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Jacques Prévert

## Jacques Prévert's Biography



Jacques Prévert est né le 4 Février 1900  
à Nemilly sur Seine.

Il aime beaucoup le dessin et le théâtre.  
Raconte sa vie.

This biography was established according to the chronology published in the edition of "Oeuvres Complètes", La Pléiade (Authors: Arnaud Laster and Danièle Gasiglia-Laster).

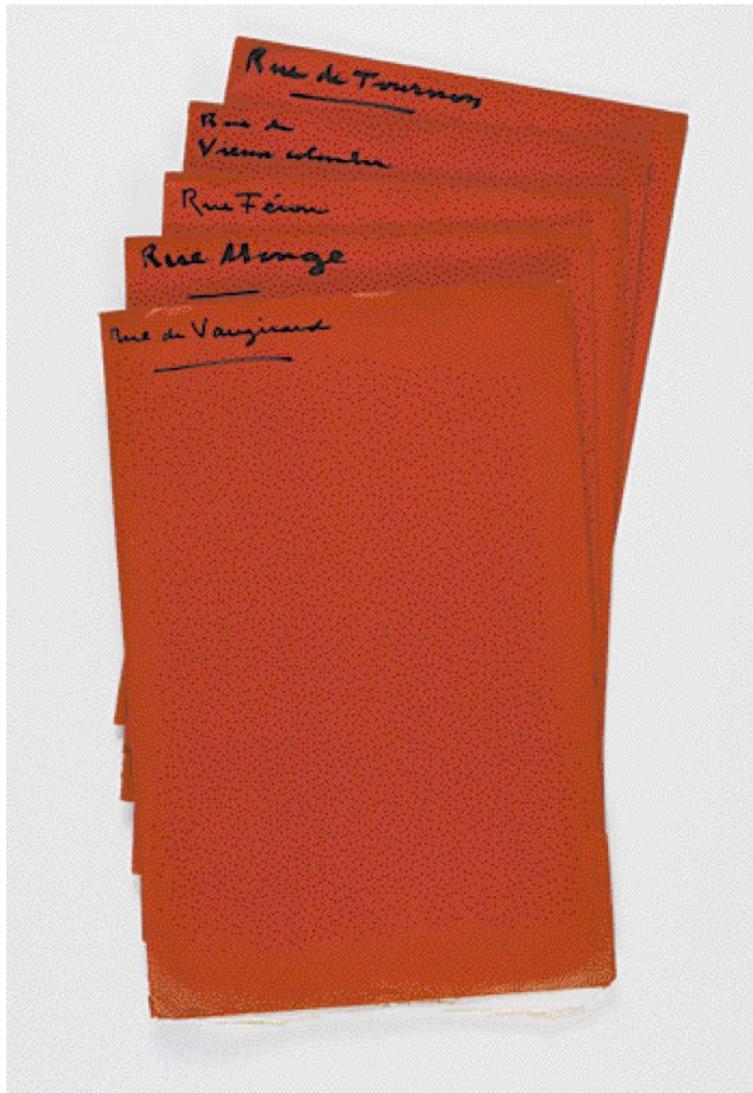
The titles of the various chronological stages are only indicative. Because of the numerous crossings in Jacques Prévert's life and work, they do not establish precise periods.

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# The Youth

- 1900** February 4th: Birth in Neuilly-sur-Seine of Jacques André Marie Prévert, the second son of Suzanne and André Prévert. The younger child, Pierre, is born in 1906.
- 1904** - **1906** André Prévert, republican and anticlerical, works without passion in an insurance company in Paris, and drafts theatrical criticisms. He walks with his children in the streets of Neuilly and Paris.
- 1906** André Prévert loses his employment and the family has serious financial troubles. They first move in another flat in Neuilly and then leave for Toulon.
- 1907** Back in Paris, the family settles down rue de Vaugirard, number 7. André finds an employment thanks to his father Auguste, known as "Auguste the severe", at the central office of the poor men of Paris.
- 1908** The Prévert move again to rue Férou, number 4. Jacques reads a lot, often walks in the garden of the Luxembourg and goes every week to the cinema with his family. The children enter a private school and attend a religious educational class, but Jacques prefers by far the mythology.
- 1910** The family now lives 5, rue de Tournon.
- 1911** Jacques is baptized in the Saint-Sulpice church.
- 1912** March 4th: The Prévert move to rue du Vieux-Colombier, number 7.
- 1914** Jacques obtains his basic school-leaving qualification and quits school, which he occasionally attended.
- 1915** Death of his brother Jean, affected by the typhoid. Jacques begins to work, in a general store rue de Rennes.
- 1916** - **1918** Employed at the "Bon Marché" where he "moves objects ", he is quickly dismissed for "delay on arrival" and bad behaviour. He tries various jobs but never keeps them for a long time, and has diverse troubles with the authorities
- 1920** Incorporated into the military service on March 15th, he arrives five days later at Saint-Nicolas-du-Port, in Moselle, allocated to the 37th regiment of infantry. It is there that he meets for the first time Yves Tanguy, who frightens his companions by eating spiders alive. Yves Tanguy immediately becomes his roommate and his friend.
- 1921** Sent to Istanbul, he meets Marcel Duhamel.

