

This Newspaper is a free publication, part of the exhibition "Community of Fragments" of Thomas Hirschhorn at Kunstforeningen GL STRAND, Copenhagen, from February 11th to April 11th 2021.

The exhibition has received support from: The Augustinus Fondation, New Carlsberg Fondation, Pro Helvetia, the Danish Arts Council and the Municipality of Copenhagen.



The realization of Thomas Hirschhorn's 'ruin project' "Community of Fragments" at Kunstforeningen GL STRAND on the threshold of 2021 more than fulfils all predictions. Thomas Hirschhorn accepted our invitation to realize this solo project in 2018. Since then the global Covid-19 pandemic has swept through the world with enormous consequences yet to be fully registered and grasped. Challenges to existing values and notions have made their mark all over the world and are now leading to new attitudes and exchanges of experience. This has resulted both in a highly desirable sense of community and an opposite tendency towards fragmentation and division. The year that we all seem so eager to leave behind has summed up the things that we face in the years to come: an urgent need to look beyond the here and now and start working anew from values that originate in mindsets discussed and negotiated collectively with the respectful involvement of a plurality of voices; in other words, a dedication to finding one another in order to start from what has collapsed as a basis from which new creation can begin. Welcome to "Community of Fragments"!

The aim of Thomas Hirschhorn's project was to be a major site-specific presentation involving the architecture and physical character of GL STRAND, defying preconceptions – both internal and external – of the institution. His response is a ruin sculpted as a partly collapsed grotto or mine. "Community of Fragments" will be the first large-scale solo presentation of his work in Denmark so far, and I am convinced that it will leave a lasting mark. Questioning the art institution itself and its capacity to engage a diverse audience has been a key concern of Thomas Hirschhorn's for many years, and we look forward to the coming months with enthusiasm. By accepting and working with the fact that this is a socially and culturally demanding task, he has made it a key element of his projects both within and outside the art institution for decades.

Over the past year we have all worked with and around the many restrictions and constraints imposed by the pandemic, and we are convinced that the exhibition will bring people together to explore, question, collaborate, and simply meet in the context of art, providing a unique physical space for meetings and encounters, exchanges of knowledge and debates.

An absolutely specific condition for the project was Thomas' demand that there should be free access, and that none of the regular GL STRAND staff should be allowed to curate or organize any events within the exhibition. Free and equal access to the exhibition for everyone is essential to the project and by extension everyone is free to present ideas, wishes and events within the framework of the exhibition, whether in the form of formal lectures, informal gatherings or the many possible in-between events. Everything is to take place inside the exhibition and nothing is to be brought in that was not already there. The exhibition manifests its own logic of oppositions and generosity.

Working with and developing the project in the course of a pandemic has enhanced the dedication and commitment to art that Thomas insists upon in his work. The many, often changing restrictions have proven to be an immense challenge to the physical encounters that stand at the core of Hirschhorn's art. However, enabling and assisting meetings in this difficult time have turned out be an immensely positive process, and in keeping with the original charter of GL STRAND as a society for the promotion of the arts, we are excited to be part of this journey. Thomas Hirschhorn always remains ambitious and hopeful about the role of art and the spaces it provides. The temporary exhibition outside his studio in Aubervilliers that he has set up in reaction to the continued enforced closure of museums and art institutions in France offers a guideline for finding a way. By insisting on the fact that art and debate originating in the cultivation of art are essential, and by opposing the restrictions imposed on art institutions, he presents a celebration of art and its place in everyday life.

Thank you very much, Thomas, for the generosity of "Community of Fragments". And thanks to everyone involved in helping this highly important project to take place at a time when meetings and social contact are as important as ever.

