Seule la vérité.
C'est révolutionnaire.
Sous les Pavés, le Pauvre...
la plage
Bored
Week
EDDM
EPS
L'humanité sera heureuse que le jour du dernier bourreau ait eu lieu avec les tripes du dernier capitaliste.
GRAFFITI, CURSES, INSCRIPTIONS OF MAY 1968
de l'ouis
dans les paves
Translated and designed by JC
for the fiftieth anniversary of the
Paris rebellions, and in honor
of the fiftieth birthday of CH,
with help from VT, MEC, and DC.
French texts drawn from Les Murs
Ont la Parole (Tchou, 1968),
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La plus belle sculpture c'est le pavé de grès. Le lourd pavé cubique c'est le pavé qu'on jette sur la gueule des flics.
VIVRE

Jouir sans entraves
sans temps mort
Foreword by Zola

Public space has always been an arena for confronting different forms of state power. Long before they became the globalized art forms we recognize today, graffiti and street art were vectors for cultures of resistance to speak truth to power. The historical events of the general strikes and civil unrest in France in 1968, which transformed into the myth of May ’68, are well known for the swarming creativity that exploded into the streets of Paris. Posters and graffitied slogans poetically conceived everything that was wrong with a stagnant society, and where to look for hope. From New York to Cairo, ensuing
generations have used graffiti and street art to reflect and uphold their movements for social change, incorporating a rich diversity of forms like culture jamming, pixação, and yarnbombing. In celebrating fifty years of the legacy of May 1968’s graffiti, we are reminded that revolutionary aspirations need not only be cultivated in our minds and hearts, but also on the walls of our streets.
UNE FLEUR CARNIVORE
VIVE BON NOT
Around here, we spontane. 

Censier.

Wall bathing infinitely in its rightful glory. 

Hall A, Nanterre.

Being a student is easy, but to stay one? That’s striking. 

College of Pharmacy.

Protests. But fucking around first. 

Stairway C, Nanterre.

Long live Bonnot. 

Nanterre.
Lord, I beg you to be a leftist intellectual.

Condorcet.

Millionaires of the world unite—the wind is shifting.

Censier.

You’re facing off against a small enemy force. Beware of starting a civil war with your resistance.

Stairway C, first floor, Nanterre.

The walls have ears.
Your ears have walls.

Institute of Political Studies.
There’s no time to write!!!

*Stairway C, first floor, Nanterre.*

Anarchy is I.

*Side entrance A1, Nanterre.*

Think together, no. Push together, yes.

*Assas College of Law.*

Put a cop under your engine.

*Censier.*

Unfettered joy.
Live without dead time.
Have free sex.

*Elevator, Nanterre.*
Grandpa, grandtheft.

Freedom is the right to silence.

We’re rats (perhaps) and we bite.
—The Enraged

Don’t fuck yourself any longer!
Fuck someone else!

Down with the toad of Nazareth.
No longer accept being:
registered
stuck
oppressed
requisitioned
preached to
identified
tracked

Entrance stairway, Odéon.

At Nanterre (and everywhere)
The Enraged say screw your
“forthcoming illustrated catalogue.”

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.

Did you know there are still Christians?

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.
To exaggerate is to start inventing.

*Censier.*

We refuse to be recuperated, redlined, diploma’d, identified, indoctrinated, ghettoized, lectured, bludgeoned, telemanipulated, gassed, filed away, exploited . . .

*Ground floor entrance, Odéon.*

I love you!!! Oh, say it with paving stones!!!!!

*Hall A1, Nanterre.*

Our hopes come only from the hopeless.

*Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.*
Be brief and cruel cannibals!

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.

Help with the cleanup, there are no maids here.

School of Fine Arts.

Fire makes things happen!

Building C, third floor, Nanterre.

We leave the unforgettable.

Room C-20, Nanterre.

I don’t like writing on walls.

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.
I want to talk to you about the University of Salamanca. In 1584 it had more than 75 professors and nearly 7,000 students. After the war of 1812, believe it or not, there were only 42 students left. At Salamanca there’d been illustrious teachers, like Luis de Léon. (Another teacher, more well-known in France, was Miguel Unamuno, a victim of Franco’s gangs.) In the 16th century there’d already almost been a democracy at the school.

Students elected the teachers, and the teachers elected the provost, who served for only one year. In cases of infraction, students were judged by their peers.

Students, after this dignified revolt you’ve got to go further! Cheers.

_Nanterre._
The right to live isn’t begged for, it’s taken.

Freedom isn’t an asset we possess. It’s an asset we’ve been prevented—by means of laws, regulations, prejudices, ignorance, etc.—from acquiring.

Don’t be fooled by politicos and their muddy demagoguery. Let’s just count on ourselves. Socialism without freedom is a barracks (Bakunin).

—Revolutionary Anarchist Org.
France for the French. Fascist slogan.

_Hallway, Institute of Political Studies._

The aggressor isn’t the one who revolts but the one who affirms.

_Nanterre._

No dialogue with our oppressors.

_Nanterre._

Irate
I write
(Obligation no. 595,378,822,334½)

_Institute for Asian Languages._

Reverie + evolution = Revolution

_Sorbonne._
Rev. Communist Youth
8 p.m. June 5. Grnd. Amphitr.,
Sorbonne. Lg. Meeting.
May 68. Today’s agenda is
global revolution.

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.

Pacifists of all countries, defeat the
war machine by becoming citizens of
the world.

Gallery of Sciences, Sorbonne.

Charlie!
We’re no longer sheep.
We no longer genuflect to generals.

Sorbonne.
All reformism is characterized by utopian strategy and opportunistic tactics.

*Grand Hall, Sorbonne.*

---

Rain.

Rain and wind and bloodshed don’t disperse but strengthen us.

—Cultural Agitation Committee

*Gallery of Sciences, Sorbonne.*

---

No more churches.

*Boulevard Saint-Germain.*

---

Sorbonne, 47 Rue des Ecoles = Sorbonne . . . School of the Streets

*Gallery of Sciences, Sorbonne.*
And what if we burned the Sorbonne?

*Gallery of Sciences, Sorbonne.*

---

When a finger points to the moon, the idiot stares at the finger.  
—Chinese proverb

*Music Conservatory.*

---

In revolution there are two types of people: those who wage it and those who benefit from it. —Napoleon  

*Music Conservatory.*

---

Reform without bolsheviks.  

*Stairway E, Nanterre.*
I’M A FUCKUP

Room C-20, Nanterre.

The fearful will join us if we stay strong.

Grand Hall, New College of Medicine.

We want a wild and ephemeral music.
We propose a root-level rebirth:
—Orchestral strikes
—Sonorous meetings:
  collective investigation hearings
—Abolition of copyright; structures
  of sound belong to everyone

Music Conservatory.

LIFE instead

Rue Gay-Lussac.
Two synonyms of conservatism are decay and ugliness.

Grand Hall, New College of Medicine.

Open the doors of asylums, prisons, and other institutes of higher learning.

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.

Don’t want moles? Plug the holes.

New College of Medicine.

Attention: the self-serving and ambitious sometimes disguise themselves by wearing “progressive” masks.

Sorbonne.
I decree a state of permanent happiness.

_Stackway, Institute of Political Studies._

Here b(l)ooms the underworld.

_Institute of Political Studies._


_Stackway, Institute of Political Studies._

To be free in 1968 is to take part.

_Stackway, Institute of Political Studies._

Barricades close the roads but open the way.

_Censier._
I’ve got something to say but I don’t know what.

*Censier.*

Don’t make a will before dying for an ideal, make a kid worthy of their father. “To chatty dads, active children!”

*Sorbonne.*

Oh nice gentlemen of politics, behind your glassy eyes you harbor a world undergoing destruction. Scream all you want, we’ll never get enough of your castration.

*Gallery of Letters, Sorbonne.*

All destruction is creative.

*Sorbonne.*
I saw that in history you had the right to rebel as long as your life was at stake.
—J. Vallès

Gallery of Letters, Sorbonne.

Power: the organization of spacetime survivals. —Socrates

Nanterre.

In the caves of the organization our hands will make bombs.

Gallery of Letters, Sorbonne.

A person isn’t stupid or smart: they’re free or they’re not.

