

Guide to the André Bertrand and André Schneider Papers

GEN MSS 2055



by Nora Soto

November 2022

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 2055

CREATOR: Bertrand, André, 1945-

TITLE: André Bertrand and André Schneider papers

DATES: 1960–2017

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 6.2 linear feet (9 boxes)

LANGUAGE: In French, Dutch, English, and Spanish.

SUMMARY: The collection contains correspondence, organizational files, communiques, political tracts, pamphlets, comics, posters, press clippings, books, and computer media by or relating to André Bertrand, André Schneider, and the 1966 student protest movement at the Université de Strasbourg in France.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.bertrand>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.bertrand>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

- b. box
- f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased from André Bertrand and André Schneider on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2018.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research. Box 9 (electronic media): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies of electronic files may be requested. Consult Access Services for further information.

Conditions Governing Use

The André Bertrand and André Schneider Papers is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

André Bertrand and André Schneider Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing. Information in brackets is also supplied by staff.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

André Bertrand (1945-) and André Schneider (1943-)

André Bertrand and André Schneider were French students at the Université de Strasbourg and major participants in the student protest movement in the fall of 1966. Both men were influenced by the Internationale situationniste, an anti-capitalist revolutionary movement in France and across Europe, as well as by anarchism and the Dutch Provo movement. In May 1966, Schneider was elected president of the Association fédérative générale des étudiants de Strasbourg (AFGES), the university's chapter of the French national student union, alongside other pro-Situationist student officers. Under Schneider's leadership, the AFGES began to collaborate with Guy Debord, a principal member of the Internationale situationniste, and situationist activist Mustapha Khayati over the summer. The small group of AFGES officers, university students, and Situationists launched a series of protests in October 1966, which included disrupting classes and distributing Bertrand's Situationist-inspired comic *Le retour de la colonne Durutti* across campus. In November 1966, the movement culminated in what became known as the Strasbourg scandal, wherein the AFGES illegally used student union funds to print 10,000 copies of *De la misère en milieu étudiants* (*On the Poverty of Student Life*), a pro-Situationist pamphlet written primarily by Khayati. The public outcry resulting from the Strasbourg scandal shut down the campus and led to the dissolution of the AFGES by court order. A precursor to the general strike of May 1968, the Strasbourg student protest movement received extensive press coverage and contributed to the wider dissemination of Situationist ideas.

Bertrand continued work as an artist in the style of détournement, and Schneider later became a professor of history and geography. In 2018, they published *Le scandale de Strasbourg mis à nu par ses célibataires, même*, which documented the 1966 protests.

Scope and Contents

The collection contains correspondence, organizational files, communiques, political tracts, pamphlets, comics and works of détournement, posters, press clippings, books, and computer media by or relating to André Bertrand, André Schneider, and the 1966 student protest movement at the Université de Strasbourg in France. Correspondence documents collaboration between members of the Internationale situationniste, Strasbourg students, and other activists, such as Guy Debord, Raoul Hausmann, and Sean Wilder. Papers concern the events of the Strasbourg scandal, including the actions of the student union Association fédérative générale des étudiants de Strasbourg (AFGES), the expulsion of the student group known as the Garnautins from Internationale situationniste, and court proceedings. There are also papers pertaining to Daniel Joubert, another major figure in the protests. Other materials document the May 1968 general strike in Strasbourg and various French cities, left-wing activism in the United States, and the Provo movement in the Netherlands. Also present are works by American writer and translator Ken Knabb, French philosopher Jean-Pierre Voyer, and other authors.

Arrangement

Organized into fifteen series: I. Correspondence, 1965–2013. II. Papers Relating to Strasbourg Student Protests, 2010–2016. III. Association Fédérative Générale des Étudiants de Strasbourg (AFGES) Papers, 1963–2017. IV. Materials Relating to Les Garnautins, 1967–2010s. V. Renseignements Généraux Reports, 2014. VI. Press, 1966–2014. VII. Strasbourg Trials, 1967–2010s. VIII. Daniel Joubert Papers, 1960–2017. IX. Papers Relating to May '68 Protests, 1967–2012. X. Comics and Posters, 1968–2017. XI. Seventh Conference of the International Situationniste, 1966. XII. English and Spanish Publications, 1965–1973. XIII. Provo Material, 1966. XIV. Printed Material, 1965–1997. XV. Computer Media, circa 2014.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1965–2013

8 Folders

This series consists of the correspondence of André Bertrand and André Schneider, as well as correspondence between members of the Internationale situationniste and other students at the University of Strasbourg. Included are Bertrand's letters to Sean Wilder, an American student involved with the French Situationists; Schneider's exchanges with Austrian Dadaist artist Raoul Hausmann, including carbon copies of Hausmann's Dada texts; and photocopies of letters by Guy Debord, a French founding member of Internationale situationniste.

