

STATEMENT OF INTENT [Editorial]



This zine is a modest contribution to spread and deepen anti-authority/anti-civilisation thought. We aim for this to be a weapon used to express and intensify the tension which we feel under our skins day to day from living an unliveable life.

Every word printed here is an invitation, a proposal, a toy for developing our ideas – this is not an academic venture or radical culture *chic*, this is a declaration of war on everything that would hold each of us back from exploring for ourselves what it means to be here, to be an undefinably individual human, an unrepeatable being within an unrepeatable world.

Through collating the materials used in this zine, our intention was to enrich thought and, ultimately, action, both for ourselves and for others who might relate to what's presented here. **The challenge is always to find ways of making words escape dry pages and come alive with the vibrancy of the passions which left them there, transforming from a catalyst to a conspiracy...** In terms of what topics are touched on, it was the spirit of diversity that led us to decide to add one more artefact to the shelf of anarchist publishing. So you'll find subjects such as mental health, informal anarchist organisation, love, technology, the nuclear family, industrial disaster, wildness, identity roles, current and past legacies of struggle, poetry, plants, individual autonomy and the poverty of modern life, **but everything always presented in the necessary context of creating a violent break with the social order to find better ways of existence.**

While we have credited the original texts that excerpt articles are drawn from at the end, we make no apologies for arranging, presenting and emphasising the words we thought were important in a way pleasing to ourselves. We are no-one's apostles – and likewise don't purport these articles to be absolute truths, just starting points. We merely plunder the armoury of the war-in-words, to constantly challenge the self and others, remembering every tool to be a weapon if held right...

More than a few of the original articles can be found online. Why choose to reproduce them? Because, we feel that important critiques and pertinent analyses (as well as beautiful and powerful polemic) should be kept alive and in circulation, and a hard-copy version has different potential for reaching different ears.

It's likely that this zine will mostly remain within the self-described anarchist scene and its satellites, although we would wish otherwise; our interest is in people who, spread everywhere, are also not peacefully assimilated: the non-conformist, the rebellious, the 'abnormal', those who also hate the system, who also want to oppose its functioning and cause its disintegration - and the truth is that there is no one single place such people can be found. They are certainly not distinct to one particular social class or grouping.

But we chose to fling this into the void and see what comes back, because against all this madness we want to know there are others who feel the urgency for a breakdown of the modern order before it breaks down the last vestiges of free life on our one home: Earth.

Commodity culture urges us to gorge ourselves on meaningless manufactured rubbish to take the edge off the isolation and emptiness of prescribed life with mass-produced mutilation of the planet and its inhabitants, before it's back to work to serve the economy. News of bloodshed in Palestine and the industrially-changed climate downpour outside the window fades away into comedy series and celebrity trivia. Meanwhile in every city pensioners choose between heating and meals, the little dictator in every job leaves their day deadened to go home and beat their partner or belittle their kids, every last wild species of plant or animal life considered too unproductive to tame and enslave is uprooted, the base population of workers

and the unemployed and immigrants are pushed further to the edge of their dignity, **every corner of social life becomes more observed, controlled and enforced, and every new industrial breakthrough brings us one step closer to total surrender to the machine.** Queues pile up before the bankers and loan sharks, doctors and psychiatrists, judges and social workers. The rich push through with destructive development and implement ever-lower working conditions without facing more than a fine, while any attempt to breathe some life into decrepit zones around us is quashed if it contradicts the cold logic of profit. Everyone is a potential 'criminal' (except, of course, those whose blackmail is law) under universally-militarised policing and surveillance, justified by manipulating the fears of the downtrodden. Politicians crowd around the feeding trough of 'public money', insolently lamenting the lower classes 'burden on society', speaking with their mouths full... Through the dreary stagemask of the Crisis – social reorganisation imposed to shore up the rule of the 'included' class – plays out the eternal tension between exclusive gated communities and grinding exclusion with bailiffs preying at the door.

Human cultures' war on the planet is accelerating at a frightening pace, as life within those cultures means relentless exploitation and alienation for the vast majority of us with ever-decreasing chances for escape. Even as of 2009, farming had already replaced wilderness on an estimated 40% of the world's land surface. Chemical-soaked cash crops replace life in all its complexity. Since the '60s, nearly half of the Earth's soils have been so agriculturally degraded that they cannot support life. Where once biodiverse expanse of living landscape held its own, now we confront ruins of the once-great forests which now only exist as tiny islands. Animals who are deemed not 'valuable' to the system disappear into the meagre sanctuaries afforded to them, to be regulated or die out: accounts vary among the scientist high priests as to exactly how many thousands of species perish each week, but the consensus is that more vanish every minute. As for hundreds of thousands of years we have learned about and from other animals, deepening our understanding also of our selves, we now are aware of the loss from our own personal lives of interaction with the animal cousins of our folktales (outside of herds farmed as disposable industrial commodities, their lives defined as biological machines, and some few sad domesticated pets).

