

CATALOG 2026

ÉDITIONS LA LENTEUR

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AGENCE LITTÉRAIRE SOPHIE SAVARY



Éditions de la Lenteur publishes texts sharing the conviction that the massive expansion of technology is a fundamental cause of widespread political fatalism. The decades-long development of ever more powerful machines and computers increases labour exploitation and alienation in everyday life. Far from liberating humanity, modern technology binds individuals to the social body in an unprecedented and regressive way.

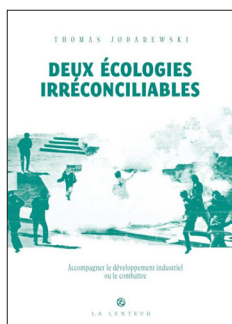
La Lenteur emerged from our practice of writing texts in support of anti-industrial struggles and ideas. We mainly circulated the texts outside the bookshop network. In 2004, we participated in writing the brochure *Les États Généraux de la servitude* (The Estates General of Servitude), which documented the opposition of radical groups to the research campaign *Sauvons la recherche* (Let's Save Research). This opposition gave rise to Oblomoff, a group that also produced brochures on the subject.

Involved in the movement against advertising and opposed to the installation of biometric systems in schools and elsewhere, we also took part in the student movement against the *Contrat Première Embauche* (CPE), a proposed “First Employment Contract”, in spring 2006. We were a small group of friends committed to a radical critique of industrial society, and wherever we went, we encountered the difficulties involved in sharing this critique. We came up against the inability, and even refusal, of the left (*Attac*, *Le Monde diplomatique*, trade unions, political parties, associations) to consider consumerism, technoscience and environmental degradation as major political issues. Our criticism of the digitalisation of public space came up against the demands of militant effectiveness and an undisguised enthusiasm for new technologies and forms of communication. Coming from the left ourselves, at least through our families, friendships and places we used to frequent, we could

not help but be struck by the strength of this resistance, and we were aware that the few spectacular actions, such as those we participated in, would not be sufficient to trigger the necessary debate on the divorce between technological progress and human progress: in an era without any immediate prospect of an emancipatory uprising, it appeared essential to get down to substantive work and contribute to changing the atmosphere.

Since we founded our publishing house, we have never used social media or electronic payment methods, nor have we created a website or worked with Amazon. This is for reasons of consistency rather than purity, and perhaps simply because we are not interested in them. We don't know how to use these tools and have no desire to learn. Moreover, we are convinced that the production and circulation of ideas that offer a critique of the industrial system will sooner or later be doomed if they remain dependent on the means that this very system "generously" provides.

In that sense, we are on the defensive, like all those who share our sensibilities, and we have to accept a certain number of contradictions, since books cannot be produced without industrial means. It may be difficult to imagine having a place in the "book chain" without using the Internet at all, but we are determined not to use PayPal, HelloAsso, Instagram or YouTube, in order to avoid contributing, even on a very small scale, to services that, by reinforcing individual isolation, have created a widespread sense of powerlessness, which, among other things, contributes to the rise of the right. Thus, we may lose some readers and sales in the short term, but we know that we have survived until now thanks to book tables set up across France, numerous letters from readers, and dozens of presentations in bookshops. 



Two irreconcilable ecologies

Governing the living
or reinventing life

THOMAS JODAREWSKI

There is a fundamental misunderstanding surrounding the concept of ecology, and this book reveals it. It shows that two different political movements claim the same label whilst their aims are incompatible: one is a technocratic movement aiming to steer the «Spaceship Earth» through ever more science, measurement, bureaucracy, and calculation; the other is a technocritical movement, born out of the pacifist and libertarian counterculture of the Sixties and Seventies, and centred on a critique of scientism and industry.

Thomas Jodarewski unravels this ideological tangle in a gripping historical investigation, exposing along the way a number of deceptive ideas that are devastating the Earth while claiming to challenge the system.

15 x 21 CM / 190 PP. / €16 / 2026

Thomas Jodarewski, also known as Tomjo, is representative of an endangered species in critical publishing circles. This work is neither part of a doctoral thesis nor a work written to obtain an academic qualification. Trained for investigation like an apprentice of «L'Atelier de bricolage pour un esprit critique» held by the collective «Pièces et main d'œuvre», he runs the website Chez Renart from Lille. He published L'Enfer Vert (L'échappée, 2013) and Nord, c'est Noir (Service compris, 2025).