Organized into two subseries: André Bertrand and André Schneider Correspondence and Third Party Correspondence. Each subseries is arranged alphabetically by correspondent.

André Bertrand and André Schneider Correspondence

b. 1, f. 1-3	Bertrand, André to Sean Wilder	1965–1976, 2013
b. 1, f. 4-5	Schneider, André to and from Raoul Hausmann	1969 June 14–December 19

Third Party Correspondence

b. 1, f. 6	Debord, Guy and Internationale situationniste members to Sean Wilder [photocopies]	undated
b. 1, f. 7-8	Internationale situationniste members' letters	1967–2013

Series II: Papers Relating to Strasbourg Student Protests, 2010–2016

4 Folders

This series contains autobiographical writings and testimonies by other participants in the 1966 protests at the University of Strasbourg, as well as photographs of student activists and Situationists collected for the book *Le scandale de Strasbourg mis à nu par ses célibataires, même*. Included are accounts by Sean Wilder and Bruno Vayr-Piova, vice president of the AFGES during the protests.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 1, f. 9	Vayr-Piova, Bruno	2010–2013
b. 1, f. 10	Duchamp-McGee, Carole	2013–2016
b. 1, f. 11	Témoignages [Jean-Claude Lescout and Sean Wilder]	2012–2013
b. 1, f. 12	Photos [later prints]	undated

**Series III: Association Fédérative Générale des Étudiants de Strasbourg (AFGES)
Papers, 1963–2017**

5 Folders

This series consists of manuscripts, tracts, pamphlets, and press clippings relating to the AFGES student union at the University of Strasbourg and its involvement in the 1966 protests under the pro-Situationist leadership of Schneider and Bruno Vayr-Piova. Also present is material commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the protests.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 1, f. 13-14	Avant l'AFGES	1963–1966, 2010s
b. 1, f. 15	L'AFGES	1966 February– 1967 January
b. 1, f. 16	L'AFGES [photocopies]	2010s
b. 1, f. 17	Ensemble de documents publiés à l'occasion de la commémoration du scandale à Strasbourg	2016–2017

Series IV: Materials Relating to Les Garnautins, 1967–2010s*4 Folders*

This series contains tracts, posters, and communiques relating to the Garnautins, a group of Strasbourg students who were members of the Internationale situationniste until their expulsion from the organization in January 1967. Three students — Theo Frey, Jean Garnault, and Herbert Holl — were officially excluded by the Situationists, while a fourth, Edith Frey, resigned alongside them. The Garnautins had participated in the 1966 protests and were involved with the Strasbourg chapter of the Mutuelle nationale des étudiants de France (MNEF).

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 1, f. 18	Tracts, affiches, communiqués	1967–1968, 2010s
b. 1, f. 19-20	Mutuelle nationale des étudiants de France (MNEF)	1967, 2010s
b. 7 (Oversize), f. 80	Mutuelle nationale des étudiants de France (MNEF)	1967

Series V: Renseignements Généraux Reports, 2014

3 Folders

This series contains Schneider's photocopies of reports on the 1966 Strasbourg protests by the French intelligence service Renseignements généraux.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 2, f. 21-23

Les renseignements généraux [photocopies]

2014

Series VI: Press, 1966–2014

8 Folders

This series contains press clippings of local, regional, and national French newspapers documenting the Strasbourg protests and its aftermath.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 2, f. 24-31 Articles

1966–1969, 2014

Series VII: Strasbourg Trials, 1967–2010s*4 Folders*

This series contains legal documents and press clippings relating to court trials arising from the Strasbourg protests.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 2, f. 32	La rapport Wagner, huissier de justice	1967
b. 2, f. 33	Actes judiciaires	1967, 2010s
b. 2, f. 34	Ensemble de photocopies de coupures de presse relatifs au "scandale de Strasbourg"	undated
b. 2, f. 35	Les statuts [photocopies]	undated