New College of Medicine.
Fasten yourself to the window.
Wallow with the insects.

Hall B, Nanterre.

How sad it is to love money.

Hall B, Nanterre.

Under the pavement, the beach.

Sorbonne.

Infinity has no accent.

New College of Medicine.

Power isn’t an inalienable right of Gaullism.

Assas College of Law.
For a democratic school in a classless society. For a classless school in a democratic society.

*Courtyard, Buffon School.*

There will now be only two categories of people: sheep and revolutionaries. If they happen to marry, their offspring will be Revolution-Aries.

*Department of Supervised Education.*

*Mao Zedong Wan Sui! May he live 10,000 years!*

*Courtyard, Buffon School.*

*IT BLEEDS*

*Rue Monge.*
We’ll have benevolent masters as soon as each of us is her own.

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.

Prenez le voyage de votre vie tous les jours.

Stairway C, second floor, Nanterre.

All power abuses. Absolute power abuses absolutely.

Stairway C, second floor, Nanterre.

We never tire of seeing soldiers.

Stairway C, ground floor, Nanterre.

Society’s a carnivorous flower.

Place de la Contrescarpe.
You can make a man a cop, a brick, a paratrooper, but you can’t make him a man?

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.

__________________________________________________________

Faites l’amour
Pas la guerre

Building C, second floor, Nanterre.

__________________________________________________________

Long live Babeuf!

Sorbonne.

__________________________________________________________

Comrades, you nitpick.

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.

__________________________________________________________

URBAN GUERRILLA

Wall outside a watch shop, Latin Quarter.

__________________________________________________________
Lower-middle-class France, don’t think your sweet quietude will return, don’t think this interlude will end—the regime is suspended.

_Hallway, Institute of Political Studies._

---

We don’t do politics innocently.
—Saint-Just

_Hallway, Institute of Political Studies._

---

Ask not what pigs can do for you, ask what you can do to pigs.

_Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne._

---

Here it’s all a spectacle of protest.
Protest the spectacle.

_Sorbonne._
NOTHING

A revolution that demands you sacrifice yourself is your father’s revolution.

New College of Medicine.

Fuck happiness. Live!

Sorbonne.

I came
I saw
I thought

Sorbonne.

Politics is in the streets.

First floor, Institute of Political Studies.
We will destroy from the outside, they will destroy it from the inside. —OSPAAL. International solidarity with the African American people.

_Courtyard, Sorbonne._

No one will ever get it unless they respect, while preserving their own free will, the free will of others.

_Censier._

Amnesty: the way rulers absolve themselves of injustice.

_Sorbonne._

Lay low and graze.

_Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne._
Every teacher is taught.
Everyone taught is a teacher.

*Library, Institute of Political Studies.*

Revolution must root inside us before it can bloom in things.

*Courtyard, Sorbonne.*

I’m coming.

*Room C-20, Nanterre.*

Invent new sexual perversions.
(I no longer can!)

*Outside Hall C cafeteria, Nanterre.*

Long live the May 10, 1968 commune.

*Rue Lhomond.*
Green night
The night of the barricades?
Green night
Or red or blue or black
What does it matter, comrade?
The prospect of victory!
That’s what matters, comrade!!!

Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.

Rome Berlin Madrid Warsaw Paris

Library, Institute of Political Studies.

I’m daydreaming / Hash

Elevator, Building G-H, Nanterre.

The USA will defeat its Marines.

Elevator, Nanterre.
Logic is the means of expression.

Elevator, Nanterre.

Arm yourselves, comrades!

Elevator, Nanterre.

Long live the campus of our uni(fied) (di)versity!

Elevator, Nanterre.

Long live the holy war against the Fifth Republic.

Elevator, Nanterre.

Alienation ends where yours begins.

Elevator, Building G-H, Nanterre.
To be reactionary is to justify and accept reform without seeding it with subversion.

*Saint-Louis.*

---

Childishness is the shame of people who leave the void and are faced with life.

*Censier.*

---

Comrades, love is also made at school, not just in the fields.

*Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.*

---

Long live the pre-revolutionary jet engine.

*Elevator, Building G-H, Nanterre.*
Lamest professor contest!
Dare to sign your names on our exams.

Courtyard, Sorbonne.

Permanent cultural vibration.

Courtyard, Buffon School.

In extraordinary situations,
extraordinary measures
and proportional sacrifice.

Censier.

Down with content.
Up with ephemera.
—Marxist Pessimist Youth

Courtyard, Sorbonne.
Civic committee requests clear
consciences to denounce.

Assas College of Law.

In spectacular decor, the gaze finds
nothing but things and their prices.

Elevator, Building G-H, Nanterre.

Widespread unemployment before
military service. “Thugs” are a
product of the system. Don’t let go
of solidarity. There will never be too
many gravediggers for capitalism.

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.

It’s forbidden to forbid.

Sorbonne.
Dream is reality.  

_Libérer Franche-Comté!_ 

_Down with rulings._ 

_Free yourself from the Sorbonne._  
*(By burning it.)* 

_Freedom begins with a prohibition: don’t harm the freedom of others._
No more exams.  

*Nanterre.*

Art is dead. Godard won’t change that.  

*Sorbonne.*

Life’s reflection is just the transparency of the lived.  

*Sorbonne.*

Death to bureaucrats. Enough legislation, enough words.  

*Sorbonne.*

Boredom sweats.  

*Sorbonne.*
A single nonrevolutionary weekend is way more bloody than a month of total revolution.

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.

Alert! Numbness awaits Poly Sci. Let’s assume the responsibilities we signed up for. Let’s all participate in the stagnant committees. Let’s reunite our groups. Let’s wake up the purring council. Support the Joint Committee and demand more publicity from it. May the indifferent and the abstainers open their eyes. The action continues.

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.
When it’s time to resort to force, don’t sit on the fence.

Sorbonne.

Burn *Le Figaro*. No, the university!

Sorbonne.

Don’t liberate me—I’ll do that myself.

*Elevator, Building G-H, Nanterre.*

My thinking isn’t revolutionary if it doesn’t involve daily action in education, politics, and love.

*Department of Supervised Education.*

Marches are sad.

Sorbonne.
There’s no wrong unless your conscience or someone else’s says there is.
—Marcel Mauss

Rue Saint-Louis-en-l’Isle.

The Sorbonne will become the Stalingrad Sorbonne.

Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.

The barricade is the clearest indication the revolution flourishes. —Thorez, June 1931, Barricades of Roubaix.

Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.

We sssssstrike.

Censier.
Don’t bore the shit out of yourself.
Do shit!

Censier.

It took him three weeks to announce in five minutes that next month he would take another stab at something he hadn’t been able to accomplish for a decade.

Grand Palais.

You should fuck each other before they fuck you.

Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.

Reform = chloroform.

On a wall.
Merchandise—we’re gonna burn it.

*Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.*

Pay attention to your ears,
they’re walled off.

*Censier.*

Revolution’s unbelievable because
it’s real.

*Censier.*

I’m with Capitant: “Unable to place
any trust in ministers whose faults have
endangered the regime and General
de Gaulle, I’m forced to resign from the
National Assembly.”

*Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.*
No more social-democrat vapidity.

_Censier._

Vote, scrote.

_Censier._

The mind makes more paths than the heart, but travels less far.
—Chinese proverb

_Sorbonne._

An appalling end instead of endless dread. This is the will written by cops of any dying class. —Marx

_Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne._
Long live the students of Warsaw.

Elevator, Nanterre.

The city whose prince is a STUDENT . . .

14 Rue de Condé.

Don’t take the elevator, take power.

107 Avenue de Choisy.

No matter what, no regrets!

Censier.

Provided they grant us time . . .

Censier.

Isolation feeds sadness.

Sorbonne.
Students are idiots!
Wait! That’s not true.

Heraclitus is back. Get lost, Parmenides.
Socialism and liberty.

Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.

You’re empty.

Room C-24, Nanterre

Electoral campaign:
Goateed devotees of voting.

Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.
Maintain your strength. Continue the strike. Occupy places. — CNJM

Grand Hall, New College of Medicine.

