

1726 West Jarvis
Chicago, Illinois 60626

9th July 1981

Dear Edouard,

As you will have noted from our return address, we have just moved -- and that is the reason we have been out of touch. Things are still rather chaotic at our new place, but slowly we do seem to be "catching up."

We are eager for news of the exhibition in Lyon -- and each day hope to receive a copy of the catalogue. Has everything proceeded according to plan? I hope the "bookmarks" arrived safely & in plenty of time. Alas! it proved impossible to send the tape-recordings you wanted; our recorder was not working well, and still isn't, and we were unable to reach Philip Lamantia & Nancy Joyce Peters at the right time -- they have been out of town a great deal lately, visiting ancient Indian sites in connection with a book they are preparing on Pomo Indian myths....

Here we are forging ahead on all fronts, actively working on ARSENAL as well as the new annual, FREE SPIRITS, & numerous other projects, too. There are many newcomers to the surrealist movement on these shores, of whom you shall hear more in other letters, & in publications "in the works." We have also developed ever closer ties to the splendid friends in Alabama. Meanwhile, as a consequence of the latest issue of Cultural Correspondence -- which includes the 40-page supplement on "Surrealism Today & Tomorrow": a copy is on its way to you, par avion -- two of those who left the group have just returned: Brooke & Janine Rothwell. After reading CC, Brooke explained to me, they saw no reason to remain isolated from collective activity, having long ago (as I'm sure I told you earlier) despaired of anything of significance ever coming from some of their erstwhile companions....

The most important news concerns the plans for a surrealist exhibition -- it will be the first! -- in Ireland, currently planned by our good friends Zil Miller and his wife Irene, from whom you should be hearing soon. We have assured them of our fullest participation in this important event, scheduled for sometime this Fall. They hope that the exhibition will serve, in part, as a kind of springboard toward the organization of a surrealist group in Ireland. They are full of wild enthusiasm & revolutionary energy, & I am sure something will come of it all. We are hoping that you and the PHASES comrades will also have a large part in this project.

I hope that you will soon have the time to begin answering at least some of the most important of the countless questions with which I filled so many of my last letters to you: about typography, Jean-Michel Place, reprinting VVV, Hélène Vanel, why the Zellers have stopped writing to us and even sending us their books, etc., etc., etc. Above all I hope you will let me know, yes or no, if you can & will write the article concerning "recent tendencies in surrealist painting" for the new ARSENAL! *I hope so!*

Please do write & let us know what is going on in Paris, & in Lyon. If you have not already done so, please send us a catalogue by air mail! We hope all is going well for you, for Anne Ethuin, for all the friends of PHASES, for all surrealists of all countries!!!

Surrealist greetings!

Franklin

P.S. - Are you in touch with the Australians?