Anne Kielgast, Chief Curator Kunstforeningen GL STRAND

"Community of Fragments" (Newspaper)

This free publication is an integrated part of my exhibition "Community of Fragments", it is a free newspaper, an extension of the exhibition, it is not a catalog. On these pages I want to pay tribute to the French philosopher Simone Weil (1909-1943) and to her singular and radical philosophy. Simone Weil, herself, wrote as a notice at the end of one of her notebooks: "An unclassified mass of fragments follows." I want to take this notice intended for future publishing seriously and give, from my side, a contribution to her powerful, beautiful thinking. This thinking, perhaps because of its fragmented form, maintains its universality, its actuality and its openness. I love the work of Simone Weil because it builds, in its fragmentation, a community - a community of radicality and singularity.

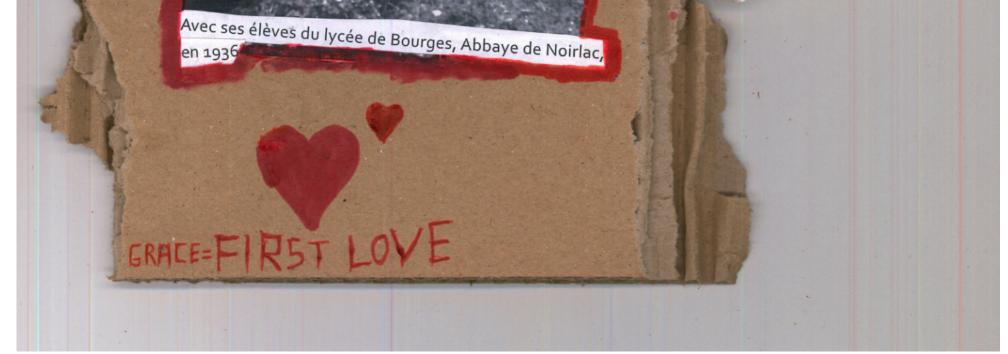
With the exhibition "Community of Fragments" I want to give a form to understanding the world as fragmented. On one hand, the world has truly fallen apart, one can regret and see it as a loss. On the other hand, as I see it, one can consider one fragment as a whole and see its beauty. To understand this fragmentation is far more senseful than a supposedly 'overall understanding' or belief of living in a safe and peaceful world. What makes sense is to live, to grasp, to touch and to perceive the world in its broken up reality, without attempting to put the pieces back together, without trying to improve or reassemble it.

The world has to heal in its own fragments. Fragments create a unity, a community. The challenge is to live with such fragments, and affirm that the world - as our unique world - already includes all fragments. I want to recognize and give form to the fragment as something important, as a weight, as a power, as a message from another time or another place. I am thinking here of signs or very ancient writings of another civilization, another expression of the human. I want to recognize the fragment as poetry, as a gift and as a mystery as such. It is here to amaze us even more, since it is just a fragment - but a whole one.

I dedicated each of the following pages to fragments of 21 'Active Notions', notions which - to me - activate the thinking of Simone Weil: GRACE GRAVITY POLITICS SOUL WORK ART PURITY DEATH RELIGION TIME THE WORLD MYSTERY

LOVE ETERNITY TRUTH ATTENTION ROOTS JOY OPPRESSION MOVEMENT THE VOID





stitute horrors produced in this world are like the for osed upon the waves by gravity. That is why they conan element of beauty. Sometimes a boem, such as the the horror of beauty to light.

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Gravity, same time.

ion. Elevated spot whence one can see simultan ndistinctly—that which from below one can on ively. aghts, mountains. Gravity, force, necessity, constraint. (High, pure, luminous, incorruptible.

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- THIMMIL

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have to overthrow by violence and why of power those who are in power s and intentions. n having the upper hand is very likely e to give orders for the sake n life. And last, but not om we assume to hav d by taking it away .neit powe.

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sufficiently conscious to n. It would be con eration Detwe the social groupi. ogressive decentralization of social life; ore this lange a strikes one immediately. Such a form of le to imagine, even in dreams, in a civilization that mpetition, on struggle, on war. Apart from some such co-c ere is no means of stopping the blin

is torment for the sould continue throughout the period of the sould continue throughout the period of the sound.