Land and freedom

A quest for autonomy
versus the fantasy of liberation

AURÉLIEN BERLAN

Western modernity has defined itself through its project of extending freedom to everyone, whereas earlier civilisations reserved it for a privileged minority. But at a time when inequalities are rising as rapidly as restrictive measures multiply, the obvious fiasco of this project leads one to question the underlying concept of freedom. This is what Aurélien Berlan does in this impactful essay. Under the ideal of emancipation as breaking free from nature, he discerns an old aristocratic aspiration to liberation: the desire to live a life free from the daily burden of arduous tasks. Thus social injustice and ecological disaster appear inextricably linked, as freeing oneself from the necessities of life entails the exploitation of both people and nature.

15 x 21 CM / 224 PP. / €16 / 2021

Aurélien Berlan is a philosopher-gardener who divides his time between translation work, precarious teaching positions and subsistence activities. He contributed to publications by the Groupe Marcuse (De la misère humaine en milieu publicitaire, La Découverte, 2004; La Liberté dans le coma, La Lenteur, 2013) and published a notable essay on German sociologists' critique of industrial modernity (La Fabrique des derniers hommes, La Découverte, 2012). This book has been published in Spanish (Virus), German (Mandelbaum), and an Italian edition is currently being negotiated.



A Manifesto against the growing management and digitalisation of our lives

ÉCRAN TOTAL

Technological outpouring is one of the main political issues of our time. Almost everyone now thinks of digitalisation as a 'natural' process, as the mere background of everything happening to us, with its own advantages and drawbacks. Apart from a few exceptions, no political movement is challenging digitalisation. Instead, most of today's political movements want to push it further, faster ! Digitalisation is one of the blind spots of today's politics and of the current radical movements.

We think that this evolution represents a formidable social decline which we can oppose : what has been done as a result of human choices can be undone, through debating and political action. As we criticize digitalisation, what we also criticize is today's social order more globally. We are against the type of technological progress which worsens all kinds of inequalities, curtails our freedom, devastates nature and cultures. Building an opposition to digitalisation is a way to go against the prevailing fatalism and make up for the growing divides in our societies ; in short, it is a way to reopen new perspectives about political change. We are calling on everyone who wants to resist their lives being administered and digitalised... In order to live and to act, let's break free from digital control and totalitarianism !

110.5 x 18 cm / 91 pp. / €10 / 2026



Technofascism

An invitation to quit all social media ASAP

**MATTHIEU AMIECH,
GARY LIBOT
AND VALENTIN MARTINIE**

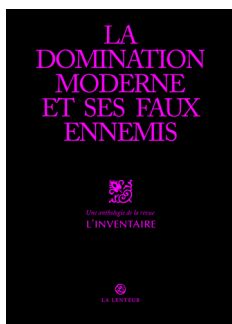
This text follows on from and develops the editorial «Not only should one leave X, but rebuild political communities outside the network», from the paper Le Chiffon (The Rag) No. 16, spring 2025. «It is time to understand that on so-called social media the far right is in its element. That 'progressive forces' haven't made sufficient use of the Internet and online platforms is not the problem; on the contrary, they were the first to do so believing that the universal network would enable their ideas to triumph. But once the majority of the population was connected, other players moved in and skilfully took advantage of the algorithmic rules of the platforms, rules that favour oversimplification of the issues, increasingly brutal language and a pack mentality. (...) Claiming to fight the spread of identitarian ideas with short-format content, online skirmishes and high-adrenaline videos is illusory; it can even exacerbate the fragmentation of our society».

Matthieu Amiech is actively involved in the publishing house La Lenteur.

Valentin Martinie : Actor, writer, and journalist at Le Chiffon.

Gary Libot, Journalist, member of La Lenteur, editor of Le Chiffon.

10.5 x 14.8 cm / 40 pp. / €5 / 2026



Modern domination and its false enemies

An anthology
of the journal *L'Inventaire*

COLLECTIVE WORK

Bourdieu, Foucault, Butler, Deleuze, Derrida, Haraway, Descola, Latour, Rancière, the great revolutionaries, the most widely cited thinkers in academia! The so-called progressive and radical theology of postmodernism and its authors are the source of dogmatic fervour, the pursuit of the absolute and resignation. Contrary to the idea that the struggle of our century is to reinvent our imagination, for *L'Inventaire*, action is the driving force behind thought and knowledge, not the other way around. This volume brings together texts on both social and cultural issues. Denouncing the kind of life to which our society condemns us (the race for profit, unfulfilling work and mind-numbing forms of entertainment), the dehumanising effects of technology, our lack of control over our own lives and, for almost all of us, over our collective life, is the necessary complement to the critique of injustice and suffering produced by the organisation of society.