- 1922** Jacques returns to Paris on March 4th, and meets up with Tanguy, with whom he works six months for the "Courrier de la presse" before being dismissed, because both friends found it funnier to send clippings of their own invention to the subscribers.
- 1923:** First visit to Adrienne Monnier's bookshop rue de l'Odéon, and discovery with Tanguy of Les Chants de Maldoror, epic published by le Comte de Lautréamont.
- Summer 1923** Jacques, Yves Tanguy and Jeannette, Marcel Duhamel, Simone Dienne, and Pierre  
**Summer 1926** Prévert go to Locronan, Brittany at Tanguy's mother's house.



Folders of the preparatory file for the text *Enfance*, according to the street names having had a great impact on the young Prévert (in particular those where his family lived)

# Rue du Château and Surrealism

- 1924** Marcel Duhamel obtains from his uncle the management of a small hotel. Prévert and Tanguy track down in the XIVth district, 54 rue du Château, a shop topped by a flat that Duhamel, richer than the two others, will rent to accommodate his friends.
- 1925** Yves Tanguy starts to draw then to paint.
- April 30th: Jacques marries Simone Dienne, whom he knows since childhood.  
Prévert and Tanguy discover with Adrienne's Monnier, The Surrealist Revolution
- With Marcel Duhamel, he meets Robert Desnos and Georges Malkine in a bar of Montparnasse, invited rue du Château. Desnos comes along Benjamin Péret and Louis Aragon, soon followed by the rest of the surrealist group. The meetings with the Surrealists are daily in Montparnasse, rue Fontaine or in the café "Le Cyrano", and rue du Château welcomes the first "cadavres exquis".
- 1926** May 18th: Prévert, Duhamel, Tanguy, Aragon, Breton, Crevel and Desnos participate in the surrealist demonstration which disturbs the first show of the Russian Ballets of Diaghilev, Roméo and Juliette, decorated by Miró and Max Ernst. A pamphlet accusing of "domesticating for the benefit of the international aristocracy the dreams and the revolts of the physical and intellectual famine" is spread and a banner on which is written "Vive Lautréamont" is unfold.
- First dissensions within the surrealist group.
- 1927** Tanguy marries Jeannette Ducrocq; Jacques Prévert and Marcel Duhamel are the witnesses.
- May: Encounter with Queneau rue du Château.
- Prévert is among the signatories of several manifestoes of the Surrealists.
- 1928** January 24th: Uprou organized by the Surrealists during a literary evening at the Vieux Colombier where texts of Jean Cocteau are read among others.
- January 27th: Prévert participates in the first evening of "Researches on sexuality" by the surrealist group.
- February: At the request of the dancer Pomiès, Prévert writes "Les animaux ont des ennuis" ("animals have troubles"), set to music by Christiane Verger.
- Screenwriting with Morise, Queneau, Desnos, Péret for a Marcel Duhamel's scenarios agency project, which will not succeed.

Jacques and Pierre Prévert, with J. Grignon, Man Ray and Jacques-André Boiffard, direct Souvenirs de Paris ou Paris-express, thanks to Marcel Duhamel. The movie is presented at the Danton then at the Ursulines.

**1929** Meeting with Jacques-Bernard Brunius and Pierre Batcheff, who puts up Jacques and Simone. Brunius, Batcheff, Jacques and Pierrot then found the Lacoudem.