Along with this, plant extinction is destroying traditional medicine not to mention lifeforms that we have evolved alongside. Industrial development and

"To take an ecological perspective means to hypothesize general interaction among all species and between each and all species and the inanimate environment. It implies dethroning humans as the lords of nature appointed by a Judeo-Christian divinity..."

- *Anarchy After Leftism*

cancerous urbanisation steadily encroaches further into every continent, many regions already have the appearance of a machine-made commodity interspersed with patches of sterile fields and plantations. **We are living through the fastest annihilation of life in 65 million years.** Peoples in resistance fight and lose isolated battles to prevent mechanised life and market relations in the form of imperialist corporate and developmental structures from swallowing up earth-based lifeways. In the capitalist core countries the domestication has already prevailed long ago, devastating the previously-unconstrained human psyche along with the wild surroundings it thrives off; the intuitive web of life, molested by the matrix of control and measurement, in which nothing alive and non-synthetic can grow. This is the culture that won't stop until everything living that could fuel it is dead. This is the culture of death.

For us, ecological struggle is the struggle against that which colonises us: that is, Capitalism, Industrial Society and the State, today in their technologically- and socially-advanced forms. Under these regimes, all forms of authority (class, race, gender, human supremacy, morality) are perfected, adapted and integrated, and simultaneously maintained and strengthened under the daily 'normality' of a lifestyle with all traces of responsibility, initiative and individual will fading.

It is vital to recognise that the degrading element holding sway in modern life is 'Progress' itself, the inexorable tendency not only of capitalism, globalisation and patriarchy but of the entire sedentary class-based society which divides and domesticates its citizen-hostages. **Progress is presented as the unquestionable inevitability to which we must submit, completely out of our control (and in fact that of any single individual), but in which human ingenuity (and, deeper, God-given right to mould and control all other life) will carry us into a golden age of plenty and reason.** Every generation, in this logic, is getting nearer, and all the problems and contradictions are merely glitches to be ironed out by the establishment. This goal is

always just out of reach, and so every effort by the elites to push us further towards the unattainable is justified.

The myth which is the engine driving this rollercoaster, in violation of the chaotic autonomy of existence, is the scientific-fascist ideal of human perfection, hatred of organic fragility and unpredictability. **Here we get to the crux of the dominant culture's pathology: an intense hatred and fear of the wild environment (portrayed in all the major religions, capitalism, science, ultimately all past civilisations as well).** The pathology, an implicit cultural assumption enforced from childhood, runs along these lines – the living world is at odds with the needs of humans, the needs of our culture. So it has to be tamed. In order to be tamed, it has to work for humans. And in order to work for humans, it must be destroyed and remade...

Today this sickness has reached untold proportions. Nanotechnology, robotics, genetic engineering and biotechnology are the sciences of the future: to clone, recreate and control the fabric of reality as a tampered and synthetic product compatible with the needs of the ruling order. More profits, power, prestige, whatever the cost in lives or balance or diversity; autonomy and wildness are repeatedly forced into the background. Progress marches on, slamming the face of the majority into the mud so the rich can secure their holdings, while assuring us we never had it so good..

Pitching ourselves against this whole paradigm, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. The manifestations and agents of power are everywhere, technological infrastructures are everywhere, the objects that symbolise our devaluation as individual subjects are everywhere... **We prefer to look at it like this – targets are everywhere.** In the world that we feel we could be suffocating in, we realise we are still wild, they have not eradicated our desires to live free from the industrial prison. Infants are still born feral, seeds still sprout that are not artificial commodities, that retain their wild purpose and uniqueness, rivers still exist that run their own course to the sea, and we laugh and pledge our war on civilisation.



What is possible and perceivable in our lives is to join with wide-spread social revolts when they might erupt and initiate our own personal uprising when the waters are otherwise calm, to refuse capitalist-patriarchal roles, attack the structures and managers of exploitation, and physically block development and the economy. The present system is vulnerable, despite its impregnable appearance. Weak points and unguarded structures do exist - and closer to home for a lot of us than you might think. And it's beyond doubt that we who oppose that system can, through some experimentation and determination, claim the theoretical and practical capacity to destabilise it. **In deserting our posts and attacking the underbelly of the Leviathan, we regain our own power.**

We feel an international awareness and solidarity to be a complementary part of our individual battles. And battles proliferate among many others of this Earth.