If I think nothing should change,
   I’m an idiot.
If I don’t want to think, I’m a coward.
If I think I’m interested in nothing changing, I’m a bastard.
If I’m an idiot, a bastard, and a coward . . . I’m pro de Gaulle.
Anyone may reprint this, except for Le Figaro.

Grand Hall, New College of Medicine.

In the past we only had poppies.
Today we’ve got paving stones.

Room C-24, Nanterre.
I’ve got nothing to say.

_Censier._

You’ll all end up dying of comfort.

_Main hallway, Music Amphitheater, Nanterre._

We’re not here to be bored stiff. Urbanism, cleanliness, sexuality.

_Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne._

There’s a high-level bureaucrat in you.

_Grand Hall, New College of Medicine._

Tears of philistines are the nectar of the gods.

_Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne._
SISYPHUS!

We’ll demand nothing.
We’ll ask for nothing.
We’ll take.
We’ll occupy.

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.

Every prick lives at the expense of reformers.

College of Pharmacy.

On these walls you’ll find sexual repression and self-refusal.
(Death to obscurantism.)

Censier.
We must systematically explore chance.

Censier.

Action shouldn’t be reaction but creation.

Censier.

Independence is the basis of dialogue with someone. My self-criticism is fossilized by this fact, and the problem no longer arises.

Censier.

Considered from the vantage point of the lookout and the sniper, I don’t mind that those shits are mounting their horses. —René Char

Censier.
We should stone the whiners!

Censier.

Motions kill emotion.

Censier.

Orgasm here and now.

New College of Medicine.

Defacing the materials of this bourgeois academy is an expression of revolutionary art. —A. Nuss

Hall D, Nanterre.

Free expression.

Courtyard, Sorbonne.
We have the existence of property
to thank for war, riots, and injustice.
—St. Augustine

Revolution isn’t a spectacle
for scholars of English.

Forests preceded and
deserts will follow us.

Run, comrade, the old world is
behind you.
Look at your job! Nothingness and torture are a part of it.

*Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.*

Let’s not change bosses, let’s change life.

*Sorbonne.*

Nothing can be something, you just have to know how to see it and accept it.

*Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.*

We’re reassured. $2 + 2$ is no longer 4.

*Hallway, Censier.*

Praxis makes ethics.

*Stairway C, ground floor, Nanterre.*
We’re witnessing a reversal in the struggle of the proletariat. Workers are calling the shots, and unions compete to preserve the decision-making power that until now has always defused revolutionary awakenings.

*Building C, third floor, Nanterre.*

Alligo-Kamikaze, long live the disorientation.

*Hall B, Nanterre.*

Imaginary is elsewhere. —A. Bret.

*Room C-20, Nanterre.*

Do Gaullists have an extra chromosome?

*Grand Hall, New College of Medicine.*
Any act of submission to external forces rots me dead on my feet, and then I’m buried by legitimate gravediggers of the system.

Hallway, New College of Medicine.

Bastard, you could at least wash your wall.

27 Rue Gay-Lussac.

Even if God existed, it would be necessary to abolish him. —Bakunin

Sorbonne.

Goddard: King of the Swiss Maoist idiots.

Sorbonne.
Down with the parliamentary objectivity of factions. The bourgeoisie’s got brains, but creativity resides with the masses. Never vote again.

Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.

If you continue to piss everyone off, they’ll replicate energetically.

Faculty Lounge, ground floor, Nanterre.

Don’t try to revolutionize the image of your confused, fossilized university.

Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.

Violent police receive violence in the streets.

Latin Quarter.
Since language is the mode of connection between individuals who’ve been constrained by
1. natural alienation
2. social alienation
there’s no reason not to allow repressed grammar to burst out. The moment Dada dictated its racket, literature recuperated it.

Hall E, Nanterre.

Hey, Bastié! Are you kidding?

Room C-24, Nanterre.

We recognize in the Bishop’s hooked staff our old enemy, rich with metaphysical subtleties: the commodity.

Room C-24, Nanterre.
If your heart’s on the left, don’t slip your wallet in on the right.

_Arcades, College of Pharmacy._

Liberties don’t offer themselves up, they’re taken. —Charles Maurras

_Hallway, Institute of Political Studies._

Rag soaked in gas + powdered soap + clay + wick = molotov cocktail.

_Elevator, Nanterre._

The no-passing zone became unbearable in Touraine.

_Room C-24, Nanterre._
A stagnating thought
is a thought that rots.

Sorbonne.

Stop this randomness!
No more courses that are
— supplemental
— complimentary
— additional
— exceptional
— redundant
— remedial
Stop the false advertising.

National School of Charters.

The College of Pharmacy doesn’t hang
by a thread but by your attendance.

College of Pharmacy.
What we need is an enthusiastic but calm state of mind, and internal but orderly work. —Môa

_College of Pharmacy._

In Paris after Lamartine and Hugo, even Eugene hadn’t considered that all we’ve got now to make us cry is tear gas.

_Censier._

Emancipation is all or nothing.

_Censier._

There’s only the one.

_Near Place de la Contrescarpe._
Constraints placed on pleasure arouse the pleasure of living without constraint.

Elevator, Building G-H, Nanterre.

I serve no one. The people serve themselves.

Sorbonne.

We’re only at the insurrection stage of our revolution.

Sorbonne.

Neither robot nor slave.

Censier.

Long live the rioters of Caen.

Sorbonne.
Exams = servility, social promotion, hierarchized society.

*Censier.*

Put your kids in daycare and check out what’s happening at the university.

*Entrance E, Nanterre.*

**COMMUNIQUÉ**

In the Assembly, Louis Terrenoire quoted Charles Peguy: “Hope shines like a piece of straw . . .” We hereby inform the public that Paul Verlaine wrote: “Hope shines like a piece of straw in the stable.” Another blunder!

—Cultural Agitation Committee

*Gallery of Sciences, Sorbonne.*
Unions are fuckery.

*Hallway, Grand Amphitheater.*

We’re all German Jews.

*Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.*

Lowlifes, that’s us.

*Sorbonne.*

Severity towards their great men is the mark of strong people. —Plutarch

*Sorbonne.*

We’re all “undesirables.”

*School of Fine Arts.*
A HISTORIC APPEAL
Now when the French State is shaken by youth revolt, the ethnic groups oppressed by the State have the opportunity to shake off the yoke. Bretons, Alsatians, Catalans, the Flemish, Basques, West Indians, Corsicans, Ossitans, Reunion Islanders, and especially the youth of these oppressed ethnicities, in liberating themselves can also contribute to the liberation of all French youth.

Courtyard, Sorbonne.

Love each other.

Censier.

Art is dead. Don’t consume its corpse.

Sorbonne.
Comrades, this legitimate revolution declares amnesty to the armed forces of this country and asks them to place themselves at the service of the people.

*Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.*

Resistance is organized on pure fronts.

*School of Fine Arts.*

Devil’s advocate. “From the bottom of my heart I hate the graves of powerful lords and priests, but even more the genius that lies in them.” —Hölderlin

*Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.*

Death to the tepid.

*Censier.*
SEX.
It’s fine, said Mao, but not too often.

Censier.

Comrades: Fuck (applause the spectacle is) everywhere.

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.

What’s difficult is that which can be done right away; the impossible is that which takes a bit more time.
—G. Santayana

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.

Novelty is revolutionary—so is truth.

Censier.
Rage in the guts!

Heads up! Pompidou’s passing us on the left.

Have you noticed how professors and government officials dress alike? It’s not the only thing they’ve got in common.

The Revolution of ideas will always overthrow the Commune of thought. 17 always overthrows 71. —A. Breton
Anything, systematically.

Nanterre.

Comrades! Think of me. —Émile Zola

Rue Descartes.

Quick!

Collège de France.

Imagination isn’t a gift but the ultimate object of conquest. —A. Breton

Condorcet.

Art doesn’t exist.
Art is you. —B. Péret

Condorcet.
Long live de Gaulle. —A masochist

Condorcet.

Involve yourselves in State affairs.
—Mao Zedong

Conservatory of Music.

“Ideologically penetrate the working classes.” (Who will get fucked?)

Censier.

Blackmail happiness.

Saint-Jacques School of Law.

Already ten days of bliss.

Censier.
A cop sleeps in each of us.
Better kill him.

Censier.