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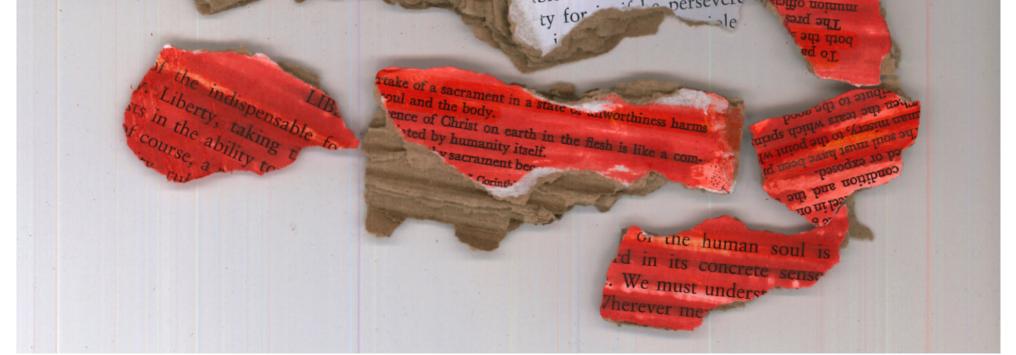
To love purely is to consent to distance, it

En 1924.

r word is su investor aggestion it contains, and from one atmosphere to another as fast as from one atmosphere to another as fast as the duration of words corresponding to such and such the duration of words corresponding to such and such atmosphere or such and such a movement of thought; the atmosphere or such and novelty; doubtless other things effects of repetition and novelty; doubtless other things all this a unity.

gives all this a unity. Instain is a tension on the part of the soul's faculties possible the indispensable degree of wed for composition on a multiple

able of such concentration un une sem al



The secret of the between man a infinitely exceed rium in action i

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tion-labour and study. A society in which the two poles are obediend

f humanity as a whole. He uttered his cry (My God, why hast all humanity concentrated in himself. Christ on the Cross suffered with com In Plato's myth of the Cave, the fire is energy in the sense in which modern phyt

Labour is consent to the orde

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De gauche à droite : Henri Cartan, Simone Weil, Charles Pisot, André Weil, Szolem Mandelbrojt, Claude Chevalley et Jean Delsarte.

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When humanity

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Apart from death, man's punishment in Genesis consists blely of imposed submission. Work and death; passivity of voman in love and child-birth. Work is something resembling

matter. But beauty is a snare of God's to obtain our consent to the But beauty is a snare of God's to obtain our consent to bedience to which he constrains us. Human punishment ought to imitate God's method.

FIRST AND LAST NOTEBOU

the boar and Artemis. . According to Meleager's account there was an Note that in Egypt the pig was sacred to contemplate the Holy Sacrament. have to transfer it to God. For example, transferred. Only God can really destroy sphere of good and evil. In order to get

It, II IIC F is impelled by a vio.

esire, it is not absolu °es.

> art governed Dever find

er that a work of we, a friendship or an entire day, numan condition d experiences and

curiosities. If, in point of fact, this dispassionately, 1 less essential to let the principle of separation itself sink distinct headings can give rise to mistake The modern conception of science is responsible, as is into the depths of the soul. that of history and that of art, for the monstrous conditions under which we live, and will, in its turn, have to be transformed, before we can hope to see the dawn of

This is all the more vital in that, although science is strictly speaking a matter for specialists only, the prestige a better civilization. which science and savants have acquired over people's immense, and in non-totalitarian countries far passes any other kind. In France, at the e war, it was perhaps the only form of this else was any longer accorded of the Palais ng.

The eternal art should should last t perhaps), ii should ren

uediate

conserving life represents the most perfect a

It follows that all other human activities, comme men, technical planning, art, science, philosophy and on, are all inferior to physical labour in spir

It is not difficult to define the place that physical lab

should occupy in a well-ordered social life. It should b

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which it is given to Man to accomplish.

consent to the

significance.

spirit 'core.



