / 272 pages

Rights sold: Eterna Cadencia Argentina, Autêntica Editora Brazil, DeriveApprodi Italy, Metis Turkey, Lorn Chile, Passagen Verlag German, Hyunsil Publishing Korea, Henan University Press China
Petrograd, Shanghai
Two Revolutions of the XXth Century
Alain Badiou

Narrating history and philosophy with his usual pedagogy and intellectual rigor, Badiou also proposes close readings of two key texts of the revolutionary tradition of the xxth Century: Lenin’s *April Theses* and Mao’s *Declaration in 16 Points*. In this pathbreaking study, Badiou proposes to think of Lenin and Mao as precursors, as experimenters of a politics of a new type, at a distance from the State, close to “mass organizations” and the autonomous activity of the popular classes.

Publication: August 2018 / 128 pages

Rights sold: Sel Yayıncılık Turkey, Turia + Kant German, Tigre de Paper Catalan, Ubu editora Brazil

Reflections on antisemitism
Alain Badiou et Éric Hazan

Since the inception of the “War on Terror,” Israel has become increasingly important to Western imperial strategy and ever more aggressive in its policies towards the Palestinians. A key ideological weapon in this development is the cynical and unjustified accusation of “anti-Semitism” to silence protest and dissent. For historical reasons, this tactic has been deployed most forcefully in France, and in the first of the two essays in this book French writers Alain Badiou and Eric Hazan demolish the “anti-Semitism is everywhere” claim used to bludgeon critics of the Israeli state and those who stand in solidarity with the banlieue youth.

“French anti-Semitism is a very different animal to the diffuse form that has existed in the UK and these essays … help us comprehend its complexities. Walking round Tel Aviv nowadays you are more likely to hear French spoken than English. Reading these essays it is not difficult to understand why.”

*Birmingham Jewish Recorder*

February 2011 / 64 pages
A Theory of the Drone
Grégoire Chamayou

By providing a short history of remote control, Chamayou attempts to investigate on the project of making human bodies disappear in hostile environments – whether it is in the context of wage labor, scientific experiments and last but not least, irregular warfare. His essay is also an incisive critique of the newest currents in US and Israeli ethics zealously vindicating the unlimited use of non-human armed forces against living bodies.

Publication: March 2013 / 368 pages


Manhunt
Grégoire Chamayou

“From manhunting for sport in the Occident to the global search for ‘illegal aliens’ in the twenty-first century, this book offers a history of humans preying on other human beings. Applying the rubric of hunting to contemporary debates about illegal migrants, Chamayou shows that the supposedly newest hunt refreshes an old motif. A provocative take on a topic of great currency”, Jimmy Casas Klausen, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Publication: March 2010 / 150 pages


The Ungovernable Society
A Genealogy of Authoritarian Liberalism
Grégoire Chamayou

What if “human capital”, “efficiency theorem”, “principal-agent”, “Coase theorem” were not just flawed theories, but blueprints for a new model of society, based on the absolute primacy of the market? This is the central thesis of Chamayou, demonstrated step by step with clarity and rigor. In this light, the State paradoxically appears as a decisive actor for imposing market constraints and the primacy of the profit-motive over all social activities. In this respect, this book provides a major insight into the authoritarian underside of neoliberalism.

Publication: October 2018 / 336 pages

Rights sold: Suhrkamp German, Polity English, Ubu Brazil, AKAL Spanish, Akashi Shoten Japan
What is the People?
With contributions by Alain Badiou, Pierre Bourdieu, Judith Butler, Georges Didi-Huberman, Sadri Khiari & Jacques Rancière

Discussing the politics and aesthetics of the people (Didi-Huberman), the emancipatory meanings of the people (Badiou), the devaluation of the “people” as a democratic concept (Rancière) and the relationship between racial hierarchies and the people of Western societies (Khiari), all these themes are included in this volume and contribute to a rethinking of the subversive power of the “people”.

