PSST! HEY! HEY! HEY YOU! YEAH, YOU! WHO ELSE? LISTEN CAREFULLY!

ABOLISH was born out of the desire to create a new critical space where the practice and theory of AUTONOMY could be spread ... blah blah blah. Introductions are always boring and nobody even reads them really. Who cares about introductions!? Here at ABOLISH, nothing has less value than norms. Before we get to the real business, let's set a couple of things straight: we are not teachers nor preachers, not moralists nor pauperists. Ça va sans dire, we are not cops! We aren't even a “we”, since ABOLISH is run by an AUTONOMOUS SINGULARITY. Again, who cares about norms, “we” sounds better, right?

In ABOLISH you will find mostly ramblings about late stage capitalism and unnecessary quotations of famous people rambling about capitalism (+ movie reviews + tips on great albums + whatever our mind can think of). But, you'll also find an easy going approach to serious and less serious topics; we can't always be enraged and pissed off: COMMUNISM is an act of joy!

Last thing, let us take some space to give a couple of technical infos about ABOLISH. The zine follows no periodicity; it comes out when we want to work and that happens seldom. Before reading the articles, check the top right corner: you'll find suggested songs to read to (as always, you do you: if you don't like it, change it!). In case you're lazy like us, here's the link:

https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0dckfeP0i4MrondsaTrD7si=NdVj7VvRv=02zMWX320uQ?source=copy-link

At the end, you'll find some Instagram accounts that we think are essential for keeping yourself informed and DISSIDENT.

Here is the list of articles of the first feature:
1 - AUTONOMY IS THE VIRUS, WE ARE THE PARASITES
2 - ALEXEY STAKHANOV WAS A COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY
3 - WHEN THERE’S NO FUTURE, HOW CAN THERE BE SIN
4 - COMMUNISM MEANS EMPTY KITCHENS
5 - KNOWLEDGE IS POWER, POWER IS KNOWLEDGE
6 - WITHOUT A GLIMMER OF REMORSE. A POLITICAL READING OF “POINT BREAK”
7 - LIKE A BALL OF FLEECE LINING, IN MY CAMEL SKIN COAT
How to Disarticulate Capitalism From its Arteries!
**Autonomy is the Virus**

Orthodox Marxists still consider power a commodity to be captured and seized. They only perceive power as the State, envisioning its conquest - through the Revolution and the Party - for the purpose of creating Socialism. Moreover, they believe that Socialism will emancipate humanity and liquidate Capitalism. History has proven what Toni Negri sums up in one sentence: Socialism is just another management of Capital. Socialism requires the State, the police, prisons, accumulation of capital and - most importantly - work. Socialism is at the antipode of AUTONOMY. Socialism is no longer the lower stage of COMMUNISM.

Capitalism is always changing and so should Marxism. We think they forgot that the conditions for COMMUNISM "result from the premises now in existence", "now" being 2021 and not 1917, 1949 or whatever nostalgic reminiscence of the past they worship. Always forward! As Capitalism evolves, it deteriorates. As capitalism strives for more accumulation, crises erupt. As capitalism brings about convenient power relationships within and through crises, RESISTANCES emerge. Capitalism will not fall from one day to another; on the contrary, its development implies also its deterioration. As more people are captured by its gaze and subjected to its command, more people try to escape, sabotage or counterattack its productive grip.

AUTONOMY, thus, comes into play, foreseeing a multitude of RESISTANCES that breaks the capitalist power and deepens its contradictions. AUTONOMY as a virus, as an expansion of antagonistic behaviours rather than political centralisation and imposition of hegemony. The autonomous contagion should pervade society, multiplying the communist plague. As autonomists, we should act as parasites, cannibalising the same society that need our work, our docility, our productivity, our normalisation and our subjugation to survive. The expansion of autonomous practices and - consequently - the grey area between "legality" and "illegality" shouldn’t be imposed by an enlightened organisation, but - on the contrary - proposed by example. Autonomy should be desired by those who witness other’s autonomy.