Those who lock doors are cowards and thus enemies.

Censier.

The bourgeoisie has no other pleasure than to degrade them all.

Assas College of Law.

And I repeat: a third is worthless, take it all (and the rest).

Grand Hall, New College of Medicine.
I don’t know how to write but I’d like to say beautiful things and I don’t know how.

Censier.

To be rich is to be alright with one’s poverty?

Censier.

When I grown, I’ll be cop.

Censier.

Ai laik 2 rait faunetikli

Censier.

The economy is wounded. Let it die.

Censier.
Open the windows of your heart.

Censier.

We wanna throw punches.

Sorbonne.

The State has a long and bloody history.
—Clemenceau

Courtyard, Sorbonne.

Your boss was at Place de la Concorde to defend his freedom. Gaullist groups are ready to guarantee your right to be exploited. When the boss is free the factory’s a prison. —Organized by the Administrative Council

Liquor kills. Take LSD.

_Elevator, Nanterre._

All reactionaries are paper tigers.

_Elevator, Nanterre._

When I hear the word “culture” I reach for my cops.

_Stairway C, ground floor, Nanterre._

Long live violations and violence!

_[YES] or [NO]_

_Room C-20, Nanterre._

Discourse is counterrevolutionary.

_Hall 13, ground floor, Nanterre._
Be salty, not sweet!

“Visit Nanterre and come alive.”
Go die in Naples with Club Med.

You can’t erase the truth (or lies, by the way).

Those who talk about love destroy it.

To cry for death is to cry for life.
Student power.

Arcades, College of Pharmacy.

Revolution is an enterprise.

Odéon.

A proletarian is someone with no power over her career and she knows it.

Censier.

Join us! We no longer want to see your kids in prison.

Rue Saint-Louis-en-l’Isle.

Everything begins in mysticism and ends in politics. —Péguy

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.
You don’t give a fuck about us?
You’ll give a fuck soon. —Addressed to the Saint-Antoine District Committee at the National Convention, 1793.

Room C-24, Nanterre.

You don’t take power, you scoop it up.
On the anniversary of June 18, we’ll scoop up de Gaulle with a shovel.

Sorbonne.

It’s not us, it’s the world that’s become abnormal. —Artaud

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.

I’m a Groucho Marxist.

Room C-20, Nanterre.
That which cannot be conceived through ANYTHING ELSE must be conceived through ITSELF. —Spinoza

Room C-20, Nanterre.

To the outrage of some, and with a barely less severe look from others, raising its weighted wings, your liberty.
—A. Breton, “Ode to Ch. Fourier”

Room C-20, Nanterre.

Be realistic, demand the impossible.

Censier.

The wind’s picking up, let’s try to live.

Room C-20, Nanterre.
If you think for others
they’ll think for you.

Room C-24, Nanterre.

Maybe not beautiful, but oh how lovely.
Living instead of surviving.

Room C-20, Nanterre.

The old mole of history does seem
to be gnawing at the Sorbonne.
—Telegram from Marx, 5/13/68

Courtyard, Sorbonne.

Idleness is now a crime.
Yeah but it’s also a right.

Censier.
Bourgeois climbers who pull the ladder up after them so the people can’t follow.
—Victor Hugo

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.

The Homeless Youth Committee is revolutionary.

Gallery of Science, Sorbonne.

Make letters nude
And you’ll be too.

Censier.

Unpaving the streets is the beginning of the end of urban planning.

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.
Get enraged!

*Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.*

Kids make love, adults make obscene gestures. Which one of them are the jerks who dare to write on walls?

*Condorcet.*

We’re fine with your intelligence, but not with you using it.

*Room C-24, Nanterre.*

All respect has been lost. Don’t go looking for it.

*Condorcet.*
In the land of René, pigs prohibit play.  

Condorcet.

The French flag: bruise, skin, and blood.

Department of Supervised Education.

Henchmen of thought, professionals of fear, are you saying that a free man should no longer cut down the trees around your rabbit cages, that he shouldn’t steal the wives you’ve loved so poorly? That his insults mustn’t stain your dignity even as you continue to refine the venom of your own pent-up angst?  
—Son of a Senior Associate

College of Medicine.
You can’t compose anything in a decomposing society.

_Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne._

Shatter windows fuck dullards

_Stairway C, first floor, Nanterre_

No replastering, the structure is rotten.

_Assas College of Law._

Freedom is the crime that contains all crime. It’s our ultimate weapon.

_Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne._

Art is an academic neurosis.

_Sorbonne._
The Powers That Be had the universities—students took them.
The Powers That Be had the factories—workers took them.
The Powers That Be had Public Broadcasting—journalists took it.
The Powers That Be have the power—take it from them.

Entrance hall, Institute of Political Studies.

Comrades, help keep this place clean.

Department of Supervised Education.

Tally up all your resentments and be ashamed.

Censier.
Free love. (But not here!) Why?
This place is wired for alienated love.

*Building G-H, Nanterre.*

No such thing as revolutionary thought.
There’s only revolutionary action.

*Building C, third floor, Nanterre.*

Action lets us overcome division and find solutions. Action is in the streets.

*Entrance hall, Institute of Political Studies.*

Attention, comrades, the Republican Order will be reestablished. —Defeatist

*Gallery of Science, Sorbonne.*
Professors, you’re as old as your culture, and for you modernism means modernizing the police. Culture is in tatters. —The Enraged

_Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne._

Hope: don’t give it up, just infuse it to your advantage.

_Courtyard, Sorbonne._

Forget everything you’ve learned. Start by dreaming.

_Sorbonne._

Unzip your mind as often as your fly.

_Odéon._
The State is each one of us.

*Quai Malaquais.*

Pop the cork on the revolutionary energy of the masses!

*Gallery of Letters, Sorbonne.*

Hide, object.

*Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.*

Don’t cross out the inert.

*Arcades, College of Pharmacy.*

Shit in the hall? That’s de Gaulle.

*College of Pharmacy.*
Alone we’ll do nothing.

Arcades, College of Pharmacy.

Have ideas.

Arcades, College of Pharmacy.

We think here.

Arcades, College of Pharmacy.

Write on everything!
(But before you write, learn to think.)

Rue de l’Echaudé.

Any view of things which is not strange is false. —Valéry

Gallery of Letters, Sorbonne.
80% vote, 5% participate in reform.

*Arcades, College of Pharmacy.*

The enemy of movement is skepticism.
We owe everything to momentum produced by spontaneity.

*Institute for Asian Languages.*

Oh so stepmotherly nature.

*Rue de Vaugirard.*

Frontiers = repression

*School of Fine Arts.*

Free information!

*School of Fine Arts.*
The contingent won’t break this strike.

_to budge an inch is to give up a mile._

No to a revolution in neckties.

_EVE_

These cobblestones are no joke.

—A riot cop

---

School of Fine Arts.

School of Fine Arts.
The most beautiful sculpture is the heavy, square paver made of sandstone, the one we throw at the heads of cops.

_Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne._

The culmination of all thought is the paving stone.

_Sorbonne._

_Tonight’s agenda =
future private property._

_Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne._

_Speak for whom?
How to move from speaking to doing?_

_Entrance hall, Odéon._
An act is spontaneous and carries within it the fruition of another.

Entrance A1, Nanterre.

In order to exist, the revolution must stop being.

Hall A1, Nanterre.

Who creates? For whom?

Metal curtain, onstage, Odéon.

Are you consumers or participants?

Metal curtain, onstage, Odéon.

Site of speech or of insane babbling?

Metal curtain, onstage, Odéon.
Solitary at first, solidarity thereafter, solidarity at last.

Metal curtain, onstage, Odéon.

Look ’em in the face!

Corridor, Odéon.

When the National Assembly becomes a bourgeois theater, bourgeois theaters must become national assemblies.

Entrance hall, Odéon.

The revolution doesn’t only belong to committees but first and foremost to you.

Metal curtain, onstage, Odéon.
Don’t overheat from your actions!!!

Corridor, Odéon.

Worker, you’re 25 but your union’s from last century. To change that, come see us.

Corridor, Odéon.

Don’t toss stuff on the ground—the ex-Odéon Theatre isn’t a dump.

On all dressing room doors, Odéon.

