



Rat attack - 2016
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<https://ratattack.noblogs.org>



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Before Rat Attack we wanted to make a zine to give a brief glimpse of the ideas surrounding this gathering, and what is going to, or could be, addressed.

We wouldn't have been content just talking about radical ecology and antispeciesism, when for us those struggles are very much entangled with others; in the way that civilisation and capitalism are destroying the earth, perpetually re-enacting the mass murder of non-human animals, and domesticating humans through a strict but ever-changing hierarchisation of roles, cutting them off from their potentiality. But our struggles are also facing repression, against which we have to organise ourselves to retaliate.

Some of the texts have been written by the Rat Attack crew, others by comrades. When sharing them, we are merely trying to encourage reflection, to create an environment favourable to indepth questioning of our praxis and what surrounds us.

To begin with, we introduce our project by sharing our call-out to participate in and contribute to Rat Attack. Following this is a text highlighting the context for this gathering taking place in Marseille. It concerns animal exploitation, with a certain focus on vivisection, but also concerns the destruction of nature, the pollution of the Mediterranean sea (the most polluted sea in the world) and the destruction of the surroundings forests.

Despite the fact that the text is a bit outdated, we also wanted to share a piece from Ann Hansen and highlight once more reformist ideologies in liberation and protest movements. It concentrates especially on feminist struggles, which in our point of view, are too often focused on integrating women in capitalism or, at best, take a stance of tolerant education and discussions, but which hardly ever take the stance of attack and confrontation.

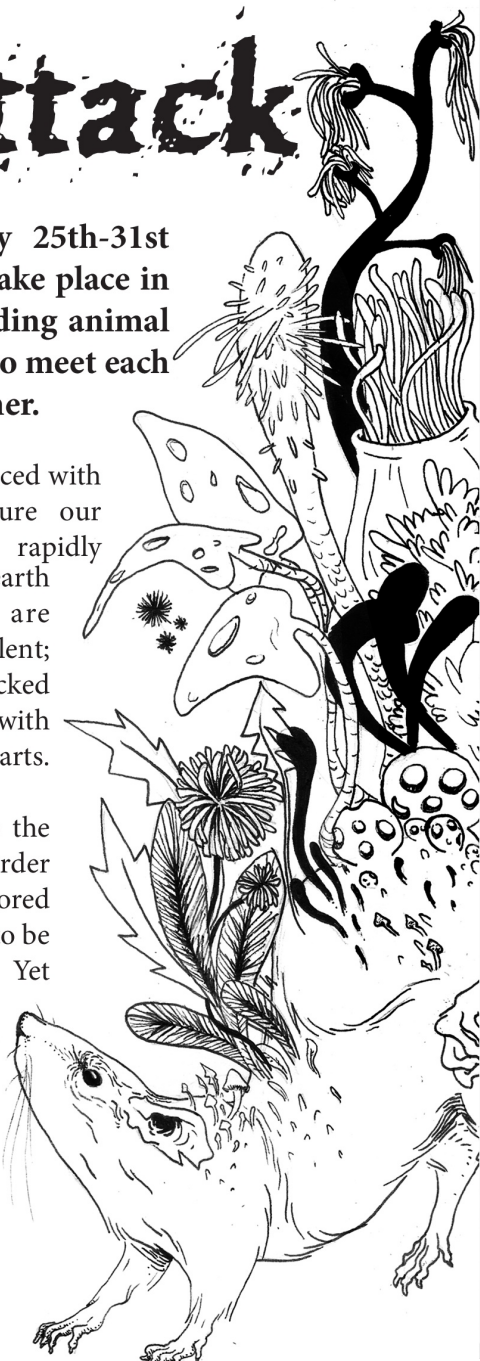
See you this summer and happy reading!

Rat Attack

This summer, from July 25th-31st 2016, the first Rat Attack will take place in Marseille, a gathering surrounding animal liberation and radical ecology, to meet each other, share and organise together.

We refuse to remain passive faced with this world that has sworn to ensure our misery. When everything's always rapidly worsening faster, attacks against the earth and the lives that inhabit it are becoming increasingly more violent; while we're always getting locked up in ever more elaborate ways, with death that spreads even into our hearts.