**We are the Parasites**
ALEXEY STAKHANOV WAS

Yes! You heard it right! Alexey Stakhanov was a COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY. And yes! We know that his achievements (August, 1935: 102 tonnes of coal mined in 6 hours - September, 1935: 227 tonnes in one shift) were the product of Soviet propaganda. Nonetheless, Stakhanov represents a symbol, the symbol par excellence: he represents work. More specifically, his myth embodies the tendency of almost all COMMUNISTS to incense, glorify, mythologize (precisely!) the action of working. But, without hesitation, we reply: COMMUNISM is the society that ABOLISHES WORK. "I can't believe it! Did they really said that?!", "Bunch of lazy ass bastards!", "But that's impossible!", "Because I work for you, fuckers!". No worries, we're used to these reactions!

But look closer! Capital needs labour. It needs our intellectual or physical power to sustain itself and to expropriate surplus-value. Hence, we were forced to work, since the first time common lands - used for sustenance - were expropriated, generating simultaneously the capitalist and the wage-worker. And guess what? We still have to fucking work today! Given the essential role of the worker, without whom accumulation wouldn't be possible, the REFUSAL OF WORK becomes the highest form of conflict possible (we'll come back to this). Remember: "If the labourer consumes his disposable time for himself, he robs the capitalist". But - don't panic! - REFUSAL OF WORK is not necessarily the complete abstention from it.

REFUSAL OF WORK could be synthesized with this concept: time of life subtracted from labour. No! We are not suggesting bank robberies! Don't get us wrong, we like the practice! But the action of movements should always reflect their power; leap-forward mentality and vanguardist machismo are reactionary and authoritarian. On the contrary, these practices should be easy to reproduce and should emphasize the centrality of use-value (goods are useful and satisfactory to you). Re-appropriation as the cut that rips the capitalist veil of profit; in essence, workers produced it, it’s yours! REFUSAL and RE-APPROPRIATION EXAMPLES for picky people: fake sick leaves, five finger discounts, alteration of time sheets, free transportation rides, etc.. Re-appropriation of life and goods!

Last but not least, Capital reacts to workers insubordination. As the past shows, REFUSAL OF WORK is met with progressive automation and technologization of production. This is good! More power to dead labour, more freedom to living labour! We want AUTOMATION, but in COMMON! Give us the means of production! COMMUNISM is an empty factory!
Never
For
Money
Always
For
Love
It’s no news that the world we live in is constantly changing due to climate change; decades from now, its consequences will be evident for every one of us. At the same time, Capitalism is designed to fail, because its tendency to constantly accumulate collides with the finite character of natural resources. Greenwashing, green Capitalism or explicit negation of the looming disaster won’t solve anything. To be honest, it couldn’t be worse!

Given the extreme situation, fear, anxiety, despair or hopeless nihilism could be understandable reactions for anybody. However, Capital destroys, manipulates, re-profits these expected emotions; otherwise, how could we process the fact that people still go to work, still go to school, still abide by the law, still act acquiescently? The pervasive aura of Capital is powerful enough to accomplish that because its functioning still necessitates living labour. Capital keeps us alive in order to be productive, while at the same time drives us to the abyss.

BUT, as a famous band from London once said: “When there’s no future, how could there be sin”. The catastrophic scenario we are facing should be the ultimate source for liberation, because when you have nothing, you have nothing to lose. So, think about it: how much does your career, your good grades, your pay, your fears, your problems, etc. matter when everything will be nothing? Our answer (what about yours?): probably nothing. Climate change shouldn’t negatively affect your life; on the contrary, it should instil joy and freedom in your actions. You’re free now, because everything you are trying to build will be destroyed if nothing changes. In our minds, it’s as simple as that!

