

Éditions Terre Urbaine

Rights List

Fall 2021 / Winter 2022



Table of Contents



01 Jérémie Gaubert *A Walker's Philosophy*

02 David Le Breton *Freewheeling*

03 Gilles Fumey *Breakfast Under Fire*

04 Augustin Berque *Urban Mesology*

05 Thierry Paquot *Earthly Abodes*

06 Thierry Paquot *America the Green*

07 Contact



A Walker's Philosophy

Jérémy Gaubert

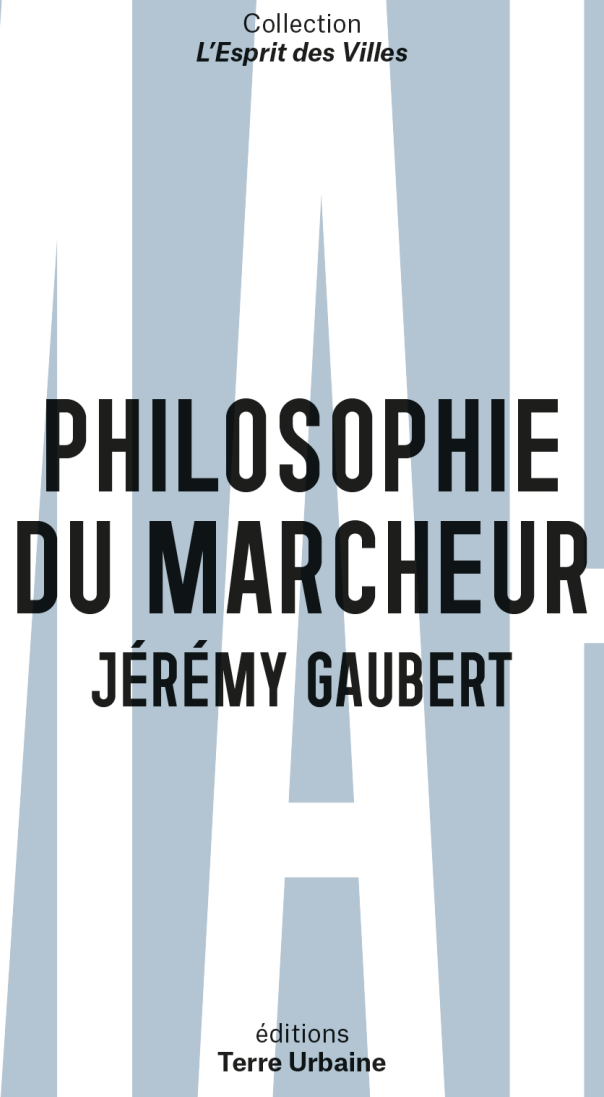
February 2021

192 pp

Architect and holder of a PhD in architecture, JÉRÉMY GAUBERT is the author of several articles on the body and its movements. He is interested in walking as a revelation of the urban dweller. This essay is a contribution to an aesthetic of the pedestrian city...

"A text of abundant erudition that addresses many aspects of the pedestrian's or walker's relationship to the world. One feels at the same time the happiness of walking, but also the jubilation of thinking, reading, debating with the authors." **Esprit magazine**

Walking turns out to be an experience of the city. A discovery of both others and ourselves, depending on our route, our encounters, our mood, the state of the traffic and the interest or banality of the urban landscapes we cross. This experience is unique and singular each time. "One never walks the same way twice in the same street", as Heraclitus might say. To examine this experience is to explore one's own body, one's five senses, one's capacity to allow contact with others as well as with the places one walks through, their architecture, their atmosphere, their vegetation, what is there or what is lacking... Through walking, we understand better who we are, as a sensitive being, in good physical shape or suffering, inclined to appreciate a place or ready to flee it... Initiating this path of understanding requires us to examine the urban walk and its invention in the fruitful dialogue between the walker and the city.



Indeed, through the "figures" of the walker, the flâneur, the surrealist wanderer and the situationists' drifting, the contours of the meaning of pedestrian wanderings that manufacture and reveal urbanity are drawn. Therefore, the experience of urban walking magnifies this relational logic, this intertwining of the walker with his environment, knowing that both shape each other. Continuing our path, the experience of walking becomes an inhabitation, the opening of our place of existence in its sensorial, motoric and affective dimensions. Thus, for everyone, it is essential to participate in the elaboration of a walkable urban public space. Walkability is to urbanity what vocabulary is to language.

Free-wheeling

A Sentimental Anthropology of Cycling

David Le Breton

October 2020

216 pp

DAVID LE BRETON is a French anthropologist and sociologist. He teaches at the University of Strasbourg and is a member of the Institut Universitaire de France and a researcher at the Laboratory Cultures and Societies in Europe. He has published numerous works in the field of the sociology of impressions, senses and space and specializes in the representations the human body.