This misery is also the domestication, exploitation and murder of non-humans which are both ignored and legitimised by those who pretend to be fighting against any form of hierarchy. Yet at the same time, it's a consequence and a symptom of dominations logic that's extending all around us. If we refuse the submission imposed upon us, we also refuse to impose it upon others. It's also why we oppose in any form the fascisation of the antispecieicist movement, from the far-right to their



inevitable apolitical apologists who only ever dream of a green capitalism. What they don't understand, is that the nature of capitalism itself is based on the domestication and exploitation of every being surrounding it.

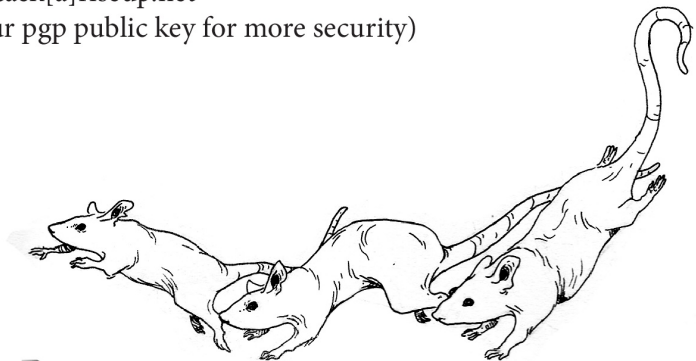
The rage that consumes us reminds us that it's every aspect of our lives that are at war. A war against our bodies, our existence and our struggles, making them more necessary than ever. Our hopes have been extinguished, overshadowed by the artificial desires and beacons of capital's monstrous cities. We're not waiting for a distant utopia gained by reforms and state requests, we want to transform this entire system into ruins, because there's nothing to save, from its rotting foundations to its sophisticated tactics to control us.

All of this ignites the fire living inside us and gives us the strength to fight. With you this summer we want to make this fire thrive. So come with your backpack and rage to together build a stronger movement, to share practices and experiences, but also with analysis and info stalls to better understand and fight against our common enemies.

Because we want to build this project collectively we are calling for you to join us, by contacting us to organise workshops and discussions during the camp, as well as support and information events to establish this project.

We certainly won't be there to reproduce violent situations that we're already experiencing everyday. Don't be a scumbag, let's be mindful of each other so we can be dangerous together.

Contact us at ratattack@riseup.net
(you can ask for our pgp public key for more security)





Deadly acid: theirs and ours

With the Rat Attack gathering taking place in Marseille this summer, it seems important for us to write a few words on what's going on in the Marseille region. In the city centre of Marseille the city has funded, within the hospital of Timone, a 1,500m² building uniquely destined for vivisection. Amongst the animals that are used inside are in particular a large number of primates supplied by the breeding centre located outside of the city, that is part of a European primate breeding program shared between Germany, Spain, Italy and France (where in Toulouse, and Strasbourg in a former Nazi bunker, two other breeding centres are located).

In the industrial commune of Gardanne, thirty kilometres from Marseille, France's largest Biomass plant is under development, showcased as a green and renewable energy centre. In reality, its operation requires more than 900,000 tons of wood per year, so two thirds will be taken from nearby forests in the south-west of France, with the rest imported from other forests, especially those in Canada. The number of forests destroyed is not only considerable, but will also have repercussions on a global scale, since forests in other countries will also be affected. Furthermore, the States can create nice green appellations such as "National Park", that provide no such conversation for what they call "fauna and flora", or legal relevance. The laws permit any such exemptions for real agents projects or for forest destruction in their "National Parks".

For more than 50 years, also in Gardanne, the company Altéo, specialised in alumina Aluminium oxide (in particular for the production of flatscreens), dump rubbish composed of toxic waste and heavy metals (arsenic, lead, uranium, etc...) into nature. First stored around the plant in landfills, that were quickly filled, Altéo consequently then flushed what's known as "red mud" into the Mediterranean, via a 47km underground pipeline. Therefore over 50km, their waste arrives a few kilometres offshore, killing coral and fish, causing malformations, development problems, heavily reducing the number of individuals of each marine species, around the disgraceful pipe.