"Daily life in the metropolis gains meaning. It is the daily life of the new urban guerrilla warfare. The attacks follow one another, the whole city and its symbols are mapped as targets, the plans are alternated, sabotages are organised, and promises are given that nothing will remain the same. The strategy of tension now passes on to our areas. There is no time to lose, there never was, silence and indifference will now take position. Either they will deny their selves and become an attack, or they will remain dull on the couch of their living room being passed on to the enemy's camp."

- *Think Tank for the Overthrow of Existence*

The militant popular struggles against civilisation's infrastructure expansion and resource extraction, as in the Alps' Susa Valley and the Kulon Progo in shoreline Indonesia; affinity cell sabotage, from blocking the further ecocide of Khimki forest in Russia to trashing transgenic

plantations in Aotearoa-New Zealand. Raids carried out to release caged and tortured animals, from the Philippines to the Czech Republic. Indigenous resistance including the Mapuche in Argentina and Chile and the Adivasi in India, defying subjugation; militant anti-capitalist resistance cropping up across a developing spectrum of communication and analysis, facilitated by translation and publication cells. Across Europe smoke-signals of fighting solidarity are sent up from countries as far apart as Spain, Finland and Turkey, and comrades contributing to or complementing mass riots in Lisbon, London and Athens. There are incendiary deeds spreading through Canada, Belgium, Argentina, England. The resolute spectre of armed struggle returning with anarchist principles, the 'ghost of freedom with a knife between her teeth'. Not to mention all the other unfathomable realities of lawless rebellion as, despite the complicit smog of societal indifference, people revel in breaking with dominant relationships and their own domestication, reconnecting with the memory of a deeper interdependency while decolonising their individual lives beyond the machine.

Because what that society offers can any of us truly describe as freedom? Freedom either to be exploited or to be hungry? Freedom to choose Brand A or Brand B? Freedom to act either 'masculine' or 'feminine' and nothing outside? Freedom to worship authority or be punished? Is freedom being born disassociated from the landbase below the paving slabs, destined to live in synch with the rhythm of the economy instead of Earthly rhythms? Is freedom having little-to-no ability to affect your daily surroundings, which are colonised and managed by the superiority



of the commodity? Becoming entranced by the ever-advancing technologies that degrade real human contact, which now monopolise 'free time' as well as the shopping districts and the workplace? Does freedom exist under governments out for your DNA, personality traits and proof of address right from childhood? What freedom is found in the laboratories where genes are engineered, controlled and patented with the aim of manipulating the very foundations of life at its finest level? Are record cases of cancer and depression; of diabetes fuelled by obesity, alcohol and domesticated living; of road rage and sexual violence, signs of creatures living in freedom? Being on CCTV three hundred times an average day? Free to assume the mantle of roles under white supremacy? Free to hold whatever opinions are permitted and expressed by the media (i.e. opinions supporting the interests of the powerful), artfully camouflaged by mythical 'objectivity' and insincere criticism? **Clearly, there's no meaningful freedom today that the individual doesn't have to fight tyrants big, small or internalised to reach.**

The dark shadow of repression is also growing, with increasing surveillance and cross-border judicial operations from Italy, the formation of an anti-anarchist police squad in Montréal, harrassment of insurrectionary webportals in France, friendships penalised by association, more radicals behind prison walls everywhere: but still the regime seems powerless to stop the fringe of diverse attack and subversion facing up to the violence of tranquillity, the complacency of social 'peace'...

We can make a choice, if we haven't already, to make this the turning point where we start fighting back. Because our days and the planet we spend them on may just be more precious to us than having a gun at our backs and a cop in our heads.

Everyday, we can find ways to confront the death-like apparatus of our own subordination. Our challenge is to discover the millions of ways to make our own life a glowing ember of liberation, seeking out places to catch. **Let's rise up for the endurance of wild free life on Earth, for the shared joy of love and struggle, and deepest of all for OURSELVES and our "playful complicity of egos unchained."** There's nowhere to hide except in apathy and resignation, *themselves the most brutal degradation of our lives*, sitting quietly patiently waiting to die far away from what we seek from existence...

In this one life we have, we bare our teeth and roll the dice in a stubborn bid to unearth the integrity and pleasure in revolt and seize what moments here and now afford us some meaning in this cesspool. And if our battle seems impossible, we reply that *our present lives seem impossible*, and reality makes fools of all certainties and ideologies anyway.

**WE ARM – WE AIM – WE FIRE...
BECAUSE WE ARE AT WAR**



**AGAINST THE INDUSTRIAL
PRISON SOCIETY**

love&rage from Return Fire

"To perceive that the war is total, and that our positions are weak, is not the same thing as painting a black picture of the situation. It would be hard to paint a blacker picture than that offered by those who have nothing better to propose than the beautification of these ruins."

- Declaration before the Agen Court by René Riesel