Publication: March 2013 / 152 pages

Rights sold: Laïka German, Casus belli Spain, Monokl Yaynları Turkey, Lom Chile, Eterna Cadencia Argentina, Columbia university English, Hyunsil Publishing Korea, Derive Approdi Italy, Ekdoseis Tou Eikostou Protou Greece, Ibun Sha Japan, Octavo Netherlands, Chongqing University Press China

Democracy, in What State?
Giorgio Agamben, Alain Badiou, Daniel Bensaïd, Wendy Brown, Jean-Luc Nancy, Jacques Rancière, Kristin Ross & Slavoj Zizček

“Democracy in What State? is timely, represents a wide variety of thinkers, and displays the political themes that are concern to these thinkers. This allows the reader not only to have access to a general progressive critique of current political practice but also to compare different approaches to progressive thought and action, particularly (although not exclusively) in the contemporary French scene. If I saw it on a bookstore shelf, I would undoubtedly reach for it with one hand while reaching for my wallet with the other”, Todd May, Clemson University

Publication: April 2009 / 130 pages

Rights sold: Nanajang Korea, Écosociété Canada, TankeKraft Forlag Sweden, Metis Turkey, Nottetempo Italy, Patakis Greece, Radical libros Brazil, Casus-Belli Spain, Prometeo Libros Argentina, Ibun-Sha Japan, Suhrkamp German, Columbia University Press English, Multimedia Institute Croatia, Książka i Prasa Poland, Shanghai Academy China, Rybka Publishers Czech Republic, Dar Altanweer Arabic
Foucault with Marx
Jacques Bidet

Bidet's impetus and clarity are serving a major purpose: reuniting two souls of critical social theory, in order to overcome an age-long separation between the “old left” and the so-called “new social movements”.

Publication: November 2014 / 235 pages

Rights sold: Zed Books English, Metis Turkey, Sang Sang Academy Korea, Karl Dietz Verlag Berlin GmbH German

From Canguilhem to Foucault,
The Power of Norms
Pierre Macherey

Where do these norms come from? From where do norms derive their power? From lived experience, explains Canguilhem. From something that could be called History, according to Foucault. How did experience and history come to merge, in practice, their respective actions? That question is the focus of these two key authors of the latter half of the twentieth century, who engaged in a constant dialogue going on between them. Five studies, composed between 1963 and 1993, give an account of the way Canguilhem and Foucault developed the thematic of norms – an innovation whose importance is universally recognized today.

Publication: September 2009 / 145 pages

Rights sold: Amorrortu Spanish, Edizioni ETS Italy, Plethron Greece, Ksiazka i Prasa Poland, Chongqing University Press China

The University Discourse
Pierre Macherey

Pierre Macherey offers us in this book a fascinating long-view perspective on the question by exploring and comparing the views of classical philosophers (Kant, Hegel, Heidegger), critical theorists in the social sciences (Lacan, Bourdieu, Passeron) and writers (Rabelais, Hardy, Hesse, Nabokov). With such a critical distance, Macherey’s rigorous and penetrating reflections allow us to assess the transformations and resistances currently underway in higher education with a wiser, more objective eye that does not seek to gild the university with nostalgia or self-satisfaction.

Publication: September 2011 / 264 pages

Rights sold: Orthotes Italy, Columbia University Press English
A Radical Introduction to the French Enlightenment
Bertrand Binoche

The radicality of French Enlightenment cannot be overstated, as its political quiescence never amounted to a resigned wisdom (in the way of Kant), but went along a deeply polemical and satirical denunciation of the existing state of things. Summing up major contributions of multiple authors through original and illuminating theses, Bertrand Binoche succeeds in making the Philosophes forerunners of modern social critique and a challenging and fascinating (albeit underestimated) school of thought.

Publication: November 2018 / 272 pages

The Interruption
Jacques Rancière and politics
Christian Ruby

In this introduction to the work of Jacques Rancière, Christian Ruby demonstrates how in his philosophy, “politics can only exist as an act of interrupting, deregulating or breaking into the established social network”. A clearly written book that does not simplify, that respects without paraphrasing, an indispensable tool.