But Gardanne isn't the only industrial town in the region. In the 19th century, on the outskirts of Marseille, numerous industrial towns were built for the production of different acids. The toxic products polluted the ground, water table, and the factories were either left abandoned without any decontamination, or otherwise badly decontaminated to speed up the real estate and resort projects.

Capitalisms' assimilation ability to green wrap what they call the energy transition, that is to say to uncover new energy other than petrol, attempted to make the idea of an "ecological conscious" of the system convincing. In fact natural gas, like shale gas, renewable energies like wood, are nothing less than the exploitation of nature to make it profitable. Each stretch of land is a plot colonisable and exploitable to make money, whether it be the price of the destruction of surrounding nature, non-human animals or human beings. The clearcutting of forests for the biomass plants are supposedly compensated by replanting trees, whereas the destroyed forests have been there for hundreds of years and that these new woods are specific species; made to grow quickly patches of mono-culture, without

any way of recreating a forest.

When nature isn't being used as a commodity, it is neither more, nor less, used as a dumping ground, like Altéo does in rejecting toxic products in landfills and into the sea.

Green capitalism has only one colour, that of money; with a single aim: always expand further, colonise and exploit everything possible on an industrial scale. No citizen-based demand can stop this endless development, at worst it would be a small spanner in the workings of the machine, at best a safeguard against militant attacks. The very concept of green capitalism is a thrown up oxymoron that we don't believe in; how could a system – that for its survival and existence, the exploitation and destruction of the earth and its animals (human and non-human) is necessary and vital – could at the same time not destroy these same entities?

As the years pass, Power has attempted to engulf our struggles, immediately regurgitating them, wrapped in deadly acid that characterises all its production. And with this, they tried to erase our memories. So many of our friends today have forgotten the central aspect of a critique of this industrial civilisation that nevertheless destroys us, that abandons the benefits of politicians and other model citizens' sharpened claws.

Similarly, who would today deny the transformation that the struggle for animal liberation has experienced? It's been a few dozen years since the voices that arose were strong and deafening against the exploitation and domination of our non-human comrades, which today have faded. The waves of repression succeeded, and so we were arrested, imprisoned, made sure that fear was profoundly insinuated; and always

going further, trying to silence the hopes and convictions that are ours.

Today, what mainly remains to be heard about animal liberation has even been plagued by capitalism and politics. The consumerist aspect has taken lead with its endless discourse over food, on how to always consume more and more... but vegan, of course. Which is perfect, because what better than vegan capitalism, to go with green capitalism? The absurdity remains the same, equally the logic that lies with it. Speaking of veganism, but speaking little of non-human animals. Whilst the apolitical and fascistic movements have seized this question – by stripping all its logic and critical analysis of domination – radical movements, anarchists and other comrades mostly fled, abandoning the terrain to 269 Life France and other Nathalie Krier[1].

The fact is we don't believe in this nonsense. Our perspectives radically oppose the exploitation of the Earth and its human and non-humans, and it can never be within a capitalist, industrial and authoritarian context, even less within a democratic one. Civilisation and domestication in which we live does nothing but destroy us whilst feeding off us. It domesticates forests, space, seas, non-human and human animals; has created thousands of concepts to make us more docile: binary sexes that correspond to gender binaries and sexualities, borders to impede our movements and control us, money to steal our time and existence, wars to place us one against another and into submission, over and over again.

[1] Translation note: Nathalie Krier is an animal rights based fascist, part of the "revolutionary-nationalist" 3rd way, as well as friends with Clément Meric's killers. Clément was an anti-fascist killed in Paris in June 2003 by fascists.

It's time to understand that the war directed against our existence is total, and that total must be our opposition to this world. Our struggles can't be divided, as they're all linked and depend on one another. There isn't anti-capitalism without radical ecology and animal liberation; there isn't animal liberation without feminism or anti-racism.

Against all cages, against all prisons.

Translated by ACAB 13 Conspiracy.



GENDER IS



DOMESTICATION



Feminist resistance vs. reform

Ann Hansen

Ann Hansen was a member of the Canadian anarchist urban guerilla called "Direct Action". She was arrested in 1983 for actions carried out by this group, including the bombing of a Litton factory, firebombing one of the Red Hot Video porn store (selling snuff movies containing real rape scenes and violence against women and children), unlawful possession of explosives and weapons, etc.