There’s no boundaries - then - for what could be done. Do you want to refuse work and live through “expedients”? DO IT! Do you want to quit your job and play in a band? DO IT! Do you want to expropriate supermarkets because food should be free [yes, the Law considers that stealing, but you can’t steal what has already been stolen!]? DO IT! Do you want to sabotage or protest polluting businesses? DO IT! Do whatever! Be whatever! Become whatever! As simple as that! And, in case this resonates with you, remember that it’s always been like this, climate change or not: WE HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE, BUT OUR CHAINS!
Immaterial labor (basically value created by cognitive and affective actions - ok, let us be simpler: value created by your brain and emotions rather than your physical labor) has become the predominant mode of production of Neoliberal Capitalism. Think for a second: when you’re applying for a job, are they asking you how tall are you, how strong are you, how much can you carry or are they demanding "people-skills", "let’s do it attitude", "enthusiasm", "drive", "communication skills"? Yes! You should be enthusiastic about creating profit and seeing it expropriated (ROBBED!) from you every month; and, of course, don’t forget to smile while doing it! By the way, it’s not your fault: WORK IS BLACKMAIL!

Unfortunately, not everybody is subjected to such vicious treatment: some don’t even receive a wage for their work. In fact, the sexual division of labor makes possible the daily enslavement of those domestic workers ("house wives" is too gender reductionist) who clean rooms, cook meals, wash clothes, look after the kids, etc., but - most importantly - cheer up their partner after heavy duty work, modulate their emotions to better accommodate the needs of their better half and eventual children (physical + immaterial labour); these (unrecognised) workers are de facto at the lowest level in the hierarchical pyramid that could describe a capitalist society. Their unpaid labour is essential to set in place those conditions that make possible the productive labour of their partners and its reproduction. Imagine: how could a worker be subjected to the blackmail practice of waged labor when nobody looks after the kids during their shift, when nobody alleviates their depression caused by stress, anxiety, pain, when nobody satisfies their sexual needs, causing frustration?

Again, Capitalism creates its own enemies. Capitalism gains from this unpaid work as much as it is depended on it. Again, again, again, no domestic work implies no productive work, which implies the crumbling of the current modes of production. Here the salient point: for us, domestic work shouldn’t be recognised as work for the sole purpose of paying this unrecognized category. In that case, it would still be trapped in the capitalist clutches, this time assimilated as waged labour. We are no Liberals! On the contrary, the recognition of domestic work as such should be the premise for the total ABOLITION of it. At the same time, if the REFUSAL OF WORK, the negation of the working class as such, is the highest form of antagonism that can be practised against Capital, then the REFUSAL OF DOMESTIC WORK should be the A-BOMB capable of enormously shifting the status quo. Few workers could comfortably execute their daily productive tasks if a world wide strike hit. ABOLISH DOMESTIC WORK, ABOLISH WORK!

COMMUNISM MEANS

EMPTY KITCHENS
KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

Society as peepshow - Surveillance as dispositif. This is the dynamic that emerged within Neoliberal Capitalism in the last 40 years, encouraged by the advancement of technology, in turn triggered by CLASS STRUGGLE (let’s specify this: for us, a worker is not only the factory worker, but whoever is bound to the blackmail of that thing called WORK). Special laws, tailing and wiretapping were no longer capable of holding the antagonistic insubordination of the DISPOSSESSED. The 1980s represented - in fact - a specific historical passage, where the emergence of Neoliberalism, the technologization of production and the repression, normalization or normation of ANTI-CAPITALIST counter-powers occurred.

After 40 years, the DISPOSITIF of surveillance still operates impeccably. And no, SURVEILLANCE is not merely the CCTV cameras on the street: technologies and techniques of surveillance can be found everywhere. Aside from the panoptical reality of being filmed 24/7, we find the dispositif of surveillance on the internet, in the hospital, in the prison (“Of course stupid!” you are probably saying, but we are not referring to the PIGS), in school, in our daily based relations even. Surveillance is necessary to extract KNOWLEDGE from our bodies and inform POWER relationships, while - at the same time - such relationships will enable further, deeper and refined extraction of future KNOWLEDGE. And - of course, you get it! - that same knowledge will once again inform power, in a vicious and never-changing circle. Foucault docet.