Everything which is vile or second-rate in us rev purity and needs, in order to save its own life, to soil th. To soil is to modify, it is to touch. The beautiful is that which

elve

Thom, where their voluntary energy, they decide to it workship instead of continuing to expend it—one may a part they instead of continuing to expend it—one may a part they have chosen badly. Impotent desire detaches itself from its objectives and acknow itself. Then the idea of pure, unconditioned good ackpressible idea, enters the soul. And then the soul to make and the one of the province and the province an

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e. It is, however, highly vulnerable evil makes it suffer, that every single reving.

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Ing which has been given to Inan. Ing which has been given to Itan thow can we escape at the same time ^{A ft}er death, love. An analogou We wrong privation. We and falsehood amon amouth. St impurity.

PURIT

re cannot wish to change. To assume power over is to soil. To

's to consent to distance, it i

Ifferent order of purity. The compassions always associated with love for real beautre keenly conscious of the fact that the "Iv beautiful things ought to be assure

The death agony is the sur even for the perfect if they are for that reason it is better that it s.

Death. An instantaneous state, with sable for entering eternity.

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ove truth means to endure the void and, as a . 1. Truth is on the side of death.

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Au lycée de Roanne avec ses élèves d'e philosophie et la directrice du lycée,

M^{elle}Castel, en 1934-



than bread. They need th

Religion alone can be the source of such poetry. It is notreligion but revolution which is the co

thought that God is, we must

vithout past or future. Indispen-

Avec ses élèves du Puy, dans les années 1930

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ilone is invulnerative to time. In order throughout a life (even stay pure f n order that a conception of the f ain constant despite the manifol

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Time

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The future is a filler of this part ('I used to are other cas



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Moreover, to try to find o e of faith to be supernati what mystery is to the inte h we are actually adung.

TITIM

guivan mort bevoler naving being. It is much more terrible through a bodily appearance we Love needs reality. What is ind

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molicity with those who love nothing but the good.

There is something mysterious in the universe which is i

Mystery. What is the legitimate and the Here this idea? This also needs to be rigorously defined, he highest importance What is the legitimate and the define. Mystery: This also needs to be rigorously define. Mystery: This als

but has no ac rishment for the cart

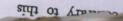
Reauty always promises, but never gives anything;

Beaucy is the supreme mystery of this world. It is a 6 -a

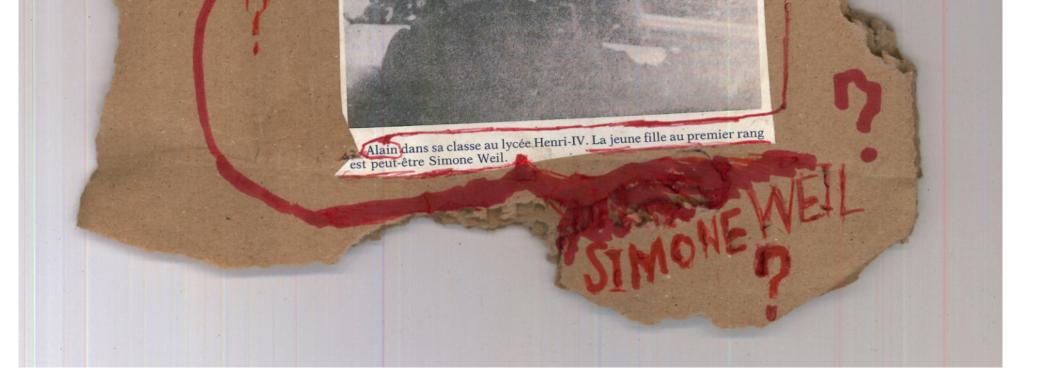
which attracts the attention and yet does nothing to susta

contact mysterious but real. far as they involve a certain kind of - specific value, which constitu

- about this



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Simone Weil avec son frère André à Mayenne (1915-1916)

as it really is.

y to his slaves, to every ded the porter to watch." oul is that house, its various facultics are the slave er is love.