Like walking, the bicycle is one in the eye for the ultraliberal values of our contemporary societies. It is an invitation to calmly feel the world, to nonchalance, to feel alive. It engages you permanently in the sensoriality of the world, in the smells, the landscapes, the surrounding sounds. Biking is also a gentle way of recreating time and space. It takes the cyclist where he wants to go, at his own pace, without fear of delays, without having to wonder around looking for a parking spot.

The bicycle has a rich history that goes back more than a century. It has accompanied social movements and fueled sociability in different ways from one generation to the next. If the first cyclists were among the wealthier classes, enthusiasm grew in popular circles until the Fifties, when cycling was largely neglected due to the saturation of cities and roads by automobile traffic.

Collection
L'Esprit des Villes

EN ROUE LIBRE

DAVID LE BRETON

éditions
Terre Urbaine

In recent years, the bicycle is used by an increasingly wide and diverse population that demands bicycle paths, repair shops, and a peaceful sharing of the road. Bicycles have become an emblem of political ecology, combining physical activity, the pleasure of circulating and joyful wandering. The monopolization of urban space by cars is increasingly being questioned.

A cycling revolution, a promise of a more hospitable city, is taking place and is pedaling boldly.

**RIGHTS SOLD: ITALY
(CORTINA)**

Breakfast Under Fire!

Gilles Fumey

September 2020

130 pp

GILLES FUMEY, a cultural historian and geographer, teaches at Sorbonne University. He is the author of numerous books on gastronomic culture and its relationship with the territory (Atlas des cuisines et gastronomies, Atlas de l'Alimentation, Géopolitique de l'alimentation).

"Breakfast is a contemporary social construction. Gilles Fumey invites us to rethink the perception we have today of meals and food organization by exploring that of our ancestors since Antiquity"
France Inter

What if breakfast wasn't necessary? Almost everywhere on the planet, it is promoted as the most important meal of the day, but not in Italy, for example.

In olden times, peasants waited several hours before breaking bread, construction workers, miners and bourgeois ate a snack with a glass of wine or a bowl of soup. More refined people drank a cup of coffee, tea or chocolate. Only when schools are democratized will the rhythm of our meals be divided into four: breakfast, lunch, afternoon snack and supper.

Every meal belongs to a given culture and possesses its own ritual that has evolved over the centuries. The Athenians simply ate a piece of bread dipped in a glass of pure wine. Nowadays, we ingest products of unknown origins, and deranged seasonality.

Collection
L'Esprit des Villes

FEU SUR LE BREAKFAST! GILLES FUMEY

éditions
Terre Urbaine

The cultural geography of this morning meal sheds new light on breakfast, which is perhaps not as essential as claimed. In fact, doctors point out that there is a cortisol peak in the morning when we get up, which prepares our bodies for the day's tasks and which occurs without our needing to eat. Unlike the Germans and the French, Italians today continue to skip breakfast.

Gilles Fumey takes us on a wonderful journey through different cultures and historical periods shattering several myths that our over-urbanized civilization has erected around breakfast.

Urban Mesology

Augustin Berque

April 2021

142 pp

Born in 1942 in Rabat, AUGUSTIN BERQUE is a geographer and orientalist. He has been director of studies at the École des hautes études in social sciences (Paris). Member of the Academia Europaea, he is the first Westerner to receive the Fukuoka Grand Prize for Asian Cultures cultures in 2009. He is the author of numerous books, including: *Ecumene. Introduction à l'étude des milieux humains* (Belin, 2000), *Poétique de la Terre. Histoire naturelle et histoire humaine, essai de mésologie* (Belin, 2014) and *Glossaire de mésologie* (Éditions Éoliennes, 2018).

If the word "mesology" dates back to 1848 and designates the "study of environments", according to its inventor Charles Robin, it has since acquired another methodological dimension thanks to Augustin Berque, who, going beyond the subject/object dualism, does not make it a discipline, but a perspective that crosses both the human sciences and the natural sciences.

His knowledge of Greek, German, Chinese, and Japanese philosophies allows him to considerably enrich our appreciation of the interactions between the constituent elements of a same whole, which is what ecology aims at, in order to understand how similar situations are not identical. In this respect, his developments around the notions of "mediation", "trajection", "ecumene", and "milieu" constitute a theoretical advance which finds in the articles gathered here the manifestation of their relevance.

Collection
L'Esprit des Villes

MÉSOLOGIE URBAINE AUGUSTIN BERQUE

éditions
Terre Urbaine

The author invites us to follow him in his reflections on the private, the public, the common in the era of the Anthropocene in a generalized urban environment. On this point, the comparative analysis that he conducts between East and West, proves to be as illuminating on describing different concepts as on deciphering existential situations which see each individual trying to inscribe his destiny in a place which welcomes him without judging him. Thus, the reader understands how the ecumene is indeed the possibility of living on Earth.