The majority of the white womyn's movement have taken on the cry for equal pay for equal work of equal value, more government daycare centres, tougher anti-porn and anti-rape laws, more government funding or women's groups, and affirmative action programs in business. These demands are called reforms, because in themselves, they do not presuppose that the entire patriarchy must be destroyed for the intent of these reforms to be realized. They are made known to the male rulers through government sanctioned legal channels (i.e. petitions, lobbying MPs and MLAs, and supporting government parties).

Some womyn believe reforms can liberate them, without the destruction of capitalism. For them there is a

great hope of reforming the patriarchy, particularly in North America, if the womyn are white and willing to take on the male persona [1]. Some radical feminists see reforms as short term gains that will become the groundwork for a revolutionary movement to destroy the patriarchy. Too often their work towards immediate reform obscures their revolutionary aims and determines the methods that they employ. For example, to change the laws to curb pornography, their methods usually involve dialogue with government representatives, letter campaigns and petitions. If everything an individual womyn does in a day is geared towards reforming the law, then her secret revolutionary aspirations will remain just that.

All that most reforms accomplish, whether they are called for within a radical or capitalist context, is the accommodations of a few more white womyn that are capable and willing to assimilate into the male dominated institutions. This means accepting the values and principles of the corporate world. If a womyn seeks power and money in life and is aggressive, ambitious and competitive, then yes, there could be a place for her in the corporate world. She can obtain "freedom and equality" with her male peers even though in reality these qualities are viewed as greed and power from the perspective of the poor.

[1]We think that it's far more complicated than a matter of masculinity or eminity; "masculin" or "feminin" roles are anyway essentialists and contribute to the imposition of gender on individuals. Take on "a male persona" for a womyn doesn't make much sense, because she will always be treated as a womyn.

There is enough profit margin in Europe and North America to accommodate white middle class womyn in order to diffuse a potentially threatening feminist movement. There is hope for these middle class womyn to attain equal pay for work of equal value, more government subsidized daycare centres, abortion on demand, tougher anti-porn and rape laws and affirmative action programs which could place token womyn in every professional field.

There will never be a large enough profit margin in the western world to alleviate the poverty of womyn of colour, Indian womyn, Third World womyn – because the definition, essence, very fibre of the patriarchy and capitalism is rooted in making wealth for the few by exploiting the many, and in objectifying womyn and nature to transform them into products sold for a profit. This system of exploitation is maintained and protected by parliament, the legal system, and the police force. It is a contradiction in terms to believe these institutions would contain legitimate channels for the destruction of a system they are designed to protect.

If womyn do not develop revolutionary methods and goals, the very foundation of the patriarchy will remain untouched, leaving governments, institutions and businesses that embody the male value system unscathed. There will still be smoggy sunsets, oil spills, people starving, and computers taking over the mind. The patriarchy will be left intact, with a few token females in the power structure.

Reforms also tend to strengthen the existing system by appearing to resolve contradictions within its ideology of freedom, liberty, and democracy, and its reality of social,

political and economic exploitation. Although they can be resolved only through revolution, reforms can diffuse these contradictions for the middle classes. Reforms help give the patriarchy a kinder face. Affirmative action programs place token womyn in traditional male professions; more daycare centres allow more womyn to join the work force and tougher anti-porn and anti-rape laws create the illusion that womyn are protected from the most violent aspects of sexism. These reforms will have given some privileged women more power and freedom within the male world, but the patriarchal structure and values that are rooted in materialism and greed will remain untouched. There will still be millions of sterilized Indians and third world womyn, most womyn will still be treated primarily as sex objects, will be impoverished or starving, and the human society will continue to embody only the worst life-destroying features of the male psyche.

Yet these reforms create a false appearance of equality which can be used as a weapon against the poor womyn who only experience poverty, violence and degradation. The middle class womyn, beneficiaries of reform, can then turn against the poor, claiming that the middle class have jobs, daycare centres and abortions and therefore the problem of the poor lies in their own laziness and incompetence.

Even the benefits of reform to the middle class womyn are an illusion because equality within this patriarchy is, in reality, the transformation of womyn into female replicas of men who have learned to enjoy the evils of greed and power. To work at jobs within the patriarchy, we have to give up our children to institutional daycare centres and take on the values of the male dominated workplace.