> love what to for a dead man is not subd cannot die. But such a love, if it r eaming, is supernatural. Niobe's lov trnatural. And yet Electra too mr

apour ren

death of someone we love is horrib ath about the sort of love we felt that our love for him was not strong love for what does not exist is strongen to love what does not exist—how absur in the soul's salvation. It could



A. Time think that the world is a to the passage of time. So,

Kant: 'Time is a priori, and One has to overcome a parado time and duration (form and matte duration is actual. But he confuses the is the only thing that is truly universal. priori knowledge. (What is before cannot be afte versible. Between two times there is an infinity of points, etc.) It is the first thing which gives us th continuity.

B. Time implies eternity.

The relationship between past and future is an eternal very passage of time is eternal.

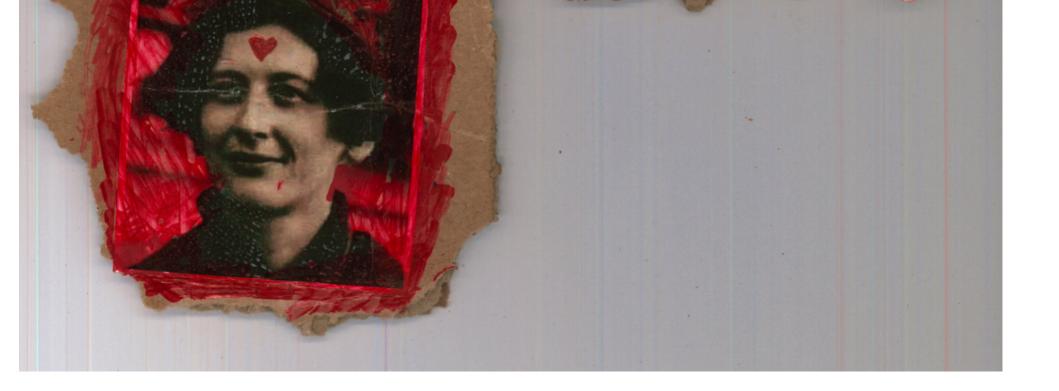
C. Time, reduced to the abstract form of order, is at the t of all eternal truths.

D. The very idea of time implies some kind of grasp of future: the idea of causality which is of great moral importan III Man's weakness and strength. Action which is system brings eterminy into time.

Time is an image of eternity, but it is also a eternity.

The miser whose treasure has been taken the frozen past which he has lost. Pas

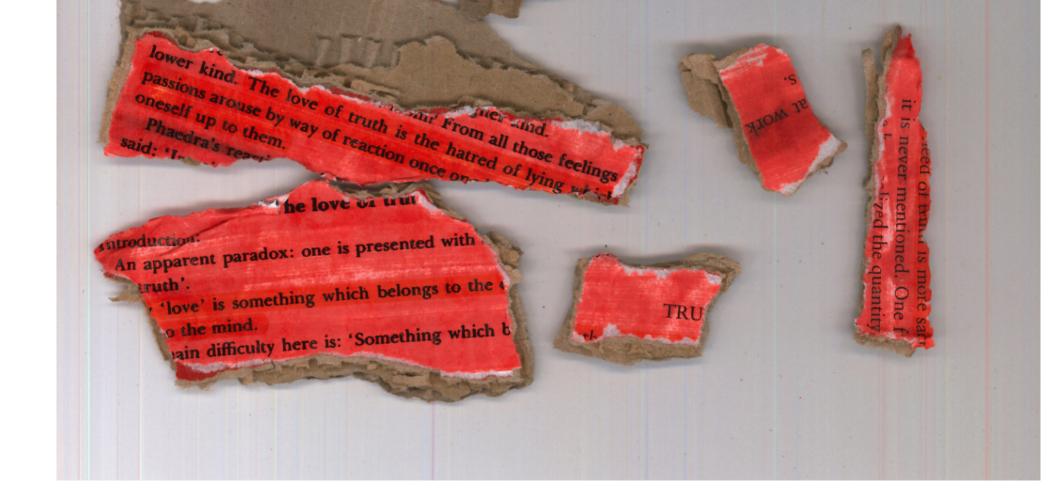
> the is and that v. . . . be are both outside ning. The past, not when the imagination takes ment when some meeting calls it e coloured with eternity. The twe have pure ion. There we



The imagination is continu through which grace migh

το τέας when once το read when once πατιομεηέες of the Simone Weil à Marseille en 1941

Republic Book v., Truth is the work which res the expression of thi



here are cases where a thing is hat it is possible. Thus to eat whe vounded man, dying of thirst, somet /ater quite near. Neither a ruffian nor Ding so.

me attention is religious. The attention is religious. The in any period is strictly

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tor extreme attention?