**1930** January 15th: Jacques Prévert, Jacques Baron, Georges Bataille, Alejo Carpentier, Robert Desnos, Michel Leiris, Georges Ribemont-Dessaignes, Georges Vitrac, Raymond Queneau, Limbour, Max Morise and Boiffard rebel against Breton's authoritarianism, and publish a pamphlet entitled Un Cadavre (A Corpse). Prévert's text is entitled "Mort d'un Monsieur" (" Death of a sir ").

Writing of scenarios of cartoons and movies.

Publication of Jacques's texts in magazines.

**1931** Writing of scenarios of movies, in particular with Pierre Prévert, and performance.

Summer: publication of the «Tentative de description d'un dîner de têtes à Paris-France» in the magazine *Commerce*.



*Un cadavre*, the collective pamphlet signed by twelve surrealist writers against André Breton. To the right, Jacques Prévert's famous text «Mort d'un monsieur», January 15th, 1930.

# The Octobre group

1932

Jacques and Simone live in rue Dauphine, number 39, and their neighbours are Ghislaine May, Lou Bonin and Eli Lotar.

January: *Baleydiar*, directed by Jean Mamy in 1931 with non credited dialogues of Jacques, is released.

Jacques goes with Jean-Paul Dreyfus (future Le Chanois) to meetings where groups of the F.T.O.F. (Federation of the Labour Theatre of France) give a public performance. During a meeting at the A.E.A.R. (Association of the Revolutionary Writers and Artists), they meet Paul Vaillant Couturier and Léon Moussinac.

March: Jacques is among the three hundred signatories of a protest text emanating from the Surrealists against the accusation of Aragon for the publication of his poem "Front Rouge".

Ten of the members of the theatre company "Prémices", of the F.T.O.F., found the "Prémices shock group".

Jean Aurenche introduces Paul Grimault to Jacques Prévert.

April 12th: Moussinac sends the members of the Prémices shock group, which look for an author, to Jacques Prévert. But upset by the suicide of his friend Pierre Batcheff, he asks them to come back later.

Jacques goes with Jean-Paul Dreyfus and Lou Bonin to a rehearsal of the Prémices shock group and returns the next week with a text: «Vive la presse».

May: First performance of "Vive la presse" by the troop that has become the "Groupe Octobre" and creation of a spoken choir on the Commune for the annual demonstration of the Wall of the Federates.

Publication of an article entitled "Les Actualités" (The News) in La Scène Ouvrière (The Labour Scene).

Summer: argument of a ballet for Pomiès and the musician Robert Caby.

August: Shooting of *L'Affaire est dans le sac*, directed by Pierre Prévert, which will be screened in November without a real success.

Jacques Prévert meets Jean Vigo and Fabien Loris.

Yves Allégret and Eli Lotar direct *Ténérife*, short-film documentary with Jacques Prévert's comment.

1933

January: performance of *La Bataille de Fontenoy* at the 2nd Congress of the Federation of the French Labour Theatre.

The Octobre group is chosen, with les Bouses bleues de Bobigny, to represent France to the Olympiad of the labour Theatre of Moscow.

May: Jacques Prévert goes by boat to Moscow with the Octobre group, to present *La Bataille de Fontenoy* as well as spoken choirs.

October-November: the Octobre group plays *La Famille Tuyau de Poêle* during shows organized with the troops Combat et Masses.

November: *Ciboulette*, movie from Claude Autant-Lara, with an adaptation and dialogues of Jacques Prévert, is released.



The group Octobre embarks for Moscow, where the international Olympiad of the revolutionary Theatre takes place in May, 1933.

From left to right, up: from left to right, up: Raymond Bussières ( black beret), Gisèle Fruhtman, Suzanne Montel ( white scarf), Jacques Prévert (fringe), Lou Tchimoukov ( black beret); sat: Jean Loubès, Léo Sabas ( cap), Arlette Besset, Marcel Duhamel, Jean-Paul Dreyfus (beret) and Jean Brémaud (looking in the air).

**1934**

February 10th: Signature of a call in to fight which ends by Vive la Grève Générale ("Long live the general strike").

June 29th: the Octobre group participates in the party of the «Front commun».

Summer: Lou Bonin shoots a short-film, *La Pêche à la baleine*, in which Prévert interprets his own text.