Series VIII: Daniel Joubert Papers, 1960–2017***14 Folders***

This series contains writings, clippings, and printed material by or relating to Daniel Joubert (1939–1996), a French writer who was a major participant in the 1968 Strasbourg protests. He met Bertrand and Schneider in 1963 while studying at the University of Strasbourg and was influential in disseminating Situationist ideas to the group. In the early 1960s, Joubert was editor of *Notes critiques*, the journal of Bordeaux-based autonomist group Arguments, and contributed articles to the Protestant student journal *Le Semeur* from 1962 to 1965. During the May 1968 general strike, he was active in the Conseil pour le maintien des occupations (CMDO).

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 3, f. 36	<i>Les Cahiers culturels</i>	1960
b. 3, f. 37	<i>Courrier de l'Aumônerie universitaire protestante</i>	1963–1964
b. 3, f. 38	Articles	1960–1966
b. 3, f. 39-41	<i>Le Semeur</i>	1962–1966, 2010s
b. 3, f. 42	"Projet de déclaration de principes"	[1971]
b. 3, f. 43	"Association hétérogène ou communisme?" [with "Correspondance avec un philosophe"]	1990–1991
b. 3, f. 44	"Un poète à l'Université"	2017
b. 3, f. 45-47	"Un exemple de l'influence de Hegel en France au dix-neuvième siècle: Mallarmé"	1967 October
b. 3, f. 48	"Karl Marx contre Max Stirner"	1975 August
b. 3, f. 49	<i>Notes critiques: Bulletin de recherché et d'orientation révolutionnaire</i>	1961–1962

Series IX: Papers Relating to May '68 Protests, 1967–2012**7 Folders**

This series contains tracts, pamphlets, posters, and comics relating to the general strike of May 1968 at the universities of Paris, Nantes, Toulouse, and Strasbourg. Included is material produced by the CMDO and Comité révolutionnaire de l'université autonome de Strasbourg.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 4, f. 50	Tracts publiés à Paris	1968
b. 4, f. 51	Tracts publiés par le conseil de Nantes	1968
b. 4, f. 52	Tracts publiés à Toulouse	1968
b. 4, f. 53	"L'université autonome" de Strasbourg	1968–1978, 2012
b. 7 (Oversize), f. 81	Strasbourg, affiches mai 68	1968
b. 8 (Oversize), f. 84	Strasbourg, affiches mai 68	1968
b. 8 (Oversize), f. 85	Affiches et documents	1967–1968

Series X: Comics and Posters, 1968–2017*4 Folders*

This series contains original copies and reproductions of comic strips and posters by Bertrand and other activists. Included are works of détournement by the Comité de réhabilitation de Karl Marx et Ravachol, a Situationist-inspired anarchist group founded at the University of Strasbourg; three issues of *Gertrude*, a comic magazine featuring contributions by Bertrand, Schneider, and Daniel Joubert; and Bertrand's more recent design work from 2014 to 2016.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 4, f. 54	Comics et projets d'affiches de l'Atelier graphique du Comité de réhabilitation de Karl Marx et Ravachol	1968–1970, 2017
b. 8 (Oversize), f. 82A	Comics et projets d'affiches de l'Atelier graphique du Comité de réhabilitation de Karl Marx et Ravachol	2017
b. 4, f. 55	<i>Gertrude</i>	1972–1973
b. 4, f. 56	Affiches et projets récents	2014–2016

Series XI: Seventh Conference of the International Situationniste, 1966

1 Folder

This series contains reports and handbills distributed at the seventh Situationist conference held in Paris July 5–13, 1966. The conference was attended by Strasbourg students Edith Frey, Theo Frey, Jean Garnault, and Herbert Holl.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 4, f. 57

7ème Conférence de l'IS, rapports

1966 July

Series XII: English and Spanish Publications, 1965–1973**3 Folders**

This series contains English- and Spanish-language tracts, pamphlets, and comics produced by left-wing activists and organizations in the United States. It includes works by Ken Knabb and translations of French Situationist tracts.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 4, f. 58	Comics and brochures	1965–1973
b. 7 (Oversize), f. 82	"El pasado se desnace ; Los juegos se hacen"	undated
b. 7 (Oversize), f. 83	<i>Berkeley Barb</i>	1968 April