KNOWLEDGE means data, for instance. Data of your online activity, to better calibrate the tailored advertisements or detecting which keywords you are using the most; data from your body (medical records, dental records, drug tests, blood tests, height, weight, prescriptions history, etc.), to better categorize you and manage your productivity; data from your personal life (criminal record, social security number, e-mail addresses, digitized ID, etc.), again to categorize and manage. Our own existence is just mere numbers, statistics, intervals, percentages, levels for Capital; in concomitance with the expropriation of the means of production, Capital also expropriates life from the MULTITUDE. The goal? Improvement, low risks, normalization, conflict avoidance, efficiency, progress, productivity, accumulation. Accumulation. Accumulation. Accumulation.

POWER IS KNOWLEDGE
WITHOUT A GLIMMER OF REMORSE

Notes:

1 - I know what you are thinking (or screaming): “They are nuts! A fucking Hollywood action movie is just SHIT. It cannot be political. It’s just a bunch of bank robbers surfers, for fuck sakes!” Take a deep breath, roll a J and allow this little madness to happen. As always, you’ll be the only one who can decide if you agree with this or not. ALL POWER TO YOU!

2 - SPOILER ALERT! Watch the fucking movie first!

EVIDENCE #1: THE QUOTE

“This was never about the money, this was about us against the system. That system that kills the human spirit. We stand for something. We are here to show those guys that are inching their way on the freeways in their metal coffins that the human spirit is still alive” - Bodhi

This quote is the key of the movie for us. They don’t care about money (they use it to not work and surf all year except for the summer, when they “work”); they just want to resist Uncle Sam. Why sweat for someone else when you can rob insured banks? The Bonnot gang showed the way!

EVIDENCE #2: THE CHARACTERS DYNAMICS

Detective Johnny Utah is the real villain! Think about it. He deceives Tyler (she’s an orphan, so he invents a tragic story about the death of his parents); he’s a careerist (he just wants to advance in the ranking, he’s thirsty for power); he’s a PIG (of course, this is not necessarily a bad trait in an American movie, but for us it is, of course! FREE ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS! NOW!)

EVIDENCE #3: THE ENDING (SPOILERS!)

The actions of Johnny Utah - in the name of Law and Order and Capital - almost get Tyler killed, while his police partner is not that lucky. At the very end, he finally catches Bodhi, before he could complete his final desire: surfing during the 50 Year Storm in Bells Beach. They fight but, at the end, Johnny let Bodhi surf in the open ocean, with monstrous waves waiting for his certain death. Bodhi dies free and on his feet. At the same time, Utah realizes his mistakes (he says to Bodhi that he still surfs everyday). Walking away, he throws his badge.

A POLITICAL READING OF “POINT BREAK”
LIKE A BALL OF FLEECE LINING

Enough! We had ENOUGH! How many fucking times do we have to hear them - the capitalists, the anti-communists, the moralists, the pauperists, the purists, etc. - lecturing us on COMMUNISM? How many fucking times do we have to bear their cheap, ignorant, lousy and rhetorical sermons? "You cannot wear a shirt! You’re a communist!", “Oh here’s the communist with their cashmere sweater!", “You’re anti-capitalist and you wear [insert brand]? Radical Chic!", "Look at those fancy shoes! You’re just a champagne socialist!". First of all, don’t you dare call us socialists! We are not apologists of WORK! In case you want to talk non-sense and run your mouth, call us CHAMPAGNE COMMUNISTS, even though we prefer scotch, single malt only!

We know that many of you understand these feelings. You’ve been through this as much as we have. So, let’s set this straight one last time: THERE’S NO ETHICAL CONSUMPTION UNDER CAPITALISM! So, stop wasting our precious moments of life (time is a social construct to measure how much we have to work for those leeches) with these stupid remarks; and no! Capital didn’t produce what we are wearing, the workers did! The commodities that we buy to clothe ourselves were produced by living labour (i.e. wage-workers), who was later robbed of the surplus-value it produced. This simple reality renders the capitalist modes of production unethical, so shut your “innocent” and puritan mouths! From here, one logical consequence, incomprehensible for the lecturers of integrity, follows: buy/appropriate whatever you like, need or desire. COMMUNISM IS THE RE-APPROPRIATION AND SIMULTANEOUS ABOLISHMENT OF LUXURY!