October: Prévert writes *Marche ou crève*, which is going to become the hymn of the Octobre group on a music of Louis Bessières.

November: *L'Hôtel du libre échange*, directed by Marc Allégret, is released.

Maurice Baquet, member of the Octobre group since the beginning of the year, introduces Janine Tricotet to Jacques, a former pupil of the dancer Pomiès.

**1935** February 23rd: the Octobre group presents *Le Palais des Mirages* at L'Humanité festival.

May 16th: first performance of the Réveillon Tragique at the Community arts centre, managed by Aragon.

Prévert meets Jean-Louis Barrault via Roger Blin.

June 16th: the Octobre group presents *Suivez le druide* during a big Breton party, at l'Ecole Saint-Cyr, which makes a scandal.

September-October: shooting of *Crime de Monsieur Lange* by Jean Renoir, based on a scenario and dialogues of Jacques Prévert.

**1936**

Separated from Simone, Prévert lives in the hotel Montana, rue Saint-Benoît.

End of January: the Octobre group plays *Le Tableau des merveilles* at the Community arts centre, directed by Jean-Louis Barrault.

February: publication of «Temps des noyaux» in the magazine *Soutes*.

February 6th: Agnès Capri makes her debut in the *Bœuf sur le toit*, in the presence of Jacques Prévert and Jacqueline Laurent.

Journey in Spain with Jacqueline Laurent, where Jacques writes the poems of *Lumières d'homme*.

July 1st: big show of the Octobre group at the Mutualité, with three Jacques Prévert's texts. Agnès Capri interprets *Embrasse-moi* and *Adrien*.

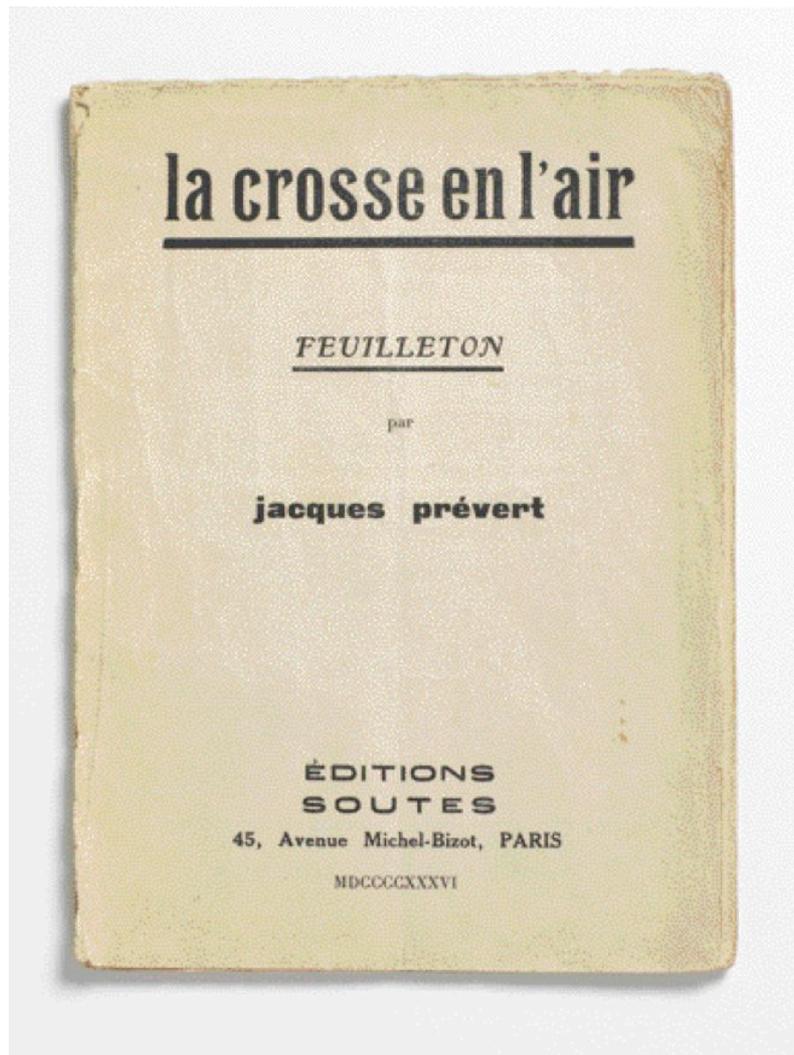
July 26th: Prévert is a part of the signatories of a telegram of the Community arts centre published in l'Humanité, greeting the fighters for the freedom in Spain.