Series XIII: Provo Material, 1966*3 Folders*

This series contains Dutch-language tracts, pamphlets, and posters relating to Provo, a counterculture movement active in the Netherlands from 1965 to 1967.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 4, f. 59-60	Les Provos [tracts and pamphlets]	1966
b. 8 (Oversize), f. 87	<i>Ontbijt op bed</i> , Number 7	1966 November

Series XIV: Printed Material, 1965–1997**19 Folders**

This series contains 19 French-language books, pamphlets, and brochures collected by Bertrand and Schneider. Included are Situationist, post-Situationist, and anarchist publications by Guy Debord, Daniel Joubert, Ken Knabb, Jean-Pierre Voyer, and other writers.

Arranged alphabetically by author.

b. 5, f. 61	Arno, Toni and J. P. Dauvergne. <i>L'obscurité du moment non-vécu</i>	1972
b. 5, f. 62	Barrot, Jean. <i>Violence et solidarité révolutionnaires: Les procès des communistes de Barcelone</i>	1974
b. 5, f. 63	Beaufils, Pierre and Philippe Locuratolo. <i>Apologie de Jacques Bonhomme: Critique de la politique économique</i>	1975
b. 5, f. 64	Béhouir, Bartholomé. <i>De la conciergerie internationale des situationnistes</i>	1971
b. 5, f. 65	Debord, Guy. <i>Correspondance avec un cybernéticien</i>	1965
b. 5, f. 66	Internationale situationniste. <i>Le point d'explosion de l'idéologie en Chine</i>	1967
b. 5, f. 67	Modzelewski, Karol and Jacek Kuroń. <i>Lettre ouverte au parti ouvrier polonais</i>	1969
b. 5, f. 68	Joubert, Daniel. <i>Marx versus Stirner; Le fantôme de l'opéré</i>	1997
b. 5, f. 69	Knabb, Ken. <i>Double réflexion</i>	1974
b. 5, f. 70	Knabb, Ken. <i>La réalisation et la suppression de la religion</i>	1977
b. 5, f. 71	Knabb, Ken. <i>Remarques sur le groupe Contradiction et son échec</i>	1973
b. 5, f. 72	Voyer, Jean-Pierre. <i>A un pédé mondain</i>	1991
b. 5, f. 73	Voyer, Jean-Pierre. <i>Hécatombe</i>	1991
b. 5, f. 74	Voyer, Jean-Pierre. <i>L'imbécile de Paris</i>	1992
b. 5, f. 75	Voyer, Jean-Pierre. <i>Introduction à la science de la publicité</i>	1975
b. 5, f. 76	Voyer, Jean-Pierre. <i>Limites de conversation</i>	1993
b. 5, f. 77	Voyer, Jean-Pierre. <i>Limites de conversation II</i>	1995
b. 6, f. 78	Voyer, Jean-Pierre. <i>Limites de conversation III</i>	1996
b. 6, f. 79	Voyer, Jean-Pierre. <i>Rapport sur l'état des illusions dans notre parti suivi de révélations sur le principe du monde</i>	1979

Series XV: Computer Media, circa 2014

3 Folders

This series contains three compact discs.

Box 9 (electronic media): Restricted fragile material. Reference copies of electronic files may be requested.
Consult Access Services for further information.

b. 9

Computer media

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Anarchism -- France
Counterculture -- Europe
General Strike, France, 1968
Political activists -- France
Protest literature
Situationism -- France
Student movements
Student movements -- France

Genres / Formats

Born digital
Détournement
Pamphlets
Situationist literature

Names

Bertrand, André, 1945-
Debord, Guy, 1931-1994
Hausmann, Raoul, 1886-1971
Joubert, Daniel, 1939-1996
Knabb, Ken
Schneider, André, 1943-
Voyer, Jean-Pierre
Wilder, Sean

Corporate Bodies

Association fédérative générale des étudiants
de Strasbourg
Internationale situationniste
Provo (Organization)
Université de Strasbourg

Contributors

Bertrand, André, 1945-
Schneider, André, 1943-