By analogy, we have to discern the case. bes not appear so clearly at first sight, the cessity, we must act in these cases and not ,

ie pomegranate seed. We do not pledge ourselve he give our consent to the engagement which has be within us in spite of ourselves.

Ve should do only those righteous actions which we op ourselves from doing, which we are unable not ut, through well directed attention, we should always kee creasing the number of those which we are unable not to c

creative facu We should not take one step, even in the direction of what is good, and that to which we are irresistibly impelled by God, and to action, word and thought. But we should be will-File is a lightening up of the here under his n even to th ATT. IL IS THE RESULT OF & HIS GOUT



piritual life by way of the environment of which he fe to draw wellnigh the whole of his moral, intellectual and being needs to have multiple roots. It is necessary for him birth, profession and social surroundings. Every human it is automatically brought about by place, conditions of future. This participation is a natural one, in the sense that of the past and certain particular expectations for the which preserves in living shape certain particular nea cs into some form active and natural participation in c proot, often by the most the ways of not yet uprooted, or only p. PTT ST

chis malady, t, relations being cut, each the I in itself. Uprooting breeds ide t one example of the deform concern-a perfectly legitim extr geometrical reasoning its les of Palestin geometry to be presented to relation at all to the

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assumed command over never tired of repeating-a to say, uprooted individual; inflation, overindustrializat gravity of the unemploym the moral disease to the ales possession. The

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oolboys are treated as thou udents, and the students professional teachers suffering to be reeducated. Cultureinstrument manipulated by t more teachers, who, in their more teachers.

Amidst all the present form the uprooting of culture is not consequ

À Montana, en Suisse, en 1935

the are depo

ce among the subdued population saken possession, uprootedness becomes conqueror remains a stranger in the land of with the Celts in Gaul and the Moors in Spain. But when the themselves. Such was the case with the Hellenes in Greece, wient the inhabitants and take root de down in the conquered prootedness when the o nearly always an is a munuer,



5.W, RUUTS

of the mysterie sity which is compulsion he carnal part of the soul and Feeling for the beautiful-a feeli Ven for those whose vocation is the O the soul in the faculty of supernatural seauty, pure joy: complicity of the body

iuces a semi-reality (conditional necess Inces reality. Iligence, intersed

SIMONE WEIL WITH HER MOTHER 1936 v nəhw, when y odness cannot reach its goal; it is after long, truitless e s better than ourselves. Thus effort truly stretched tows cannot under any circumstances manufacture something wh come from outside ourselves, never from our own effort. N it, that brings us pure joy. In the same way real good can oin TIMS AG DITP

ATAST

utning.

he 'I' is the irreducible element contained in suffering. y dint of suffering, one wears down the 'I', and one abolis! ltogether when suffering goes as far as death. One also wears down the 'I' through joy accompanied ' reme attention.

ure compassion should make one more capable, and r ble, of pure joy. nd how is that?

> has understood that one is nothing, the ecome nothin

Joy is directed towards an object. I am full of joy at the signe the sun shining, or the moon over the sea, or a beautiful city, or a fine human being; no 'I' obtrudes itself in the fulness of joy. On the other hand, 'I' suffer.

Joy is the consciousness of that which is not me qua human being affering is the consciousness of myself qua nothingness. T ects of the same thing. But in the second case ther I can well forget my existence, but not think

ng. But the more I strive, the more capabl

not forget that I am, nor fail to know that

on the part of source suffering of the beloved wh ove on the part of som h joy bu

Love of God is pure when joy and degree of gratitude.