Publication: March 2009 / 140 pages

Chronologies of the Present
Sylvain Lazarus

Is it possible to think emancipatory politics without the concepts of class, party, revolution? Without lapsing into liberal varieties of anti-marxism, Sylvain Lazarus is committed to a renewal of our understanding of emancipation after the end of communist revolutionary processes. Among radicals, the author contends, the question is often put in the wrong way: instead of asking why they fail to win majorities among the people, they should inquire into the masses’ (les gens) own original forms of thinking. According to Lazarus, a politics without parties or classes will find its proper distance from the State as soon as it experiments collective thinking about what governments do to their people. This book is a practical handbook to build networks of inquiries (enquêtes) and experiments among the people, for the people, where thinking is less a matter of vindicating dignity in the face of public corruption, policing and bureaucratisation.

Publication: January 2022 / 128 pages

Rights sold: Neue Deutsch-Französische Jahrbüche German
Edward Said: the novel of his thought
Dominique Eddé

In this luminous and moving essay, French-Lebanese intellectual and novelist Dominique Eddé retells her intimate partnership with Said as an itinerary into the critic's life and thought. In a passionate flow of memories, inquiries, and discussions, Eddé achieves to not only introduce to Said, but to elucidate the mysteries and the limitations of his perspectives.

Publication: October 2017 / 240 pages

Rights sold: Verso English, MoveableType Legacy China

The Novel of the Political
Natacha Michel

Post-68 maoism in France has become a legend for its most prominent figures and thinkers. Among the biggest names of contemporary critical theory, living or dead, have historically participated in this political legacy: from Badiou to Rancière through Althusser. Less emphasis was put on the grassroots and organizational underpinnings of this extraordinary theoretical production. In this beautiful essay, French novelist, philosopher and literary critic Natacha Michel retells the events surrounding the foundation of Alain Badiou's own political organization, Union des communists marxistes-léninistes de France (ucfml) and then l'Organisation politique (op). Natacha Michel shows how original the trajectory was for a maoist politics that never covered up Stalin's atrocities and soon became critical of the Cultural revolution's failings. It is a powerfully written lesson of political fidelity to the Event of 1968, and a missing link in the continuing discussion of Badiou's contribution to critical philosophy.

Publication: September 2020 / 232 pages

K for Kolony
Kafka and the Decolonization of Imaginaries
Marie José Mondzain

“K for kolony offers itself as a great and decisive essay on literary criticism as it restores to literature its power that has always been rejected or underestimated: that of its naked political force.” Contretemps

Marie José Mondzain is globally among the most influential thinkers today in critical visual culture, and contemporary aesthetics. She is also a committed and radical critic of imperialist and colonial visualities in the age of globalized necropolitics. This book on Kafka as an emancipatory and potentially decolonial novelist is all the more fascinating.

Publication: February 2020 / 247 pages

Rights sold: Orfeu Negro Portuguese
Whites, Jews and Us
Houria Bouteldja

“This book is a courageous and controversial act of revolutionary love. Houria Bouteldja’s bold and critical challenge to all of us – especially those who claim to be leftists or progressives – builds on the rich legacies of Malcom X, Jean Genet, Aimé Césaire, Audre Lorde, James Baldwin, Frantz Fanon ans Chela Sandoval.”

Cornel West

Publication: March 2016 / 120 pages

Rights sold: Semiotext English, Akal Spanish, La croisée des chemins Arabic, Sensibili alle foglie Italy, leesmagazijn.net Netherlands, Papéis Selvagens Brazil

Nuclear industry. It’s over
La Parisienne libérée

Not only is the book a relentless accusation of the nuclear State; it is also a deep engagement with how each of us repress and deny the all too probable catastrophe. In an intimate and satirical style, the author tells short stories about her own experience as a journalist with scandals, catastrophes and struggles concerning radioactivity. She thus provides a very lively insight into our own fantasies, of endowing magic powers to a very dangerous industry. But as soon as the spell is broken, it is obvious that nuclear energy is a highly uneffective thing of the past, power stations being nothing more than “a giant boiling kettle assembled with a windmill”.

Publication: September 2019 / 216 pages

The Colonial Counter-Revolution in France
Sadri Khiari

Just as capital produced classes and patriarchy produced genders, colonialism produced race. In The Colonial Counter-Revolution in France, Sadri Khiari outlines how and when American-style slavery created the racial system, not just in the United States but internationally, and why the development of relationships of equality within the white community favored the crystallization of specifically racial social relations. More than just a response to the dialogue, debate, and trauma of immigration today, this book looks beyond the right/left dichotomy of the issue in politics to the more fundamental political existence of immigrants and Blacks, who must exist politically if they are to exist whatsoever.

