

2257 North Janssen Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60614
usa

3rd August 1980

Dear Edouard Jaguer,

This is just a quick & brief note -- a hurried signal "on the run" -- to acknowledge your last letter, of several weeks ago, announcing the arrival on these shores of Jacques Verriere, & to let you know (in case you have had no word directly from him as yet) that we did indeed meet with him: briefly but I think also "promisingly." The proposal he outlined, for an exhibition to tour all over the U.S., is rather a grand one, but it seems within the realm of The Possible: we shall see! In any case, we had a long discussion with M. Verriere at the studio of Robert Green & Debra Taub, and later at the studio of Tristan Meinecke; he and his friend Jaqueline Ollier also visited (a hectic hour or so) at the cluttered, overflowing residence at 2257 North Janssen....

Something will come of all this, we may be sure!

Meanwhile, we note -- with appropriate sighs & groans & cries of agony -- that the confusing & exasperating difficulties pertaining to the "Surrealist International" seem to continue & even to multiply, especially in France and in England. We cannot understand whatever it is that has come between you and Abdul, for example.... And the abysmal mess in England! (I refer, most immediately, to the utterly ludicrous, ridiculous, idiotic, pathetic & hopeless first issue of Melmoth -- ah, poor Maturin!)

Fortunately, a new issue of ARSENAL/SURREALIST SUBVERSION is soon to be on the stands -- To the Rescue!!!

Much has happened here recently, & much seems to be ~~happening~~ all the time, & practically all of it good: Things are proceeding very well indeed here, at least!

I seem to recall asking you some questions in earlier letters that have not, as yet, been answered: for example, about the possibility of securing photocopies of La Revolution la nuit & other "underground" surrealist publications from World War II. Also, a copy of Le Surrealisme revolutionnaire.

Did you receive the second large sack of our publications? We included many copies of Marvelous Freedom, a copy of the U.S. edition of What Is Surrealism?, & a selection of other publications; one of each is for Claude Tarnaud....

In Jacques Rigaut's Ecrits, Bibliographie, p. 224, there is a reference to "Les Blocs Rigaut -- creations typographiques." Do you know these? Is it possible to obtain a copy of this text??? I am extremely interested in this question of typography, & am eager to pursue any & all surrealist approaches to it. Remarkable, indeed, those Jindrich Heisler letters reproduced in the first series of Phases! If you could refer me to other instances of surrealist incursions into typography, I should be very grateful....

Hoping to hear from you soon,

surrealist salutations,

Franklin Rosemont

POSTSCRIPT:

It would be very good indeed -- excellent, superb, etc., etc. -- if you would write the article originally suggested for CULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE, on the general theme of "Surrealism in the Plastic Arts Today," for the forthcoming issue of ARSENAL.... A kind of 1980 "version" of the fine essay in the "Surrealist Intrusion in the Enchanters' Domain," of course to be accompanied by a good number of reproductions....

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We have received a very nice letter from Daniel Guerin -- are you acquainted with him???

And Nancy Joyce Peters says she has received a long (18 pages!) letter from David Gascoyne, expressing his great appreciation for our issue of CULTURAL CORRESPONDENCE, & his enthusiasm for what we are doing....

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V. Bounoure & J.-L. Bedouin -- do they still do anything? Do they have a publication? Do they still pretend to be "The Surrealist Movement"??? We hear not a word from any of them, needless to say, for some three years now....

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We are surprised to hear nothing from Guy Flandre....

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We also have had a nice letter from Arpad Mezei....