



ARSENAL

SURREALIST SUBVERSION

Address all correspondence to: Franklin Rosemont, 2257 North Janssen Avenue, Chicago Illinois 60614

10th March 1981

Dear Edouard,

It is so long since we last exchanged letters, & there are so many things I have been eager to discuss with you! And so, in the midst of a thousand & one things clamoring for more or less immediate attention, I have decided to dash off another few lines to you....

Robert Green & Debra Taub have returned from their frantic sojourn through Peru, Colombia, Ecuador & Bolivia -- they are overflowing with ideas & energy and are eager to hurl themselves into the heart of some new project. We have discussed the possibilities of an exhibition this autumn -- in the Grand Style, à la 1976: But of course this is still only in the stage of "idle talk" -- we shall see!

At this moment our principal effort concerns the publication of the long-deferred ARSENAL 4. Almost everything is ready for this issue, & we are roaring ahead with it, at full speed. I know I asked you for a text relating to "the most recent tendencies in surrealist painting," & I am wondering if you have considered this, & if you might be able to send it sometime in the coming weeks. It need not be as "all-inclusive" as I may have suggested; a short text would certainly be acceptable, though if you are preparing something of considerable length that would also be splendid. But please let me know SOON....

I came across a text -- interesting, in its way -- by Hélène Vanel in Cahiers GLM, neuvieme cahier, mars 1939, pp. 72-73. Do you know of any other texts by her that might be scattered in various publications I might not have seen? Is there no one to whom an inquiry could be addressed regarding the elusive Hélène Vanel?

I also have found a little book titled Dancers Through the Ages by Paul Hooreman, whose name I know from some connections with surrealism in Belgium. Do you know the book? And Hooreman? For me, he is nothing more than a name encountered here & there....

Could you let me know what books are in print by Malcolm de Chazal? I would also like to know if it is possible to obtain the Treatise on Reintegration by Martinez Pasqualis, and anything by and/or about Saint-Yves d'Alveydre??? And a biography or study of Fabre d'Olivet?

We were pleased to receive the postcard from "Paris-Alabama," and we are curious to know your impressions of the friends from the depths of the "Iron Tortoise." As you know, we have never actually met with them, but have exchanged publications & messages, and conversed ~~with them~~ -- sometimes at great length -- on the telephone. They certainly are possessed of a very great enthusiasm, which surely counts for something in these sullen, gray days of reaction....

We also have received a parcel of delightful books by Nelly Kaplan. Are you in touch with her at all? She has written us communications that are high-spirited, militant & charming. And what about ~~Arrabal~~ *Arrabal*? Is he in touch with anyone having anything to do with surrealism?

Did you know that we never received so much as one catalog of the exhibition in Mexico (apart, that is, from the single copy you have to Robert Green in Paris)? Mme. Molina has never answered any of our many inquiries; I have also written to Saul Kaminer, but have received not a word in reply. Is there any other possibility of obtaining copies of this catalog? We also never received a copy of the newspaper containing the Spanish translation of the "Lighthouse of the Future"? Do you have a copy? Could you perhaps at least send us a photocopy of the translation of our manifesto?

We also have received nothing -- no publications, no catalogs, no exhibition announcements, no letters -- from Ludwig Zeller & Susana Wald. Do you still hear from them? Why do they not send anything to us?

I hope you have received, by now, the new edition of Surrealism & Its Popular Accomplices, published by City Lights. Several new publications will be on their way to you in the next two or three weeks....

And there's lots more "in the works"!

Hoping all's well on your side of the Atlantic,

surrealist salutations!

Francis Rosemont

P.S. -- I recall a reference to an article by Pierre Mabille on "Surrealisme et voodoo" -- do you know it? Would it be possible for you to send me a photocopy of it? I would also like very much to have all of the books by Mabille; I have now Le Miroir du merveilleux, Le merveilleux, La Construction de l'homme and Egregores. Could you send me whatever else by him might be currently available???

Also, we received some time ago a little brochure titled Nadja - Blanche, with no indication of who sent it to us. We would like more copies -- if possible, 15 or 25 copies.... ???