Publication: January 2009 / 250 pages

Rights sold: Semiotext English
Autonomia in Italy of the 1970s
Marcello Tarì

“Among the book’s primary merits, there is a prominent one: Tari transforms a subject at first sight entrenched in the politics of a defined region and period into a contemporary world historical moment whose potentialities and significance have anything but waned.”
Roberto Nigro, La Revue des Livres
Publication: October 2011 / 320 pages

Rights sold: DeriveApprodi Italy, Laïka German, Traficantes de Sueños Spain, GLAC Edições Brazil

The Coming Insurrection
Comité invisible

“This is quite possibly the most evil thing I’ve ever read”, Glenn Beck, Fox News, back from his holidays

“Any book indirectly responsible for massive raids involving helicopters and anti-terrorist police, a splenetic Fox News broadcast and an impromptu book-reading at a Barnes & Noble bookshop in New York (also attended by the police) must have something going for. And so it is with The Coming Insurrection, the kind of political pamphlet last fashionable in the 17th century (and perhaps for a period in the 1960s and ’70s)”, Nina Power, Frieze Magazine
Publication: March 2007 / 128 pages

Rights sold: Semiotexte English, Sairyu Shà Japan, Melusina Spain, Nautilus German, DaVinci Korea, Idea Arts Romania, Le Flaneur Taïwan, Rubato Czech Republic, Sel Publishing Turkey, Xiron Books China, Nero Italy

Contributions To The Ongoing War
Tiqqun

“All the arsenal of concepts borrowed from Foucault, Debord, or Giorgio Agamben, such as ‘biopower’, the ‘Spectacle’, or ‘whatever singularity’, have been mixed in a shaker, the result being an intellectual Molotov cocktail, at the same time challenging, explosive, ecstatic and refined.”
Nicolas Truong, Le Monde
Publication: April 2009 / 200 pages

Rights sold: Semiotexte English, Laïka German, Errata Naturae Spain, N-1 Edições Brazil
Everything Has Failed, Long Live Communism!

Tiqqun

The writings compiled in this volume, and all the work of Tiqqun, do no more than explore this aspect of experience that we can all recognize without necessarily knowing how to inhabit it. “The solution to the problem you see in life is to live in a way that eliminates the problem.”

Publication: September 2009 / 408 pages

Rights sold: Semiotexte English, Laika German, Errata Naturae Spain, N-1 Edições Brazil

Dynamics of rebellion

On past insurrections and others to come

Eric Hazan

Eric Hazan provides a radically unconventional narrative. Contrary to all talks of a vanguard party, insurrections break out when unexpected, he shows. Even more: in each revolution, so-called “revolutionary parties” have always been off the mark, trying to bring the movement back in the bosom of parliaments, assemblies or “popular fronts”. Hazan’s alternative is sketched in a vivid and sensible assessment of a variety of revolutions: through the examples of the Paris Commune of 1871, the Shanghai Commune of 1967, the Russian revolution of 1917, the Spanish revolution of 1936-1937, the German revolution of 1919, and the zaptistas, the author shows that successful insurrections entail fed up people who start a movement, military conspiracies (revolutionary committees of a handful of individuals) and defections among repressive forces.

Publication: Mars 2015 / 140 pages

Rights sold: Unrast German, Virus Spanish, GLAC Portuguese

First Revolutionary Measures

Eric Hazan & Kamo

When political leaderships in the West collapse, it will be essential for the people that they put communism immediately on the agenda. This book is a short introduction about what is to be done in the aftermath a regime’s demise: how to prevent any power from restoring itself and how to reorganize society without a central authority and according to people’s needs. Small-scale production, massive reduction of work, delocalized and grassroots restructuring of healthcare, transports and industry, abolition of wage work: such are the steps that First revolutionary measures unfolds in a practical manner.

