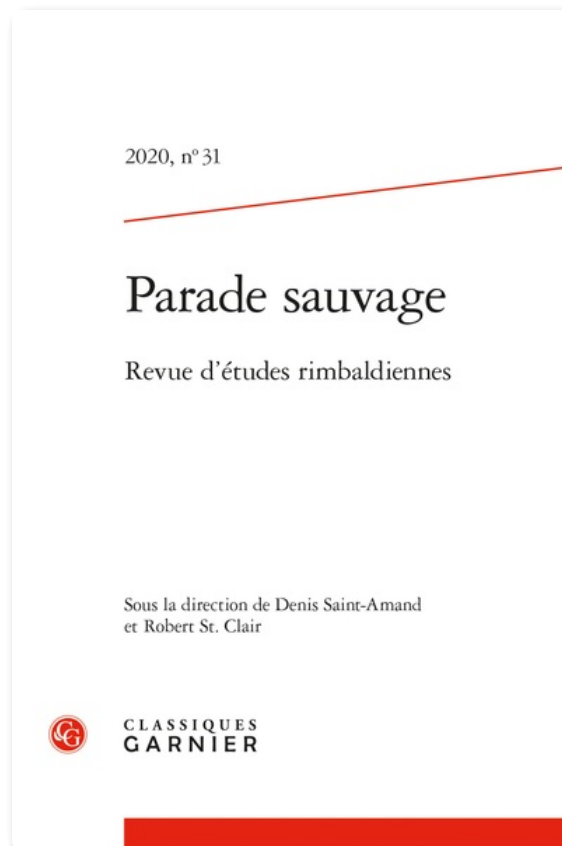


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Idle Rimbaud

Notes on Konvolut “M” of Benjamin’s *Arcade’s Project*

Publication type: Journal article

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Author: Gouvard (Jean-Michel)

Abstract: In 1870, the words « oisif » (idle) or « oisiveté » (idleness, laziness) do not appear in Rimbaud’s poetry, but idleness is nonetheless an underlying topic of this period – and one with a discernible political significance. Indeed, in light of Walter Benjamin’s considerations on idleness, in the Arcades Project, I demonstrate that to be idle does not mean to do nothing, which would disastrously reflect a bourgeois point of view, rather it leads to a view and claim on poetry’s insignificance as a new reference value.

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