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There we have pure jo, me coloured w ९ प्रचिप्

ve seeds and fruits that we eat we on ob sw. viverg for iqs ni yas shr soreson doses reach to more n. Light, too, exerts no pressure, has no weight; but by its means Those who deny the reality of the supernatural truly resen אז הפענדאווצפ צדאיונץ. an infinitely small quantity of pure good, placed at plies that of the conditions under which the su tor equilibrium. The true knowled, unst seiduse fam

oq fo səmit ni o command over and above whet the f power, which falsifies all social rela supernatural. Every oppressive socie ver which seems to them either divir ght; and those who are under thei

inical secrets of it, aboli ation of labour. Even it iake up their minds to do "gs that had not carri

the sources of it, about

n just the same way as can the thought of strength, e lack of the resources required by some b country bears a close res nspire in a man. The thought of weakness can inflame

State of the second

without mercy. However, since everyone b country bears a close res beings under its weight, that it grinds adeur is attached to trary, that it becomes most harshly oppinten, or his as to disappear progressively; son Lanc Iaced with decade

sannot stop grinding er with the State; he underdetermines whether it is oppressive o n sir it is not the manner in which use is made of some partic clearly P m-that makes two; but what needs to be unce ated in order to formulate the problems o. oron of forc



Eve sought for

ross. Ce or an was a wooden beam. Something which vertical movement. 'The Son of I draw all men unto himself. elves while keeping only the e a waste of energy if our o

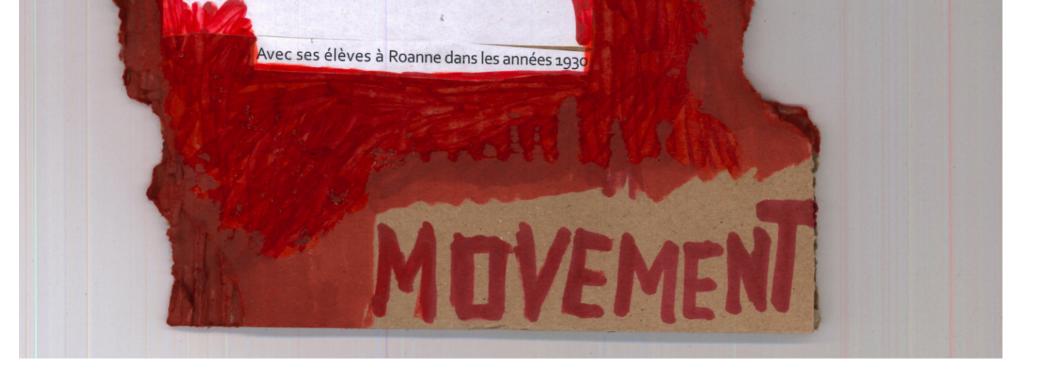
od is the un ealm of particular tures is in the act of creation; as also in rist, Inspiration, etc. But the movem wer from below; it is a movement on Go it. Our