Prejudice props up civilization. —Gide

Foyer, Odéon.

Everything’s dada.

Foyer, Odéon.
My aim is to agitate and disturb people. I’m not selling bread, I’m selling yeast.
—Unamuno

Foyer, Odéon.

We don’t want to be writing our wills.

Institute of Psychology.

To challenge the society in which you “live,” you first have to challenge yourself.

Kitchen window, Odéon.

The golden age was the age in which gold didn’t rule everything. Golden calves are always mud.

Foyer, Odéon.
Live in the moment. 

Hey fool: we’re waiting for you!

Do it and then do it again.

Let’s take revolution—and not ourselves—seriously.

We want: structures in service of people and not people in service of structures. We want joie de vivre, not despair.

Odéon.
Plainclothes cops who come knocking, 
watch your backs when leaving.

*Entrance hall, Odéon.*

---

Eliminate the voting rights of retirees.

*Arcades, Rue Corneille, Odéon.*

---

We’re lacking in vitamin C.

*Facade, Odéon.*

---

Kiss your lover without 
dropping your gun.

*Odéon.*

---

Art is shit.

*Rue Rotrou, Odéon.*
Red women always hotter

Main Hall, New College of Medicine.

Riot cops may quit their jobs here.

Entrance hall, Odéon.

You must carry chaos inside you in order to birth a dancing star. —Nietzsche

Stairwell, Odéon.

All power to the workers’ councils.

Facade, Odéon.

Run, comrade, an old man is behind you.

Rue Rotrou, Odéon.
The weapons of critique pass through the critique of weapons.

Rue Rotrou, Odéon.

If you want to be happy, hang your landlord.

Rue Rotrou, Odéon.

Power over your life is found inside you.

Rue Rotrou, Odéon.

Joint management = crisis.

Rue Rotrou, Odéon.

Referendum = choose which ball and chains.

Rue Rotrou, Odéon.
Coup plz

Arcades, Rue Corneille, Odéon.

Reform my ass
(after Queneau)

Room C-20, Nanterre.

Sow
Seau
Sew
Sough
Sow
So

Stairway C, Nanterre.

Derealization Zone

Office window, Hall A, Nanterre.
Why should we care where death will surprise us? We’ll welcome it so long as our war cry is heard, there’s someone else to pass our weapons to, and others who’ll rise to sing our funeral songs in the cracking of machine-gun fire and renewed shouts of war and victory. —Che

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.

Unleash the power of the workers’ councils! —Revolutionary Youth

Room C-20, Nanterre.

Ballot: vote yes, vote no, we’re fools.

Arcades, Rue Corneille, Odéon.

Ejaculate your desires.

Arcades, Rue Corneille, Odéon.
All power to the free soviets.

*Rue Corneille, Odéon.*

Referendum = new tax and new levies to charge us for what’s broken.

*Rue Rotrou, Odéon.*

Referendum = craftiness then dictatorship.

*Arcades, Rue Corneille, Odéon.*

War is the father of everything.
—Heraclitus

*Nanterre.*

**ATTENTION MOLTING SCHOOL**

*Front steps, National School of Charters.*
No more Claudel ever.

Hall E, Nanterre.

There was only one way out of the false situation the law had us in, and that was to break it. —Tolain

Building C, third floor, Nanterre.

There’s method in their madness.

—Hamlet

Building C, third floor, Nanterre.

Dare. This word contains all the politics of this moment.

—Saint-Just to the Convention

Nanterre.
The sacred, that’s our enemy.

Hall B, Nanterre.

Liberated universities.
No to totalitarianism.
—Student Committee for
Academic Freedoms

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.

At the Minister’s table:
Truffled chicken
Smoked Anarchist brains
Grenade liver
Barricades with cobblestone glaze
Grilled Provos
Enraged soufflé
Unlimited bubbly water

Nanterre.
6% of the faculty are children of workers. At group homes for troubled kids it’s 90%.

Rue Saint-Louis-en-l’Isle.

By direct distribution of chickens, potatoes, passions, etc. . . . the struggle of workers and the struggle of peasants were linked.

Hall D, ground floor, Nanterre.

To be a revolutionary you first have to work some shifts at the reception desk. After that, intellectual masturbation is allowed.

Rue Saint-Louis-en-l’Isle.
More than ever, we need direct action committees. Above all, create direct action committees. We owe our victory to direct action committees. Are you part of a direct action committee? If not, create your own direct action committee.

Courtyard, Sorbonne.

Mortality, temporality, finitude, and exclusivity exist only in institutions and structures.

Hall A-1, Nanterre.
Synopsis will no longer do.
—Marxist Pessimist Youth

Room C-20, Nanterre.

Happiness is a new concept at Poly Sci.

Entrance, Institute of Political Studies.

For sale: protest-ready leather jacket, guaranteed cop-proof, size large, 20 bucks.

Building G-H, Nanterre.

Black Power to train white people.

Wall along Rue Saints-Pères, New College of Medicine.

5TH FLOOR GET NAKED

Elevator, Nanterre.
Neighbors, be vigilant. The government wants work to begin again on Tuesday no matter what. Help the strikers. Peacefully demonstrate your solidarity by showing up bright and early outside their places of work.

Entrance hall, Odéon.

The new society must be founded on the absence of all selfishness, of all self-centeredness. Our path will be a long walk of mutuality.

Library hallway, Sorbonne.

I mess with Society, but it makes me feel good.

Condorcet.
Viva the Living Theatre.

*Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.*

Nonstop recess.

*Courtyard, Buffon School.*

Nonstop protest.

*Library hallway, Institute of Political Studies.*

Red to be born in Barcelona.
Black to die in Paris.

*Censier.*

Patriotism rhymes with Fascism.

*Music Conservatory.*
Challenge the Administration with us.

Assas College of Law.

Down with socialist realism.
Up with surrealism.

Condorcet.

God is a scandal, a scandal that pays.
—Baudelaire

Condorcet.

Long live the creative masses!
No to bourgeois nonculture.
Culture is a broth.

Condorcet.
The liberty of others extends my own to infinity. —Bakunin

Action and awareness require study, study, study. —Lenin

Alas, I don’t think we can win without those red and black flags. But you have to destroy them—afterwards. —Jean Genet
Light wages
Heavy tanks

Rue de Seine.

What we want is our exams!
—Bourgeois students

Stairway E, third floor, Nanterre.

No freedom for enemies of freedom.

Stairway E, second floor, Nanterre.

We’re not cool with 2% or even 4%.

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.

In France there are 38,000 communes.
We’re at about the second.

Library hallway, Institute of Political Studies.
Our left wing is prehistoric.

*Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.*

The duty of any revolutionary is to make revolution.

*Hallway ceiling, Institute of Political Studies.*

Let’s do a jig.

*Building C, third floor, Nanterre.*

POLITICAL FREEDOM

*Institute of Political Studies.*

I don’t serve anyone (not even the people, and especially not their leaders).

*Censier.*
The authorities had factories, the workers took them! The hypo-pseudo-authorities had universities, students took them! The hypo-pseudo-authorities have nothing but power . . . we will take it!

Condorcet.

Civic Action
Wicked faction
—Movement of 22 March

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.

Pile of Shit Headquarters.
Filtering.
Brainwashing.

King Ubu and his Court Officials.

On a door, Condorcet.
Creativity
Spontaneity
Life

Censier.

If you lack imagination you can’t imagine what’s lacking.

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.

Red scares are for herd animals.

School of Fine Arts.

100 dickheads bury me
with zero commentary.
—R. Daumal

Institute for Asian Languages.
The great torment:
De Gaulle moans, “Workers don’t work, teachers aren’t teaching, students won’t study,” but we know full well that what upsets him most, although he won’t say it, is that “Capitalists aren’t capitalizing.” —Strikers at Renault/Flins

Institute for Asian Languages.

You occupy your free time with schoolwork. Now occupy your school in your free time.

Censier.

Death is totally counterrevolutionary.

Institute for Asian Languages.
Extraordinary times

call for extraordinary measures
and equal sacrifice.

_Censier._

I shit on elected offiSHILLS and settlers.
I shit on borders and the privileged.