We must refuse to be accomplices in the

perpetuation of our own oppression by smoothing over the conflicts of the patriarchy. Instead these conflicts and contradictions should be exposed and attacked with a strategic eye towards total liberation.

The contradictions between capitalist/patriarchal ideology and the daily reality of exploitation and the destruction of life cannot be resolved without a total transformation because these realities are integral to the system. To understand why reform won't liberate us, we have to understand the nature of the beast – this international system that we are enslaved by. We must throw off the rose tinted glasses and throw away the middle class fairy tales that taught us that our society is a nice place and everything always turns out well. In reality, capitalism and patriarchy are rooted in exploitation and objectification of life. Capitalism is an economic system based on profit-making for the rich and patriarchy is a system in which the values of men – that is, competition, power and aggression – dominate and negate all other values.

Liberation can only be attained through the destruction of the patriarchy – our methods must be those of a liberation struggle. Few feminists would argue against the view that the government is a powerful bastion of the patriarchy; that is, government leaders are responsible for creating laws and institutions that maintain male dominance. Yet many of these womyn still believe that, by asking these same powerful male leaders of government to help them, womyn can attain liberation. Womyn cannot expect to achieve liberation through the patriarchal governments' methods of social change. The most that can be expected of these methods is that government and

business accommodate a few feminists by changing some laws and redistributing some wealth.

Developing methods of struggle rooted in resistance does not mean we must reject all short-term goals. Liberation is a long-term process built upon gains made little by little; when we fight for abortion on demand, or against pornography, we must do so within a revolutionary context. This means describing the problem from a radical perspective and using tactics that reflect our rejection of the male controlled legal, political and economic system. For example, rather than demanding equal pay for work of equal value – a demand which reflects an acceptance of the existing patriarchal economic system – womyn should develop new means of survival that are non exploitative and harmonious with the earth, such as expropriations, co-ops and collectives.

A liberated womyn in this society is a womyn in total resistance, constantly pushing against the limits and obstacles restricting her. Liberated womyn must make a total break with the patriarchy: establish their own communities, culture and political action groups. Instead of putting their energy into asking the male protectors, the government, to help them, liberated womyn develop tactics of resistance that cannot be controlled by the government, such as occupations, blockages, information distribution, peoples' inquiries, postering, spray painting, expropriation, survival gatherings and other direct actions. If unified into a movement, the tactics of resistance are effective because they allow us to directly confront the government and corporations. If our work is based on the understanding that the patriarchy must be destroyed, then we can't be conned into believing that a change of law here, and government commission there,

will improve the situation for womyn. It will be focused on relentlessly exposing and attacking the protection and cover-ups that the government affords the male rulers and rapers of the people and land.

Once dedicated to a resistance struggle, womyn will begin to take the initiative of social change out of the hands of the patriarchy. In our present situation, the government and multinationals make the decisions that determine the course of events. For example, the federal government continues to sanction mega-projects that pollute the land and we react.

If the initiative of change is to lie in the hands of feminists and radicals, then we must analyse and understand how the Canadian state and multinationals operate. We have to understand the rôle Canada plays in the imperialist network, the strategic interests of the economy that keep Canada strategically stable and the political weaknesses that we can expose. Once we have this understanding, then we can develop strategies of action that have continuity and that are not rooted in a reaction to the most singularly obvious symptoms of the system. This way we can, over the long-term, undermine the very structure of the system.

Armed with a militant feminist analysis and tactics of resistance, womyn can develop an ongoing offensive against the bastions of the patriarchy – the corporate megaprojects, military and government institutions. As long as these institutions continue to control human society, pornography, rape and the objectification of womyn will continue.

If we look around us, and are shaken to the core by a dread of the deathly future this society presents us, then

we must turn to the spirit, emotion, and sensuousness in ourselves that allows us to connect with all life. Through a rejoining with the spirit of life, we will rekindle the spirit of revolt. Revolt at the raped forests[1], polluted rivers, the death culture of this society, the massacre of third world people and genocide of the Indian people. A deep feeling of revolt at death and a corresponding love of life will give us the power to resist and make sacrifices that are essential to save the earth. Surely there is no greater task than to prevent the destruction of the earth and the misery and meaninglessness of modern-day human life.



