



Black Swan Press

SURREALIST EDITIONS

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1726 West Jarvis Avenue
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Dear Edouard,

These past few weeks have been very busy for us, but I am determined now, with the advent of the new year, to write to you without further delay. I hope, too, that we shall somehow manage, in the days & years ahead, to stay more closely in touch....

I much appreciated your account of the Zimiles/Toyen matter, and am curious to know if there have been subsequent developments. She assured me that she would be in contact with me again as soon as she returned from Paris, but we have had not a word from her.

We received a brief telephone call from Abdul a couple of weeks ago; he mentioned that your book on surrealism & photography is on the way, at last. It goes without saying that all of us are eager to see it; I am sure we shall also be wanting a few more copies.

In my letters to you over the last year or two I have asked you a great many questions that have as yet not been answered. In each letter, it seems, I have probably asked four or five questions, & in your replies you have answered, each time, only two or three; thus a substantial number have had no response at all. You will surely agree that this is, for me, a source of great frustration. You are, as I am sure I have explained in other letters, virtually our only source of information on various matters concerning the history of surrealism in France.

A few of the questions, in any case, are of some urgency, & I repeat them here & now, with the hope that this time you will answer them, however briefly:

1) Please send the addresses of Pierre Vendryès & of Boris Rybak, & any information regarding them that you think might be important.

2) Please let me know of any writings by Kurt Seligmann that are neither in his books nor in Minotaure, View, VVV, or Hemispheres. Also, do you know how to get in touch with Seligmann's widow or his estate?

How can we get a copy of that "Dictionnaire" of surrealism? The only importer of French books in Chicago is Catholic/Gaullist in sentiment, and although he carries a complete line of Tel Quel and the works of Althusser and the late Aragon, surrealist publications of any kind are rarely found in his shop. We would be grateful to you if you would

send us a copy of this "Dictionnaire." If necessary, we could reimburse you for the expense.

How to obtain new surrealist books from France has become a serious problem for us. Abdul tells me that a large new compilation of surrealist tracts has recently appeared, & I know that several volumes by Pierre Mabilie have also been reissued. These are important books for us to have, but how are we to obtain them???

We are preparing ARSENAL 4, and are already also at work on some preliminaries for the second FREE SPIRITS, in which your essay on the sculpture of Jean-Pierre Duprey is scheduled to appear. I assume you long ago received the first issue....

I think it would be a good idea if you wrote a few lines to Mary Low Machado, 8600 SW 32nd Terrace, Miami, Florida 33155 usa. She seemed quite disturbed to have missed you in Paris, & I am sure she would be pleased to hear from you. Perhaps you could also send her an issue or two of PHASES....

We have discussed the desirability & possibility of arranging an exhibition here of works by ANNE ETHUIN & PENELOPE ROSEMONT; we are confident that we can locate a good gallery for such a show in Chicago, & Nancy Joyce Peters tells us she is sure that a gallery can also be found in San Francisco. Perhaps, too, the gallery in Toronto where the Zellers hold their shows might also be agreeable. What do you think???

Please send me the addresses of Claude Tarnaud & of Jacques Lacomblez.

Are you in contact with any surrealists in Quebec?

But I see I am already asking too many MORE questions!!!

Hoping all's well with you in Paris, & looking forward to hearing from you again soon, with our warmest comradely regards &

with surrealist salutations,

Franklin 