

# *Can the Dialectic Break Bricks?*<sup>1</sup>

The first entirely détourned film in the history of cinema

French subtitles by the Association for the Development of Class Struggle  
and the Propagation of Dialectical Materialism

Screenings at the Salle des Grands-Augustins, 10, rue des Grands-Augustins,  
Paris, 6th arr., beginning 8 March 1973

Hours of screenings: 1:45 pm, 3:15 pm, 5 PM, 6:45, 9:30 pm, 10:15 pm.  
(On Fridays and Saturdays, there will no doubt be supplemental screenings, at  
midnight. To verify, call the hall.)

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## **Here are the press clippings that you won't be able to read.**

“Rarely does one see in the darkened halls such pleasing allusions to the extermination of priests, a timely appeal in the manner of Mr. Durruti to rub out a Spanish archbishop . . . A strong work . . . A discreet homage to Father Meslier,<sup>2</sup> who unfortunately isn't cited in the film: my only reservation about it.” Henri Fesquet,<sup>3</sup> *Le Monde*.

“Finally a film in which ‘dialogue is armed in order to vanquish its own conditions.’ The structures take a dirty blow, but what a hoot!” Roland Barthes,<sup>4</sup> *Réalités*.

“Better than the best fossil on the rue d'Ulm!<sup>5</sup> (...) I regret that Lefebvre, Sartre and Morin are not spat upon in it. Are they so outmoded that one no longer event

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<sup>1</sup> Reprinted in Raoul Vaneigem and Gérard Berréby, *Rien n'est fini, tout commence* (Editions Allia, 2014). Translated by NOT BORED! 3 November 2014.

<sup>2</sup> Jean Meslier (1664-1729). Cf. Raoul Vaneigem, *The Resistance to Christianity*: <http://www.notbored.org/resistance-48.html>.

<sup>3</sup> The “pope” of religious news for *Le Monde*.

<sup>4</sup> An apologist for Maoism and the “Cultural Revolution.”

thinks of insulting them? Something even worse: why didn't the dialogue directors render homage to the brave Yves Sarciat,<sup>6</sup> who ejaculated on the corner of my mouth in such an admirable fashion (re-read *France-soir* for June 1971 and September 1972)?" Dr. Lacan,<sup>7</sup> *France-soir*.

"I haven't seen anything funnier since the departure for Algeria of Jean-Jacques<sup>8</sup> in his beautiful lieutenant's uniform, several years ago . . . A delicious idea from the Association for the Propagation of Dialectical Materialism: it has sent me, in addition to a hundred journalistic dirty tricks, a 10 franc bill stuck on an invitation card. Thus I believe that I have been one of the top hundred people in France to learn about the ideas of the Association for the Propagation of Dialectical Materialism – along with Jean Daniel, Viansson-Ponté, Jean-Francois Revel and all those who have received their little bill. Ah, ah, ah! That is pertinent!" Françoise Giroud,<sup>9</sup> *L'Express*.

"I don't believe it. I have always understood everything, but *this!* Why mix together Budapest, libertarian Catalonia, workers councils, Reich, and de Sade? Why? Why? Even Fourier is in there! Bakunin and the Canton Commune! May the Joint Program<sup>10</sup> relieve us of all this! And quickly. I have nothing against proletarians, but it is not necessary that they exaggerate about bureaucrats. Why don't they content themselves reading Cournot or re-reading Lacouture?<sup>11</sup> (...) That said, this is a very amusing film; one doesn't get bored. The bureaucracy gets it right in the mouth and I really loved it when the film insulted *Le Nouvel Observateur* and our friend Karol (K.S.)." Jean Daniel,<sup>12</sup> *Le Nouvel Observateur*.

"When I think of all the bread that I must have to film impossible shit, I say to myself that it is the beginning of the end when two or three thousands francs is

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<sup>5</sup> Location of the École normale supérieure.

<sup>6</sup> Attacked Jacques Lacan on 3 December 1970 at the University of Caen.

<sup>7</sup> Jacques Lacan, famous Freudian psychoanalyst.

<sup>8</sup> Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber, the author of *Lieutenant in Algeria*.

<sup>9</sup> An actress, editor, and author.

<sup>10</sup> The *Programme commun* was signed in 1972 by the Socialist Party, the French Communist Party and various Leftists. One of its slogans was "Vivre mieux, changer la vie," a clear recuperation of one of the demands resurrected by the Situationist International.

<sup>11</sup> Michel Cournot and Jean Lacouture, both of whom wrote for *Le Nouvel Observateur*.

<sup>12</sup> Founded and editor of *Le Nouvel Observateur*.

enough to détourn an entire film . . . And I insist on it, I insist on your attention, watch out for those people who détourn, who détourn everything, minors, films, etc. What will they détourn next time? In any case, I have warned my producer, who stores my old copies. They would even be capable of making something with them!” Philippe Labro,<sup>13</sup> *Le Journal du dimanche*.

**This tract is offered by the Society for the Encouragement of Détournement to the French Association for the Development of Class Struggle and the Propagation of Dialectical Materialism. Paris, March 1973.**

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<sup>13</sup> A journalist and film director. Having written foolishly about the situationists before May 1968, he was ridiculed in *Enragés et situationnistes dans le mouvement des occupations* (1968).