Publication: September 2013 / 120 pages

Rights sold: Leesmagazijn Netherlands, Contre-Bass Germany, Hekht Libros Argentina, Zed Books English, GLAC Edições Brazil
A People’s History of the French Revolution
Eric Hazan

A bold new history of the French Revolution from the standpoint of the peasant, workers, women sans sans culotte.

“A luminous book … resurrecting, day by day, week by week, the essential moments of this singular epoch, where the most unbridled enthusiasm, tragedy, courage, treachery mingle together … an account capable of dispelling the boredom of previous conflicting accounts. With this book, with its multiple focal points and perspectives, which allow the clamor of the French Revolution to be heard … a new momentum is found.” *Marianne*

“A People’s History of the French Revolution chronicles the 1789 upheaval in all its guillotine gore and popular fury … The combination of bottom-up testimony with quick authorial intelligence lends the history a vivid immediacy.”

*Ian Thomson, Independent*

Publication: September 2012 / 417 pages

Rights sold: Verso English, Estacao Liberdade Brazil, Say Dagitim Turkey

Robespierre
Georges Labica

Whether it be about war and peace, revolutionary government, social justice, politics and religion, Robespierre’s contribution has been the first philosophical thought of the Revolution as a whole political sequence. In a time when the politics of truth and the philosophy of the event have an undeniable audience, Labica’s study remains indispensable to an understanding of the contemporary significance of Robespierre’s life and work.

Publication: February 2013 / 216 pages

In Defence of the Terror
Liberty or Death in the French Revolution
Sophie Wahnich

In this succinct essay, Sophie Wahnich explains how, contrary to prevailing interpretations, the institution of Terror sought to put a brake on legitimate popular violence—in Danton’s words, to “be terrible so as to spare the people the need to be so”—and was subsequently subsumed in a logic of war. The Terror was “a process welded to a regime of popular sovereignty, the only alternatives being to defeat tyranny or die for liberty.”

Publication: February 2003 / 112 pages

Rights sold: Verso English, Politopías Spanish, Rybka Tchek Republic, Matthes & Seitz German, Baglam Yayincilik Turkish
The Origins of Nazi Violence
Enzo Traverso

“With admirable concision and a sovereign command of the relevant literature, Enzo Traverso makes a powerful case for embedding the Holocaust in the larger narrative of the Western history, rather than seeing it as an ineffable aberration. His elegantly written essay will take its place alongside the work of earlier defender of this argument, most notably Horkheimer and Adorno, Arendt, and Baumann, who force us to acknowledge the dark underside of the civilizing process”, Martin Jay

Publication: June 2002 / 192 pages

Rights sold: New Press English, Fondo de Cultura economica Argentina, Ksiazka i Prasa Poland, Uitgeverij Verbum Netherlands, Ekdoseis Tou Eikostou Proto Greece, Âyiné Portuguese

The Emancipation of the Workers
A History of the First International
Mathieu Léonard

“Mathieu Léonard, a historian, sheds light on founding debates on collectivism, elections, the relevance of labor strike action, originally denied then widely vindicated by social movements in 1867. The author makes plain the subtleties of a thought that was developing among revolutionaries of all Europe”

Le Monde Diplomatique

“Mathieu Léonard draws a complete sketch of this period, both short-lived and rich.” Libération

Publication: October 2011 / 416 pages

Rights sold: Edizioni Alegre Italy

The Revolution Betrayed
Napoleon Bonaparte and the Society of Property Owners
Marc Belissa, Yannick Bosc

The bicentenary of Napoleon Bonaparte’s death has given rise in France to a series of tributes from the political class and the media praising the merits of this ‘builder’ and ‘strategist’ who restored order after the Revolution. In a period of authoritarian hardening of the current regime, the Napoleonic myth once again serves the fantasy of order and a strong state. Against such glorification, this book shows the conditions under which Bonapartism was imposed and its heavy legacy on French institutions: the confiscation of democracy, the reign of experts, police surveillance, patriarchy, the omnipotence of landlords and more. It also reminds us why, outside the borders of France, the name of Bonaparte remains associated with a disastrous military adventurism that sought to impose his yoke on the peoples of Europe, by a bloody colonial reaction and the re-establishment of slavery.