_Institute for Asian Languages._

DO NOT FLYER HERE

_Hallway, Institute of Political Studies._

We just fucked in your sanctuary.
Professors are nothing but feeble
embodiments of classical metaphysics.
—Economy students

_Room C-24, Nanterre._
The general will against
the will of generals.

Censier.

Patriots make us laugh,
Fascists piss us off.

Condorcet.

Red light for dark nights.

Censier.

To fight unemployment, help your
archbishop renovate churches.

Institute for Asian Languages.

Never forget class struggle.

School of Fine Arts.
Life loves our awareness of it.
—René Char

Assas College of Law.

Anyone who can assign a value to a text is a dick.

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.

Rebellion and rebellion alone is a creator of light, and its rays follow only three paths: poetry, liberty, and love.
—André Breton

Assas College of Law.

Exaggeration is a weapon.

Censier.
Bureaucrat
Rat
SWAT
are freedom’s threat

Where do just ideas come from? Do they fall from the sky? No. Are we born with them? No. They come solely from social practice: class struggle, the struggle to produce, and scientific experiment. —Mao Zedong

Down with spectacle-commodity society.

Louis-le-Grand School.

School of Fine Arts.
End the University.

School of Fine Arts.

Down with journalists and those who want to spare them.

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.

Let’s manage our own affairs.
—The Enraged

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.

Wreck your alma mater.

Room C-24, Nanterre.

Decarcerate minds here.

Room C-20, Nanterre.
Coming soon: charming ruins.

Stairway C, Nanterre.

It’s not a question of ignoring fear but of choosing to face it—at the university. Power seeks to destroy us. Let’s confront it without deceiving ourselves.

Grand Hall, New College of Medicine.

There’s no romanticizing action. You don’t write lyrical clichés about it. Use your cortex. Objective analysis is called for. Situate yourself, act on the level of facts. Logical reform/beautiful equations—these won’t do.

Grand Hall, New College of Medicine.
No more piggybacking! Pigs vigorously rise up against the use of their name to characterize the abuses, sadism, and extortions of repressive forces. They’re also rising up against their exploitation by humans—consumer society only produces swine! They strongly reaffirm their solidarity with the student movement, having long understood the need for dialogue. —Pigpens of Paris Action Committee

_Grand Hall, New College of Medicine._

Nature has no servants or masters and I don’t make or follow laws.

_Hallway, Institute of Political Studies._
Shut off our machines and we’ll expose their weakness.

*Rue de Seine.*

De Gaulle NO
Mitterand NO
People power YES

*School of Fine Arts.*

Blow your mind.

*Stairway, second floor, Nanterre.*

It’s not just the reasoning of the previous generation that occasionally flares up inside us, but their madness too. It’s dangerous to be an heir.

*Nanterre.*
What’s a master, a god? Both are an image of the father and by definition fulfill an oppressive function.

*New College of Medicine.*

The imagination takes power.

*Stairway, Institute of Political Studies.*

Building revolution means breaking internal chains.

*New College of Medicine.*

Claudel is a music hall for archbishops.
—H. de Montherlant

*Stairway C, second floor, Nanterre.*
Revolution, I love you.

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.

Lucidity is the wound closest to the sun. Don’t fall asleep in the shadow of committees.

New College of Medicine.

Insolence is the new rebel weapon.

New College of Medicine.

A revolutionary is a tightrope artist.

New College of Medicine.

It’s forbidden to interrupt.

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.
Urgent! Gas for ambulances.

School of Fine Arts.

People are neither Rousseau’s noble savage nor Rochefoucauld’s church pervert. We’re violent when oppressed and gentle when we’re free.

New College of Medicine.

All power to the workers’ councils.
—The Enraged
All power to The Enraged councils.
—The workers

Censier.

Talk to your neighbors.

Censier.
We don’t give a damn about borders.

Every Communist must grasp this truth: political power springs from the barrel of a rifle. —Mao

Power’s at the end of a gun. Are there guns at the end of power?

I cum on the cobblestones.
There’s no revolution without consciousness.

*Stairway, Institute of Political Studies.*

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Humanity (and btw, fuck *Humanity*, counterrevolutionary rag) won’t be free until the last capitalist has been hanged with the guts of the last bureaucrat.

*Stairway C, ground floor, Nanterre.*

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Obedience begins with awareness and awareness with disobedience.

*Censier.*

---

No gods no masters!

*Room C-20, Nanterre.*
Let’s battle every fixation that paralyzes our potential. —Committee of Women en Route to Liberation

---

No master, no god but me.

---

Products are the opium of the people.

---

Culture is life inverted.

---

STEAL

---

Latin Quarter.
We don’t want a world where the price of not dying of hunger is the risk of dying of boredom.

_Sorbonne._

Life is a mauve antelope in a field of tuna. —Tzara

_Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne._

Trabajadores Franceses
emigrados unidos
Trabalhadores Francês
emigrantes unidos
عمال اجنبيون و فرنسيون متحدون

_Sorbonne._
Hijack life then rewrite its user’s manual.

Rue Rotrou, Odéon.

Here stood a bourgeois university.

Exterior, College of Pharmacy.

In paths no one’s walked,
risk your steps!
In thoughts no one’s thought,
risk your head!

Stairwell, Odéon.

Live without dead time.
Come unfettered.

Rue Saint-Sulpice.
To attain socialist consciousness we must condemn financial gain and industrial profit. To achieve a new humanity we must first alter the herd mentality. —Che

Stairwell, Odéon.

First and foremost, challenge yourself. (You too, de Gaulle.)

Foyer, first floor, Odéon.

Viva free union.

Foyer, first floor, Odéon.

How to think freely in the shadow of a chapel?

St. Ursula Chapel.
When the last sociologist has been strangled with the guts of the last bureaucrat, would we still have “problems”?

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.

Kekec is the objective.

Censier.

Humanity won’t be happy until the last capitalist is hung with the guts of the last leftist.

Condorcet.

We need a place to piss, not a place to pray.

St. Ursula Chapel.
In delusions of grandeur all sense of reality is lost. —Charles de Gaulle

Nanterre.

To desire reality is good! To realize your desire is better.

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.

Boredom weeps.

Sorbonne.

Truth alone is revolutionary.

Room C-24, Nanterre.

Desire is as real as reality.

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.
Those who take their desires for realities are those who believe in the reality of their desires.

Richelieu Hall, Sorbonne.

Long live direct democracy.

Stairway, Sorbonne.

Culture’s like jam: the more you spread the less you’ve got.

Censier.

Extend the power of workers’ councils to all aspects of life.

Nanterre.
Pay attention comrade, lest we absolve the teachers of their guilt.

Censier.

Shame is lame.

Sorbonne.

Industrialization sucks. Rubber nipples make us carnivorous.

Censier.

Nihilism begins with you.

Censier.

Let’s not be consumers of Marx.

Censier.
Those who speak of revolution and class struggle without referring explicitly to everyday life, without understanding what’s subversive about love and what’s positive in the refusal of constraints, they’ve got a corpse in their mouth.

Sorbonne.

To attain the real, we first have to make lived life an abstraction, even if later on we reintegrate it into an objective synthesis.

Sorbonne.

Sorbonne-style urban planning is responsible for these castrated generations we know so well.

School of Fine Arts.
Are we going to spend our time at college speculating about the revolution? Or are we going to balance our actions with our speech?

Magnificent struggles are flourishing now in the worker-run factories. May everyone defend the factories, construction sites, shantytowns. “The people themselves are the driving force in the creation of universal history” (Mao).

Censier.

Meanwhile everyone wants to breathe and nobody can and many say “we’ll breathe later.” And most of them don’t die because they’re already dead. It’s now or never. —The Savagers

Nanterre.
Freedom begins with a prohibition: never lay a finger on the freedom of others.

Nanterre.

This is no revolution, Sire, it’s a mutation.

Nanterre.

Don’t go to Greece this summer, stay at the Sorbonne.

Sorbonne.

Revolution and Reform can’t outlast Mutation. It keeps going, and going, and going . . .

Censier.
May ’68: France keeps itself occupied.

Hallway, Institute of Political Studies.

What’s a battering ram? A thing that breaks down doors and opens the universities to everyone.

Sorbonne.

