

Authors : **Pièces et main d'œuvre (PMO)** *un atelier de bricolage pour la construction d'un esprit critique à Grenoble*. The term *bricolage* is used in both the practical and fine arts, as well as in other fields, such as critical theory, education, computer software and business. *Parts and Labour* see themselves as a workshop activity in radical *critique* of both the techno-industrial activities and the moralist and conformist thought processes (*bien-pensance grégaire*) which are associated with the techno-science research establishment stationed in Grenoble. Located at the foot of the French Alps where the river Drac joins the Isère, the city in south-eastern France has been groomed by a lot of money to act as a magnet to high-tech industry. It thus welcomes with open arms numbers of controversial firms including Schneider Electric - which operates in partnership with Maverick Technologies in the domain of industrial automation and enterprise integration and whose roots are in the iron, steel, and arms factories of Schneider-Creusot - Caterpillar and Hewlett Packard (HP). In June 2014, the US Presbyterian Church voted to divest from Hewlett-Packard and two other North American companies, Caterpillar and Motorola Solutions, because they sell machines used in the Occupied Territories in the repression of Palestinians.

Interestingly PMO refuses the institution of 'expert advice' which, they suggest, depoliticises politics and dispossesses communities of their political sovereignty, PMO have in their sights all 'the usual suspects' : of the militaro-industrial complex, 'police and social databases', the nuclear industry, nanotechnology etc.

A Call from the Chimpanzees of the Future

Brothers Humans, Sisters Humans,

You may have heard of transhumanism and of transhumanists ; of a mysterious threat, fanatical group, society of scientists and industrialists - discreet and powerful - whose intrigues and stated objective are to liquidate the human specie, to replace it with the higher race - "enhanced"- of Men-Machines. A species resulting from eugenics, from the converging technologies- nano, bio, info, cogno (NBIC) and from huge advances in science.

You may have heard the ultimatum - cynical and provocative – from a 'researcher in cybernetics' : "*There will be people who will be implanted, hybridized, they will dominate the world. The others who will not, will be no more useful than cows grazing in a field*". [1]

And more : "*Those who will decide to remain human and refuse the 'improvements' will be singularly handicapped. They will constitute a subspecies of future chimpanzees*". [2]

And you asked yourselves whether to take these hot air merchants seriously, whether or not such utterances were simply wishful thinking, or science fiction and merely a passing fit or fancy of technocratic hubris.

Unfortunately, the danger is all-too-real, and humanity is confronted by a bid to extinguish human beings, a determination instigated by a selfish, ruthless and all-powerful minority, tired of sharing what's left of this world of ours with masses of useless and ever more numerous mouths to feed.

How did we get here, and what should we do ?

First came the poets :

Rimbaud : "I was the creator of every feast, every triumph, every drama. I tried inventing new flowers, new planets, new flesh, new languages. I believed I had acquired supernatural powers. Ha ! I have to bury my imagination and my memories ! What an ignominious end to a splendid career as an artist and storyteller (Adieu : Une Saison en Enfer. Printemps 1873).

Isidore-Lucien Ducasse (alias Le Comte de Lautréamont) : "It is a man or a stone or a tree that will start the fourth song ... ". (Quatrième Chant - Strophe 1 : Les Chants de Maldoror 1869).

Then the Futurist artists : French, Italians, Russians : Marinetti, Maïakovsky, Apollinaire and so many others, bards of violence and speed. Bugles and survivors of the Great World Industrial War exalted technology as the true way of "*changing life and transforming the world*". They waged war to old-fashioned poetry, to sun and moon; they glorified aircraft, dams, engines, electricity, the *Titanic*, the *Metropolis*, armored brigades, huge stadiums. Robots and mechanized masses.

They propagated the two great movements of their age : Technology and Totalitarianism. Two converging movements. Two sides of a same movement of *souls and men engineers* (Stalin) in order of manufacturing the New Man – from the Nazi *Übermensch* to the Communist Man of Steel - through all varieties of Supermen, to arrive at the cyborg; a “hybridized” bionic man born of the transhumanist laboratory – a synthesis of implants and interfaces.

Right from the Thirties, the National Revolutionary Ernst Jünger, criticized the coarse, biological racism of the National Socialists, opposing to it the advent of a new type of humanity : The Worker - in Czech - the *robot*. (1924. K. Capek)

These *progressists* at the technological level are *regressists* at the human and social level, partisans of the worst forms of regression on social and human ground. What common language names reactionaries. Nazism, fascism and communism succumbed only to the superior technoscience power of the United States. But the *essence* of the movement, the technoscientific will to power was reincarnated and expanded, wrapped in new political envelopes.

The lab flourishes, whence has escaped the vile monster. As soon as 1945 Norbert Wiener was developing cybernetics, "*the governing machine*" and "automated factory" that IBM operates today under the name of a "*smarter planet*." Meaning their ubiquitous ant-like technology with its cogs and webs ; social-mechanical insects formerly calling themselves - *zoon politikon* - political animals.

For transhumanists and collaborators with the machine, the human is the mistake. Human is feeble and fallible,. Human ashamed them. They aspire to perfection, to infallible operative systems, to merge with the infinity of an autonomous technological totality.

Transhumanists find support everywhere. They are on the radio and in up market newspapers. "*The Enhanced Man is already here*" headlines *Politis* (nominally a weekly left-wing "anti-capitalist" French newspaper, founded in 1988) – rejoicing in *le fait accompli*. "*Another transhumanism is possible*," proclaims France's Transhumanist Association. You can't stop progress and left stands *for* progress. Being leftist means claiming the right and means for all to human-machine hybridization, a public service of eugenics, a new branch of social welfare.

However, we, chimpanzees of the future, we have not lost, and the machine has not won. Human is a fight in progress as long as he does not give up, and he does not give up as long as he thinks things and tell them with words. Naming something is to form an idea and ideas have inevitable

consequences. We must keep the words and name things with the *right word*. We need to formulate ideas with their inescapable consequences.

Transhumanists have but one idea : technology.

We - chimpanzees of the future – have only one technology : ideas.

However, ideas are more active, more nimble, more powerful than any technology; they are swifter and more powerful than the Internet and electricity.

We say: Transhumanism is Nazism in science circles. It is this techno-totalitarianism, this "*fascism*" of our age that we fight, we, political animals, and we call you for help.

Save the words.

Destroy machines.

Print and spread the Call from the Chimpanzees of the Future.

Pièces et main d'œuvre
Grenoble, November 5, 2014

NOTES

[1] *Au fait* magazine, May 2014

[2] *Libération* newspaper 5/12/02

Original text in French :

http://www.piecesetmaindoeuvre.com/spip.php?page=resume&id_article=543