Publication: November 2021 / 304 pages

Rights sold: Derive Approdi Italy
The Shanghai Commune and the Paris Commune
Hongsheng Jiang
with a foreword by Alain Badiou

This compelling historical study, based on first-hand Chinese materials, conveys all the ambiguities that a socialist political construction has to face: between grassroots democracy and control from above, social well-being and economic stability, socialist and capitalist roaders inside the ruling party. These important issues are discussed in an original foreword by Alain Badiou, reaffirming the importance – despite all its limitations – of the Cultural revolution as an event to think emancipatory politics today.

Publication: September 2014 / 345 pages

From Resistance to Civil War in Greece
1941-1946
Joëlle Fontaine

The story of the heroic resistance to Nazi occupation led by the Communist inspired EAM(National Liberation Front) and its army, the ELAS, is too often forgotten. In the zones controlled by these forces, popular committees ruled and social reforms were carried out, for a horizon other than a simple return to the status quo ante seemed to be opening up once the fascists had been expelled. But the partisans found themselves fighting against the occupying forces and the pro-monarchist property-owning classes which were determined to see their previous privileges restored. Plus, the British were on the scenes, acting as arbiters but actually plotting for a restoration of the monarchy. Once the Nazis had been defeated, the façade of unity disintegrated and the nation was split in two. A vicious civil war followed.

Publication: April 2012 / 384 pages

Jewish Berbers
Julien Cohen-Lacassagne
Forward by Shlomo Sand

It is often thought that Jewish people have, since the destruction of the Temple, been an exiled people, and most Jewish descent stemmed from this early diaspora. On the contrary, as award-winning Shlomo Sand (who authors a foreword for this book) has consistently shown, Jewish people did not hesitate to convert other people. In this pathbreaking book, Cohen-Lacassagne debunks one of the most entrenched myths about Jews in the mediterranean: the idea of Sephardic-Jewishness. Reframing Jewish identities represents a timely intervention in a world where it seems more urgent than ever to recall Jewish affinities with Arabic-Berber communities in the long history of the mediterranean. “Judeo-christianity” is, in fact, far less a thing than Judeo-islamity.

Publication: June 2020 / 200 pages
**Understanding Saudi Politics: A History of Violence**

*Wahhabism, corruption and violence*

Malise Ruthven

From Ibn Saud to Mohammad bin Salman, Ruthven patiently and lucidly discloses the patterns that made religious extremism into a legitimate State actor, but also the deep contradictions behind the model: regional imbalances due to support to non-State militias, sectarianism, corruption and bureaucratism, rivalries with other fundamentalist tendencies (notably, salafism, Muslim Brotherhood), Turkey and Yemen. Although Wahhabism appears like a trillion-fueled monolith, cracks may have begun to show.

Publication: October 2019 / 336 pages

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**A Common State**

*Between the River Jordan and the Sea*

Eric Hazan & Eyal Sivan

“Hazan and Sivan begin with an uncontroversial statement: the two-state idea, which appeared for the first time in 1937, has got nowhere. They ask the question: what is a supposed ‘realistic’ solution that has failed for 75 years? Is it not time to make a U-turn, abandoning a failed “realism” to embrace an untried ‘utopia’?”

Publication: March 2012 / 72 pages

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**A Legitimate Boycott**

*For a Cultural and Academic Boycott of Israel*

Eyal Sivan & Armelle Laborie

This book is a defense of a strategy of cultural boycott, in regards with new tactics of «branding Israel». Contrary to pro-Israel legal advice, the authors demonstrate that a cultural boycott of Israel does not constitute a discriminatory policy. Individuals, whatever nationality, are not targeted. What is needed is a boycott of the cultural and academic institutions that either whitewash illegal occupation, or directly collaborate in a particularly brutal and militarized state violence. Lucidly, vividly and with unfailing rigor, the authors (one of them an anti-occupation Israeli filmmaker) reclaim the legacy of successful non-violent strategies and show how effective they can be in the current situation.