"A erudite and polyglot presentation (Japanese, Chinese, German, English, Greek...), this book plunges us into the heart of the mesological paradigm. It can be read in a single sitting, and offers a journey through a teeming web, some of whose threads have been organized with pedagogy by the editor (...) constituting both an introduction to mesology and an exploration of urban worlds, understood here as inhabited spaces. (...) A powerful deconstruction." **Le Topophile**

Earthly Abodes

Thierry Paquot

May 2020

250 pp

A philosopher of human habitats and surroundings, THIERRY PAQUOT has been contributing to debates on urbanization for some thirty years, as evidenced by his numerous publications, including *L'espace public* (La Découverte 2009), *Le Dicorue. Vocabulaire ordinaire et extraordinaire des lieux urbains* (CNRS-éditions, 2017), *Désastres urbains. Les villes meurent aussi* (La Découverte, 2015) and *Mesures et démesures des villes* (CNRS-éditions, 2020). His books have been published into English, German, Italian, Spanish, Turkish and Portuguese.

"The author exhibits his pedagogical talent, trying to initiate the reader to what it means to inhabit one's surroundings: not to appropriate a place, but to become one with it, because it is the place which accommodates us and that we accomodate in our turn. An initiation into the urban phenomenon as a human phenomenon."

Etudes. Revue de culture contemporaine

To inhabit a space is a human characteristic, but many people do not inhabit their surroundings and cannot, therefore, fully realize their potential. To inhabit is to be-present-in-the-world-and-to-others, which is not self-evident, cannot be learned and is not related to the quality of one's housing, the beauty of the area where one lives, the level of one's income... To inhabit is to be at one with the place that welcomes us as much as we respect it, to weave innumerable relationships with the other inhabitants, human or not, to preserve the things that participate in our activities, our dreams and our desires.

DEMEURE TERRESTRE THIERRY PAQUOT

éditions
Terre Urbaine

Intermingling his personal memories of places he visited and philosophical analyses of the territorialities and the temporalities of our existence, Thierry Paquot strives to reveal the existential richness of what inhabiting means. In the vein of Martin Heidegger as well as Gaston Bachelard, Henri Maldiney or Ivan Illich, he tells the chaotic history of how, in the early sixties, the idea of the habitat started to be taken into account, at first by psychologists, then by architects, sociologists, anthropologists and geographers, and then exposes his own vision of the idea.

Thus, according to him, we inhabit above all our language, like a country that we carry with us wherever we go.

This book is a roaming meditation on ways to be in the world that every person must cultivate in order to always be able to inhabit the places that, in turn, inhabit them...

America the Green

Thierry Paquot

October 2020

248 pp

A philosopher of human habitats and surroundings, THIERRY PAQUOT has been contributing to debates on urbanization for some thirty years, as evidenced by his numerous publications, including *L'espace public* (La Découverte 2009), *Le Dicorue. Vocabulaire ordinaire et extraordinaire des lieux urbains* (CNRS-éditions, 2017), *Désastres urbains. Les villes meurent aussi* (La Découverte, 2015) and *Mesures et démesures des villes* (CNRS-éditions, 2020). His books have been published into English, German, Italian, Spanish, Turkish and Portuguese.

"Thierry Paquot puts some order into our scattered knowledge while enlightening us on the diversity of the temperaments, the initiatives and the filiations. (...) Covering nearly a century and a half of his "portraits of nature lovers", the author leads us on their successive, sometimes tangled, tracks with precision and humor."

Topophile

The United States was among the first countries to pass laws to protect nature, air and water quality, to ban certain toxic products and to create national parks, including Yellowstone, which opened in 1872.

Yet the history of American environmentalism is like a game of ping-pong, with each legislative advance followed by a regression, and no president can claim an innovative and courageous environmental policy.

Nevertheless, it is in the United States that ecological thinking took root even before the word "ecology" appeared.

Collection
L'Esprit des Villes

L'AMÉRIQUE VERTE

THIERRY PAQUOT

éditions
Terre Urbaine

This essay is an invitation to get to know those early "amateur naturalists," "walkers and observers," "landscape and nature lovers" who can be called early ecologists, such as Emerson, Fuller, Thoreau, Downing, Marsh, Olmsted, Muir, Burroughs, Leopold, MacKaye, Mumford, and a few others. Their works, mainly from the nineteenth century, are not only described and analyzed but also linked to each other. Because these men often read and appreciated each other, Thierry Paquot discovers filiations and interactions which add up to a legacy without testament for the current militants who still hope to put the environmental question onto the political agenda. There is still time and, as this book proves, they don't have to start from scratch!

Contact Us



Deborah Druba
deborah@agencedeborahdruba.com
www.agencedeborahdruba.com