How Dean Zamansky transforms an enraged ram into a sheep:
—by castrating you
—by breeding you

Censier.

Spellign is elitist.

Sorbonne.
As the house burns, grandma combs her hair. —Roman proverb

Rue de la Sorbonne.

Absence is where misfortune takes shape.

Sorbonne.

A life of presence, nothing but presence.

Sorbonne.

A healthy wind has been rising from one end of Europe to the other, rattling the barriers. —De Gaulle (at the University of Bucharest)

Sorbonne.
Beware! We’re surrounded by dipshits. Rather than dwell on the spectacle of protests let’s concern ourselves with protesting the spectacle.

Odéon.

The more I make love, the more I wanna make revolution.
The more I make revolution, the more I wanna make love.
—One of The Enraged Sorbonne.

Minimum five hours of sleep each night is essential, comrades. The revolution depends on you.

Odéon.
Car = gadget

We’ll burn the merchandise.

Owners of opinions, keep them to yourselves. No speakers, no microphone.

Here in the heart of suffering . . .

Cleanliness = repression
Cops = whack

Geography Institute.

You too can steal.

Sorbonne.

I don’t love work, and love loves revolution. —One of The Enraged

Nanterre.

Tomorrow’s joy doesn’t help today’s boredom.

Stairway C, first floor, Nanterre.

Poetry is in the streets.

Rue Rotrou, Odéon.
These days masochism masquerades as reformism.

Sorbonne.

The belt corrects indifference.

Sorbonne.

People who work are bored when they’re not working. People who don’t work never get bored.

Sorbonne.

The ability of the student to be an activist of any kind says a lot about their powerlessness. —Enraged Girls

Nanterre.
Art is dead. Liberate daily life.

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The passion for destruction is a creative joy. —Bakunin

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Liberation is just the awareness of a need.

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When you realize you’re bored you stop being bored.

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The more you consume the less you live.
Fascist dictatorship is iron rings with which the bourgeoisie tries to strengthen the smashed barrel of capitalism.

_Sorbonne._

Shame is counterrevolutionary.

_Nanterre._

Take part in cultural agitation.

_Sorbonne._

Look at you, you’re sad. —The Enraged

_Sorbonne._

Benefits are death.

_Sorbonne._
Stole cigarettes and give them to students at 40% of the price. The government takes 60% of the sales price in taxes. That’s where freedom ends. Here and everywhere else, let us live.

*Sorbonne.*

Slip the undies off a sentence to be just like old rad peasants.

*Sorbonne.*

Revolution’s on!

*Sorbonne.*

Down with neo-exotic orientalism!

*Institute for Asian Languages.*
Never work. 
Boulevard de Port-Royal.

Life is somewhere else. 
Sorbonne.

UNIFORMITY / CRUSTS / AGING / DECAY / EXCREMENT 
Sorbonne.

Let’s be cruel! 
Sorbonne.

Long live kids and thugs. 
Building C, ground floor, Nanterre.
We’re not occupying the Odeon, we’re occupied with it.

Odéon.

My dream is to be a happy fool.

Music Amphitheater, Nanterre.

Long live enraged adventurebuilders.

Hallway, Grand Amphitheater, Sorbonne.

Riot cops = good-for-nothings

Geography Institute.

Riot cops = nazis

Geography Institute.
Let us live.

Sorbonne.

Let’s turn our books into notebooks!

Sorbonne.

Abolish alienation.

Sorbonne.

Free the four dudes convicted for looting during the May 6 riot.

Latin Quarter.

Long live the revolution of workers and peasants in Brittany.

Nanterre.
Free your passions. Art is language.

Courtyard, Sorbonne.

To oppose rent speculation and the housing scandal, let’s occupy the flats that are being listed at obscene prices.

Censier.

Anyone who wasn’t around in the days before revolution doesn’t know the easy life.

Room C-20, Nanterre.

Youth is nonstop intoxication and fevers of reason.

Courtyard, Sorbonne.
I’m with Marcuse! Here’s to an eroticized new society.

Sorbonne.

Down with Stalinist assholes, down with the little co-opting cliques.

Sorbonne.

Anarchists are always there!

Latin Quarter.

When an idea penetrates the masses, it becomes a material force. —Karl Marx
I’d rather be killed by paving stones than by unemployment. —Yours truly

Sorbonne.
Riot cops, you’re pawns and traitors. The people you beat are always friendlier than the ones you take orders from.

Latin Quarter.

Release our comrades.

Latin Quarter.

May the deans dean, the cops cop, and revolutionaries make revolution.

Censier.

Zoom, like a vampire!

Exterior wall, Sorbonne.
vampire!
It was a festival without beginning or end; I saw everyone and no-one, for each individual was lost in the same enormous strolling crowd; I spoke to everyone without remembering either my own words or those spoken by others, because everyone’s attention was absorbed at every step by new objects and events, and by unexpected news. —Mikhail Bakunin

May 1968 has entered into legend—to the point where when new waves of struggle break out in France young people get irritated by the inevitable comparisons to ’68 that are aired in the media. Yet May ’68 was an advanced movement in an exceptional year of struggle that remains a high-point of the post–World War II era. Hopes and possibilities were raised high—yet the revolu-
 tion never came, even though the idea of revolu-
tion (though often limited and confused) was a
part of the general ferment and atmosphere in a
way that seems extraordinary now, looking back
from 2018. Our times are in many ways the era
of counter-revolution that followed—the outcome
of the defeat of the struggles of the 1960s and
70s, when “the social question” dominated life
to varying degrees.

Revolt flared across Europe: in France, Italy,
and in Prague. In Mexico there was a massacre
of demonstrators to ensure social peace prior to
the Olympics of that year. Yet May ’68 in Paris
remains the iconic image associated with the year.

There was something in the air that year—the
events that led up to May were all part of it. But
if the student disruptions at Strasbourg in Decem-
ber 1966 and Nanterre in March 1968 and their
SITUATIONIST inspirers cannot claim to have been
the spark that led to the huge upheaval of May,
they can claim a contribution; and the Situationist International can claim that they foresaw more clearly than others that such a revolt was becoming possible. The SI can also claim to have written some of the best leaflets and texts during and after the events, as well as much of the graffiti.

But no political group can claim '68—it was notable that it was a mass spontaneous outburst, not instigated or led by any external power. (Though part of its weakness was that it allowed the unions and Communist Party to eventually limit and fragment the movement.) Ten million workers participated in the largest wildcat strike in history—yet most of them allowed the union bureaucrats to keep control; the occupations of workplaces were used by unions to keep the workers separated from the wider movement of students and other youth. Those who went to the factories to engage with workers were usually met with locked gates manned by union stew-
ards. The Communist Party and unions were exposed, for all who didn’t already know, as the agents of counter-revolution and of order and business as usual.

**March 22, 1968** Student radicals and associates invaded an administration building at Nanterre University and held a meeting in the university council room dealing with class discrimination in French society and the political bureaucracy that controlled the school’s funding.

The school’s administration called the police, who surrounded the university. After the publication of their wishes, the students left the building without any trouble. Later, organizers of what came to be known as the “Movement of 22 March” were called together by the disciplinary committee of the university.

**May 2** Following months of conflicts between students and authorities at the University of Paris
at Nanterre, the administration shut down that university. Students at the University of the Sorbonne in Paris met on May 3 to protest against the closure and the threatened expulsion of several students at Nanterre.

**MAY 5** Radicals occupied the administration building and held a general assembly. The police surrounded Nanterre, closing down the university.

**MAY 6** Nanterre students came together in the center of Paris and, after continual harassment and over 500 arrests, erupted into five hours of rioting with police. The national student union, and the union of university teachers called a march to protest against the police invasion of the Sorbonne. A complete ban on demonstrations and the closure of large sections of central Paris brought thousands of angry students onto the streets. In the face of increasing police brutality, more than 20,000 students, teachers and supporters marched towards the Sorbonne, still sealed off
by the police, who charged, wielding their batons, as soon as the marchers approached. While the crowd dispersed, some began to create barricades out of whatever was at hand: “Literally thousands helped . . . women, workers, people in pajamas, human chains to carry rocks, wood, iron.” Others threw paving stones, forcing the police to retreat for a time. The police then responded with tear gas and charged the crowd again. Hundreds more students were arrested. By the end of the night, 350 cops had been injured in the fighting.