15 x 21 cm / 190 pp. / €16 / 2026



The industry of conspiracy theories

Social media, state lies
and the destruction of life

MATTHIEU AMIECH

Following *Cauchemar de Don Quichotte* (co-written with Julien Mattern) and *La Liberté dans le coma* (Groupe Marcuse), Matthieu Amiech continues his exploration of the devastating effects of digitalisation on society. The Internet and social media are a breeding ground for conspiracy theories. But these theories are also fuelled by the nihilism of an oligarchy that is perfectly at ease with the impoverishment of people and the destruction of life on Earth, in order to preserve the existing economic system. In an end-of-the-world atmosphere, conspiracy theories can only proliferate. This book addresses the questions that arise (some absurd, others legitimate) by placing them in a political context.

*Influenced by critiques of the role of scientific research in industrial capitalism, Matthieu Amiech decided not to continue working in sociology at the university. As co-author of *Le Cauchemar de Don Quichotte* [The Nightmare of Don Quixote] (2004, reissued in 2014), he has contributed to all of the MARCUSE group's writings. He divides his time between editorial work, the struggle against the digitization of society, and activities to earn a living.*

15 x 21 cm / 216 pp. / €18 / 2023



Can one oppose the computerisation of our lives?

MATTHIEU AMIECH

«It appears that people who encounter our work often get the impression that we advocate a form of digital asceticism. But this is not the case. It is true that we personally have a strong aversion to all this electronic junk, but as society undergoes fundamental changes we find ourselves more or less obliged to use it and we face the same constraints as our contemporaries. What is important to understand about our approach is that we try to see this as a political issue rather than one of personal ethics. (...) What matters to us is to help foster opposition to government policies and to companies that promote an online lifestyle and addiction to digital technology.»

11.5 x 18 cm / 144 pp. / €10 / 2024



Against digital alternatives

NICOLAS ALEP AND JULIA LAÏNAE

As the galloping digitalisation of society proves to be increasingly harmful, countless people and organisations argue that alternatives are possible: more humane, more environmentally friendly, more transparent and more cooperative. In this brief essay, J. Lainaie and N. Alep deliver a well-deserved takedown of the green bureaucrats of the Shift Project, the «fly-by-night philosopher» Bernard Stiegler and the supporters of free software, open data and civic tech. They advocate decomputerising society in order to preserve life on Earth. An afterword by N. Alep offers some political avenues for digital degrowth in the spirit of the recent manifesto (*Reprendre la terre aux machines*, Seuil, 2021).

Julia Lainaie was a member of the Décablés (an activist group in the Lyon area) and a philosophy student at the time the book was written. Since then, she became an herbalist and settled near Bure, in Haute-Marne, where she is actively involved in the fight against the Cigéo nuclear waste disposal project.

*Nicolas Alep was a computer science professor at the time the book was written. Since then, after a stint at the Atelier Paysan (he is one of the authors of *Reprendre la terre aux machines: Manifesto for Food and Peasant Autonomy*, Seuil, 2021), he became a poultry farmer.*

11.5 x 18 cm / 144 pp. / €10 / 2023

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 2020





Love in the time of protocols

PIERRE BOURLIER

Pierre Bourlier offers a fresh look and overview of Wilhelm Reich's thought (1897-1957). Reich, a seminal influence on the student rebels of 1968 and founder of a political movement for sexual emancipation, was a psychoanalyst but also a biologist. Bourlier captures Reich's original conception of life, spontaneity and sensitivity, whilst reflecting on his contradictions and underlining how emblematic his thought is of the ideological tendencies in our culture: enthusiasm for reductive science, mechanisation and medicalisation of existence. He shows that subordination to technological and scientific progress is deeply intertwined with the need for irrational experiences, mystical forms of liberation and «personal development» that we see all around us.

Pierre Bourlier is a natural winemaker in the Côtes du Rhône region. A connoisseur of the works of George Orwell and Wilhelm Reich, he published an essay with Sulliver titled De l'intérieur du désastre [From Within the Disaster] (2011), and with La Lenteur, Notre communauté viscérale [Our Close-Knit Community] (2014).

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Lara Pugh

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