Publication: October 2016 / 200 pages

Rights sold: Promedia German
Paris in Turmoil
Eric Hazan

Paris is constantly changing as a living organism, both for better and for worse. This book is an incitement to open our eyes and lend an ear to the tumult of this incomparable capital, from the Périphérique to Place Vendôme, its markets of Aligre and Belleville, its cafés and tabacs, its history from Balzac to Sartre. In some thirty succinct vignettes, from bookshops to beggars, Art Nouveau to street sounds, Parisian writers to urban warts, Jacobins to Surrealism, Hazan offers a host of invaluable aperçus, illuminated by a matchless knowledge of his native city.

Publication: March 2021 / 136 pages

Rights sold: Verso English, Odoya Italy

Balzac, Paris
Eric Hazan

No other French writer has generated more social commentary than realist novelist Honoré de Balzac. From Roland Barthes to György Lukacs, Balzac has always fascinated critical thinkers. In this new study, Eric Hazan revisits this venerable tradition through a circumstantial reconstruction of Balzac's Paris.

Publication: January 2018 / 216 pages

Rights sold: Leesmagazijn Netherlands, Verso English

Paris under Pressure
Eric Hazan

Gathered together here in this book are texts on Paris which are very different in their approach but which have an obvious link: Paris as a political subject and as a battlefield. Whether they concern history (the capitulation of March 1814 or the journées of June 1848, literature (Baudelaire's Paris), street names or indeed the Greater Paris currently gestating, we find the same latent themes: the betrayals of the bourgeoisie in the face of the enemy and the rise of apartheid in the city, the material and political barrier of the périphérique which maintains the popular classes on the threshold, the hypocrisy of politicians, and the lies of the media. Spurning all nostalgia, these texts sketch the portrait of a Paris whose innermost tensions will once again surprise us, and perhaps not before long.

Publication: April 2011 / 112 pages

Rights sold: Errata Naturae Spanish
“We founded La fabrique in 1998. “We” being a group of friends, including philosophers, historians, publishers, who shared a desire to work together toward publishing books on theory and action. Our intention is that these books be politically engaged, but free from any sectarian bent, as well as from any group or party allegiance. These are philosophical texts, texts on history or analyses of our times. From France or from elsewhere, contemporary or classic, famous or very young, the authors are among those who question the ideology of domination. La Fabrique is still a small voice. We hope and trust it will be heard.”

Eric Hazan, founder-director of Editions La fabrique

Introduction to Eric Hazan

“Amid the intellectual murkiness of the European scene, a few bright flames are burning: as witness the work of Eric Hazan. Founder-director of Editions La Fabrique, since 1998 he has published a steady stream of radical and imaginative works, notably translations of dissident Israeli and Palestinian writings. Over the last six years he has produced four books of his own, among them L’Invention de Paris (2002), Chronique de la guerre civile (2004) and Changement de Propriétaire: La guerre civile continue (2007) – extracts from which are reproduced below. Hazan was born in Paris in 1936, and trained as a medical student. Briefly a young Communist militant, he broke with the Party in 1956 – not over Hungary, but Algeria: a P.C.F. that disavowed its Arab comrades, and expelled militants arrested for supporting the F.L.N., was no longer the Party of the Resistance. Hazan joined a trickle of doctors in counter-flow to the mass exodus of French professionals from Algeria in 1962, working as village medic. In 1970, he helped form the Franco-Palestinian Medical Association and served as a volunteer doctor in a refugee camp outside Beirut. The shift to publishing came in 1983, when he took over his father’s art house, Editions Hazan; forced into a deal with Hachette 15 years later, he broke free to set up La Fabrique. A rare figure in France to speak out in trenchant terms – “a duty as a Jew” – against the overwhelming official consensus on the Middle East, Hazan has eloquently analysed the ways in which traditional French antisemitism, inadmissible after the collaboration with Nazism, has been “delegated” to the descendants of the colonized, while traditional French racism has found new expression in attacking the latter for a media-inflated Judeophobia. In his work, the metaphor of a “world civil war”, its frontlines everywhere, also takes concrete form in the state coercion of the banlieue, the slums, the imperial warzones. His writings assemble collages – fragments of time, scenes from the street – in an attempt to recompose the totality which the operations of the liberal-democratic media work to disperse. Hazan has described his programme as putting Rancière’s notion of “the equality of anyone with anyone” into practice. The views of a singular internationalist, informed by a broad historical culture.”

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