The same day, high school student unions spoke in support of the riots. The next day, they joined the students, teachers, and increasing numbers of young workers who gathered at the Arc de Triomphe to demand that: (1) all criminal charges against arrested students be dropped, (2) the police leave the university, and (3) the authorities reopen Nanterre and the Sorbonne.
Negotiations broke down after students returned to their campuses, after a false report that the government had agreed to reopen them, only to discover the police still occupying the schools.

**MAY 7** A 50,000 strong march against police brutality turns into a daylong battle through the narrow streets and alleys of the Latin Quarter. When the police fired tear gas, protestors answered with molotov cocktails. When they were told to disperse, the protestors answered with chants of “Long Live the Paris Commune!”

**MAY 10** Another huge crowd congregated on the Left Bank. When the riot police again blocked them from crossing the river, the crowd again threw up barricades, which the police then attacked at 2:15 in the morning after negotiations once again floundered. The confrontation, which produced hundreds of arrests and injuries, lasted until dawn of the following day. The events were broadcast on radio as they occurred and
the aftermath was shown on television the following day. Allegations were made that the police had participated, through agents provocateurs, in the riots, by burning cars and throwing molotov cocktails.

After massive demonstrations, the Education Minister started negotiations. But in the streets, sixty barricades had been built and workers came down to support the students.

After the massive protests, the police were forced out of the Latin Quarter. Students seized the sections of Paris which police had sealed off and created an assembly to spread the struggle. Occupations and demonstrations soon spread throughout France. From Sorbonne University (previously cordoned off by police but taken back by the students) came leaflets, proclamations, telegrams, posters, and graffiti.

The French Communist Party reluctantly participated, with the major union federations—
the General Confederation of Labor and the Workers Force—in calling a one-day general strike and demonstration for Monday, May 13.

**MAY 13** Well over a million people marched through Paris; the police stayed largely out of sight. Prime Minister Georges Pompidou personally announced the release of the prisoners and the reopening of the Sorbonne. The surge of strikes did not, however, recede. In fact, the protesters became even more enraged.

When the Sorbonne reopened, students occupied it and declared it an autonomous “people’s university.” Around 400 popular action committees were set up in Paris, including the Occupation Committee of the Sorbonne, and elsewhere in the weeks that followed to take up grievances against the government and French society.

**MAY 14** A sit-down strike begins at the Sud Aviation plant near the city of Nantes, where workers lock management in their offices. In the
following days, other workers began occupying factories, then another strike at a Renault parts plant near Rouen, which spread to the Renault manufacturing complexes at Flins in the Seine Valley and the Paris suburb of Boulogne-Billancourt.

**MAY 15** That night, the National Theater in Paris was seized and made into a permanent assembly for mass debate.

**MAY 16** By now workers had occupied roughly fifty factories.

**MAY 17** 200,000 workers were now on strike.

**MAY 18** Two million workers on strike.

**MAY 20** During this week the number of strikers escalated to ten million, or roughly two-thirds of the French workforce. Four thousand students occupying Sorbonne University went down to support the Renault strikers. Ten thousand cops were mobilized for back up, union officials locked factory gates, and the Communist Party urged their members to try and stop the revolt.
These strikes were not led by the union movement; on the contrary, the General Confederation of Labor tried to contain this spontaneous outbreak of militancy by channeling it into a struggle for higher wages and other economic demands. Workers put forward a broader, more political and more radical agenda, demanding the ousting of the government and President de Gaulle and attempting, in some cases, to run their factories. When the trade union leadership negotiated a 35% increase in the minimum wage, a 7% wage increase for other workers, and half normal pay for the time on strike with the major employers’ associations, the workers occupying their factories refused to return to work and jeered their union leaders, even though this deal was better than what they could have obtained only a month earlier.

**MAY 24** The Paris Stock Exchange is set on fire by protestors.
As street demos grew and occupations continued, the state prepared to use brutal force to crush the revolt. Army generals readied 20,000 troops to regain control of Paris by force and police had occupied communications centers like TV stations and Post Offices. Communist Party officials helped manipulate strikers into returning to work. In the case of the Metro, they visited one station and told workers that other stations had re-opened, then they proceeded to visit others stations in order to proliferate this tale.

**May 25-26** The Grenelle agreements were signed at the Ministry of Social Affairs. They provided for an increase of the minimum wage by 25% and of the average salary by 10%. These offers were rejected as inadequate by workers and the strike continued.

**May 30** Several hundred thousand protesters (400,000 to 500,000—much more than the 50,000 the police were expecting) marched through Paris.
**MAY 31** While the government appeared to be close to collapse, de Gaulle remained firm, though he had to go into hiding, and considered abandoning his position. After being assured that he had enough loyal military units ready to back him if push came to shove, he went on the radio (the national television service was on strike) to announce the dissolution of the National Assembly, with elections to follow on June 23. He ordered workers to return to work and threatened to institute a state of emergency if they did not.

**JUNE 5** Most workers had gradually returned to work or were ousted from their plants by the police. The national student union called off street demonstrations. The government banned a number of leftist organizations.

**JUNE 6** The police retook the Sorbonne. De Gaulle triumphed in the legislative elections held later in June, and the crisis came to an end.
INTERNATIONAL CHRONOLOGY The entire era of the 1960s and 70s were characterized by world-wide struggle—of workers, youth, students, the oppressed—against work and exploitation; against the State; against class society; against authority; against racial, sexual, and gender repression; against war; against the stifling morality and conformities of daily life.

MARCH 8, 1968 The 1968 Polish political crisis began with students from the University of Warsaw who marched for student rights and were beaten with clubs. The next day over two thousand students marched in protest of the police involvement on campus and were clubbed and arrested again. By March 11, the general public had joined the protest in violent confrontations with students and police in the streets. The government fought a propaganda campaign against the protestors, labeling them Zionists. The twenty days of protest ended when the state
closed all of the universities and arrested more than a thousand students. Most Polish Jews left the country to avoid persecution by the government.

**March 17** A demonstration against the Vietnam war outside the US Embassy in London led to hours of street fighting between police and demonstrators; it ended with 86 people injured and 200 demonstrators arrested. There were worldwide protests against the US involvement in Vietnam, as well as widespread draft-dodging by American youth, and insubordination in the US military.

**April 4** Assassination of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. In response, a wave of rebellions spreads through Black communities in over 115 American cities.

**April 20** British Member of Parliament Enoch Powell makes his anti-immigration “Rivers of Blood” speech; this sparks demonstrations across
England, including one by some London dockworkers in support of Powell.

**April 23** Students occupy and shut down Columbia University.

**May-June** A mass revolt and general strike across France.

**Late August** The Democratic National Convention in Chicago was disrupted by the new Youth International Party ("Yippies"), the National Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, and thousands of other protesters. Chicago’s Mayor Daly organized a massive police operation, backed by the National Guard and the army, to deal with the protests, leading to clashes that dominated the streets for eight days.

**August 21** Russian troops invaded Czechoslovakia to put an end to the Prague Spring, a period of liberalization in Czechoslovakia during the era of its domination by the Soviet Union.

**October 2** In Mexico a student demonstration ended in a storm of bullets in La Plaza de
las Tres Culturas at Tlatelolco, Mexico City, ten
days before the celebration of the 1968 Sum-
mer Olympics in the same city. Police, para-
troopers, and paramilitary units fired on stu-
dents, killing over a hundred people, in an
attempt to enforce a “social peace” to protect
against any disruption of the Olympics.

Adapted from libcom.org.
COMMENT
LIBREMENT
A L'OMBRE
CHAP.
L’issue mont houillère à trois
Toute destruction est Grecque.
Les anarchistes
SONT TOUJOURS LA!
Comrade, you ask me why
we’re building barricades and I tell you:
Death creeps through the streets
Waiting in ambush at every corner
are a thousand deaths
Their names are
Money
Atom bombs
Politics
Exploitation
Slavery
Injustice
and their symbol is the nightstick
tool of the forces that kill us
Our barricades are a roar of protest
Our combat is day against night
Liberation writes our plans
Comrade, come join us on the barricades
The sun shines from our hands