[1] these metaphor of "rape of the earth/forest/etc" was really spread at the time this text was written. However, we disagree with the use of it that we don't find really relevant and is furthermore quite misogynistic.



For the gathering, we will need to open a building. We therefore call for collective works from the 14th of July to start working on the building together and prepare the gathering. We need help. On top of it, it will be a possibility to meet together, having chill discussions, create links, talk about our struggles and hammer nails.

We will give the adress and more details a few weeks before, stay tuned :)
We need you

PS: extra-invitation to come to people with any kind of vehicules; we would probably need them!

CALL·OUT

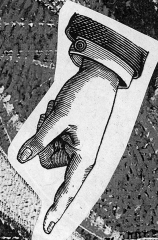
for

collective

WORKS

4

Rat Attack



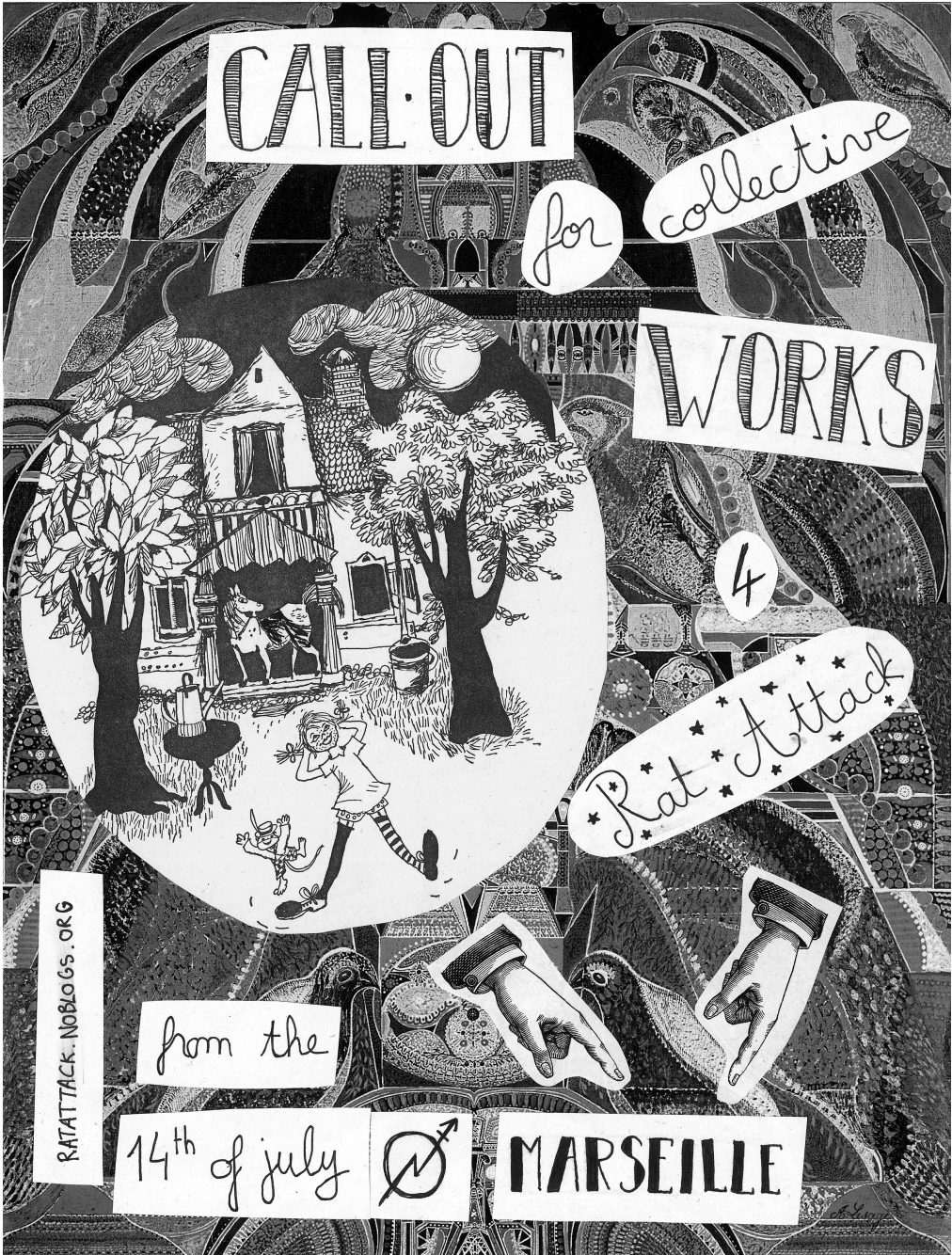
from the

14th of july



MARSEILLE

RATATTACK.NOBLOGS.ORG





More infos

What we're looking for:

We are still looking for people organising workshops and talks during the event. We would prefer to be contacted in advance about it to be able to make a schedule beforehand. Please tell us if you have specific needs, and what day + time of the day you would prefer to do it.

Distros are also very welcome! However we would like them to be donation-based or at least affordable.

If you have medic skills it would be really appreciated to let us know about it and be available for medical emergencies.

Ways to get to Marseille:

If you will want to take a bus to get to Marseille then consider the Megabus and Flixbus. They often have the cheapest tickets, especially if booked earlier, and there are constant rides from Paris, Lyon and other big cities (check it out). Others bus companies available are : Ouibus and Isiline.

If you have other passport than french (but from western countries, because we sadly live in a state, and it's on top of that it's a racist state), you can try to take the train to Marseille from other cities in France without buying a ticket. In case of ticket control you will have to show your passport to conductor, who will write you a fine, which is usually not sent to other

countries' addresses. Avoid IDTGVs, they have tickets checks on the platform. Regional trains (TER) have less controls than others. There is also really cheap trains from Marne La Vallée (Paris' suburbs) to Marseille if you book it early enough (like 10€) called Ouigo.

It is quite easy to hitchhike in France. The main tip for hitching on the french motorways – always ask to get dropped off on service stations or on sliproads to motorway just before the motorway signs. Dont get off on the péage (tollbooths, which are all along the french motorways), it is prohibited to pedestrians and you can get into trouble. Check hitchwiki.org for more advice.

Blablacar.fr is full of cheap lifts, but covoiturage-libre.fr doesn't charge you for booking a lift, although there's less available rides.

Motorways are expensive in France most of the time. Check for free bits of motorway and national road (also much nicer rides anyway)

In Marseille it is quite easy to jump public transports. There's the metro, tram lines and busses. Controllers are there sometimes, in any station, any transportation but bus drivers will never say anything if u don't have a ticket.

Accessibility and other matters on Rat Attack site:

As we are planning to squat a place for RatAttack closer to the date of the gathering, we cannot say for certain at this present moment that it will be wheelchair accessible. Still we dont take accessability as a side issue and we will put the best effort into creating an access to whatever site we are going to get. We will

put all the updates on the website.

Likewise, we are not yet sure about the car parking. It is often possible to park vehicles in Marseille without paying in you have a non-french plate.

We are not organizing a kid's area and activities. Anyone is welcome to create such space themselves at the place of the gathering, whether you have children you're taking care of, if you do/did work with children and/or think it is important.

The dogs are welcome on site. But please don't bring dogs that are stressed by other dogs/being around a lot of humans because they'll have a bad time and probably other people too. Check the Rat Attack website closer to the time of the gathering to find more info. (maybe specific spaces for dogs).

The whole event is drug and alcohol free; although, we understand that some people need drugs and alcohol as medication (including addictions). Please don't bring those for your entertainment. (for your information, check out the zines: "What about beer?" and "Towards a less fucked up world")

Dangerous space policy:

We can't guaranty a safe space because safety is an illusion. However, we do guaranty that the space will be extra dangerous for any person who enacts authoritarian behaviours (which includes sexism, racism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, agism, body-shaming, whorephobia, islamophobia, but not only).

There will be both a guest room and a camping space without cis men.

Things to bring:

It will be useful for you to have a tent and a sleeping bag at the gathering because we dont know how much indoor sleeping space will be available and in what condition.

Also bring a bowl, a spoon and a cup, if you can.

It will probably be extremely hot and sunny (30° to 40°C), so take sunscreen and hat in your bag.

LOVE

HUNT

ACCIDENTS





2016-MARSEILLE