Let’s be honest! This entire ramble is also justified by the fact that we like fine clothing and provocation: we like our white shirts, our waxed cotton jackets, our turtlenecks, our cashmere scarfs, our double-breasted jackets. What do you want from us!? At least, we want everyone to be able to dress the way they want! At the same time, can you just take a moment to visualize the faces of those capitalist bootlickers when you show up in your drippiest outfit, owning them mercilessly? Priceless, for everything else there’s RE-APPROPRIATION! So, the next time you’re trying to steal some “working-class” pasta from the supermarket or a plain “proletarian” t-shirt, aim bigger! And, whenever some legalists condemn - in disgust - the sacred practice of the “five finger discount”, show them the finger! The GOODS are ours and we take them when we need or desire them!

IN MY CAMEL SKIN COAT
1977. A spectre is haunting Italy, the spectre of AUTONOMY!

The mainstream media are already reporting: EXTREMISTS, THUGS, TERRORISTS!
The political parties are already screaming: PERSECUTE, ARREST, IMPRISON!
The bishops of the law are already sentencing: GUILTY, GUILTY, GUILTY!

On the other side of the barricades, from the streets of the metropolis, a distant voice is inciting the rebellion, guided by a desiring praxis:

WE WANT EVERYTHING!

It is with great pleasure that we announce the first special edition of ABOLISH, coming soon. Fasten your seat belt, recline your chair and travel back to the 1970s with us, where it all started. The scenario is the following. Italy is witnessing a low intensity warfare, between the anti-capitalist movements and the apparatuses of the state, whether police, fascists, official parties or sell-out trade unions.

AUTONOMY is emerging.

EVERYTHING UNDER HEAVEN IS IN UTTER CHAOS - THE SITUATION IS EXCELLENT

COMING SOON(ISH)
"Prison is a second-by-second assault on the soul, a day-to-day degradation of the self, an oppressive steel and brick umbrella that transforms seconds into hours and hours into days"

FREEDOM FOR MUMIA ABU-JAMAL!

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=37u3sPHjrr0 -
HEY! DON'T PANIC!

Yes! You made it! This is the end of ABOLISH #1. Long live ABOLISH #1! The second edition of ABOLISH is on the way, tomorrow, the day after tomorrow, a week from now, a month from now, a year from now, who knows? Do you remember what we said in the Introduction about working? Did you even read the Introduction? At least, check out the background image! Next time they ask who you vote for, reply: “Gaetano Bresci, of course!”. On a side note, we apologize - ex post - for the fancy Marxian terminology; as opposed to self-styled political experts, we read Marx! Lastly, to keep yourself up to date with ABOLISH, follow our Instagram page: @abolishzine

As promised, here’s a list of Instagram pages we think you should follow (in case, follow also their backups). Don't sleep!

@queervengance @workingclasshistory @eve.on.palestine
@indigenousaction @we.spontane @invisible.enough
@atlas.news3 @guerrilla_tactical @decolonialultra
@zoe4revolution @yellow_peril_tactical @insubordinate.collective
@buddyhead_ @frontlinemedics @n omission
@popular.front @dornertactical @illwilleditions
@abolish_time @armed_collective @deleuzean_thembo
@crimethincagain @eastnharmsredux @drdevonprice

“Hence, the historical movement which changes the producers into wage-workers, appears, on the one hand, as their emancipation from serfdom and from the fetters of the guilds, and this side alone exists for our bourgeois historians. But, on the other hand, these new freedmen became sellers of themselves only after they had been robbed of all their own means of production, and of all the guarantees of existence afforded by the old feudal arrangements. And the history of this, their expropriation, is written in the annals of mankind in letters of blood and fire”

(K. Marx, Capital, vol. 1, ch. 26)

P.S. Thanks to O. W. A. H. A. for the English lessons

WE'RE COMING BACK!
ABOLISH #1 was brought to you by FUCK THE PO-PO production -