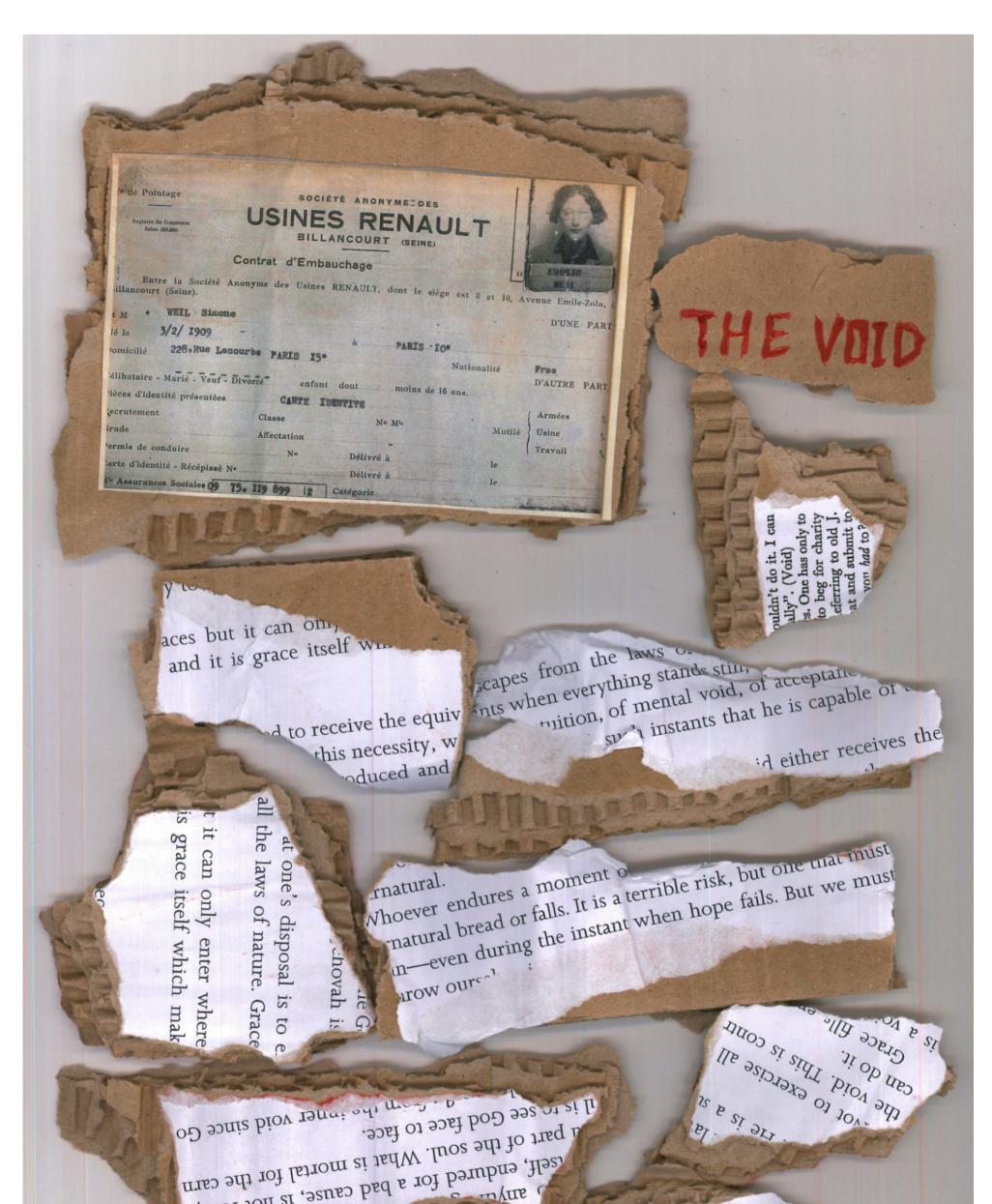
> which nature im, o vita se one is a creat with love of one's neighb and powe of one's neighb and powe of one's neighb and power the right to love solely in so the power that is a worthy of love of God. It is a worthy of love solely in the set of the sole of

The sea, a movement within immobility. Equilibriu ruler of the world. Image of primal matter: Xalpe rexyaptra in art. It appears to be in movement, and it is moti Music, the movement takes possession of all our soul-a Music, the movement takes possession of all our soul-a movement is nothing but immobility. As in the spectz movement is nothing but immobility. As in the spectz movement is nothing but immobility is the verwave the moment when it begins to break is the verwave the moment when it begins to freak is the verof concentration of beauty. The same in musiver the moment when it of the in-

All the natural movements of the soanalogous to those of physical grav exception.

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yllesi endured for a bad cause, is not really יחת

were a suction of air is pi out if, doing violence to reward, the need

har object whatever h me void-to will the void. For the good can neither picture nor define is a void for us. But this iller than all fullnesses.

If we get as far as this we shall come through all right, for fills the void. It has nothing to do with an intellectual pro he present-day sense. The intelligence has nothing to disc to clear the ground. It is only good for servile ta as a nothingness, since ther