

ANNEXE - *CHERCHEZ LA FEMME*

LIST OF WORKS

Main screen:

Jean Genet parle d'Angela Davis
(Jean Genet speaks about Angela Davis)
Vidéo Out: Carole Roussopoulos, Paul Roussopoulos
1970, 10min

In 1970 Jean Genet was invited by French state television (ORTF) to talk about Angela Davis, the communist and feminist member of the Black Panthers arrested by FBI and imprisoned in the United States. Suspecting that his intervention may be censored, Genet asks Carole Roussopoulos to go along and film everything with her camera. Despite his efforts, Genet cannot reach the necessary fluidity of words, but precisely for this reason his words remain engraved in the mind of the audience: a libertarian and apocalyptic pamphlet filled with multiple stresses. This is Carole Roussopoulos first preserved video, shot within the television system, and against it.

Kate Millet Parle de la Prostitution avec des Féministes
(Kate Millet speaks about prostitution with feminists)
Vidéo: SYN GUÉRIN & CATHERINE LAHOUCADE
June 1975, 20'0 min

An informal meeting of Kate Millet, Monique Wittig, Christine Delphy and others to discuss the relationship between feminism and prostitution, starting from Kate Millet's report on prostitution that had just been translated into French. Sitting on the floor, showing total complicity and familiarity, the women talk together and for us as the camera casually follows their gestures. The theme is topical: is it possible to distinguish between prostitutes and prostitution, to defend the former and condemn the latter?

Screen 2 (far left corner)

MASO ET MISO VONT EN BATEAU
(Maso and Miso go boating)
Insoumuses: CAROLE ROUSSOPOULOS, DELPHINE SEYRIG, IONA WIEDER & NADIA RINGART
1976, 55'00

An incredibly funny reflection on the dumbness of television, on the power of media, on woman's position in public life. Françoise Giroud, scriptwriter, journalist and writer, Minister for Women's Condition from 1974, is invited to a TV show that "celebrates" the end of the "Year of the Woman" declared by the UN for 1975 ("one more day and the year of the woman, phew, is over!"). Delphine Seyrig records the show and with three women, friends and comrades, start to criticize it and re-invent it with rage, intelligence and humour. A social satire, that winks at the beautiful all-woman movie *Céline et Julie vont en bateau* by Jacques Rivette, the video of these three "Muses having fun" develops from a joyful game of disassembling and superimposing, of repetitions, freeze-frames and hand-written titles. Masochism and misogyny get married, and laughter will bury them

Screen 3 (by door)

HUIT MARS 1975

Vidéa: ANNE-MARIE FAURE-FRAISSE, ISABELLE FRAISSE, SYN GUÉRIN, CATHERINE LAHOUCADE
1975, 20'00

8 Mars 1975 (“8 March 1975”) by the collective Vidéa, is a video concerned with the “Year of the Woman”, a celebration declared by the United Nations that was widely criticized by French feminists as a “mystification.” On March 8, 1975, women from all affinity and independent groups not belonging to any official parties decided to demonstrate in the streets of Paris in order to claim their rights and demand change in patriarchal society. Footage of demonstrations alternate with voice-overs, banners, maxims (including witty word play), and songs that allow them to express their own voices in a lighthearted atmosphere. For example, one banner reads “1975 YEAR OF THE WOMAN, 1976 YEAR OF THE DOG, 1977 YEAR OF THE HORSE”.

S.C.U.M. MANIFESTO

Insoumuses: CAROLE ROUSSOPOULOS & DELPHINE SEYRIG
August 1976
27'25

S.C.U.M. Manifesto (1967) is the title of an explosive booklet by Valerie Solanas, better-known for shooting Andy Warhol. S.C.U.M. stands for Society for Cutting Up Men: Solanas already a victim of abuse from her father launches a deep rooted attack on male power. Delphine and Carole act in the film and stage a reading: we see one of them translating from English and dictating to the other, who is typing. Almost like a metaphor of her work as a camerawoman and director, Carole Roussopoulos sits at the typewriter to learn from her friend, but most of all to write down the words of a woman who cries out the words of thousands other women. Reflexive, simple and refined, the video compares heterogeneous elements: the home-like scenario set up by the two directors, the 8 p.m. TV news, Solanas’ manifesto. Following the two women’s rhythm, Paul Roussopoulos operates the zoom and moves the attention back and forth, on the TV images related to war and men of power, and on the two women again, ending with a big demonstration of Irish women. After thousands of years of misogynous pamphlets, the answer is biting and healthy for all of us: a manifesto for the male liberation Movement.