September 18th: first Parisian screening of *Jenny*, movie directed by Marcel Carné.

Fall: the Octobre group, because of financial and political motives, begins to disintegrate.

December: printing of *La Crosse en l'air* published in small volumes by the magazine *Soutes*.

December 31st: Death of André Prévert.



«La crosse en l'air», Serial, Jacques Prévert, éditions Soutes 1936. Only the first part of this text is published herein; the complete version will be published in the form of a brochure at the end of the year and, years later, resumed in *Paroles*.

# The Cinema

- 1937** Numerous cinematic works with Marcel Duhamel, Brunius, Pierre Prévert.  
April 21st: Prévert confirms in *Paris-Soir* his desire to shoot *L'Île des enfants perdus*, scenario based on a tragic news item on reformatories.  
  
May-June: Shooting by Marcel Carné of *Drôle de Drame*.
- 1938** January 11th: note of Mac Orlan at the foot of the manuscript of the adaptation of Quai Des Brumes approving "without reserve" the adaptation of his novel by Jacques Prévert.  
  
January-February: Prévert appears in the *Dictionnaire abrégé du surréalisme* published by Breton and Eluard.  
  
May 17th: presentation to the public of *Quai des brumes*.  
  
June: The censorship forbids the project of *L'Île des enfants perdus*.  
  
Prévert leaves aboard the Normandy for the United States, where he joins Jacqueline Laurent in Hollywood.
- 1939** June 17th: first public screening of *Jour se lève*, directed by Marcel Carné based on a Jacques Viot's scenario, adapted by the latter and by Jacques Prévert.  
  
The war interrupts the collaboration of Jacques, Brunius and Maurice Henry concerning a project of the production of a movie about the Baron of Münchhausen, as well as the shooting of Jean Grémillon's movie *Remorques*.  
  
November 4th: Jacques Prévert joins the infantry warehouse and stays "on a war footing" until November 21st; he tries to be reformed.
- 1940** March 7th: Jacques Prévert is definitively reformed.  
  
June: with Joseph and Lily Kosma, Brassai, Simone, he leaves Paris for Jurançon, near Pau, where they are welcomed by the father of the painter Mayo. Then, all together, they join Nice, Saint-Paul-de-Vence and finally Tourrettes-sur-Loup, where Alexandre Trauner joins them.
- 1941** June-September: shooting by Pierre Billon of *Soleil a toujours raison*, prepared in Tourrettes-sur-Loup in a house rented by Jacques.  
  
October 3rd: Pierre Laroche presents *Promenade avec Jacques Prévert* on the Radio of the south zone, containing numerous unpublished texts.

November: accompanied by Jacqueline Laurent and joined by Cécile and Pierre Laroche then by Pierre Prévert, Jacques stays in a hotel of the Cap d'Antibes.

November 27th: Remorques is screened for the first time in Paris.

**1942**

April-September: shooting of *Visiteurs du soir*, directed by Marcel Carné.

June: The Jews are banned to exercise an artistic profession. Kosma and Trauner carry on collaborating with Jacques Prévert clandestinely.

First meeting with René Bertelé in Nice.

**1943**

Faced with the refusal by the producers of the movie *Jour De Sortie*, Jean-Louis Barrault proposes a project telling an episode of the life of the mime Deburau. At l'Auberge du Prieuré, near Tournettes-sur-Loup, Jacques Prévert - with Kosma, Trauner and Mayo - thus begins to work on *Les Enfants du Paradis*.

May 26th: first screening of *Lumière d'été* of Grémillon.

August 16th: beginning of the shooting of *Les Enfants du Paradis*, interrupted three weeks later by the Ministry of the Information. The team returns to Paris, where Jacques bumps into Janine Tricotet, met ten years before.

September 1st: first screening of *Adieu Léonard* of Pierre Prévert.

Walks with Desnos rue Dauphine and numerous visits at Picasso's workshop.

**1944**

February: André Verdet is arrested and meets up with Robert Desnos again at the Compiègne's camp.

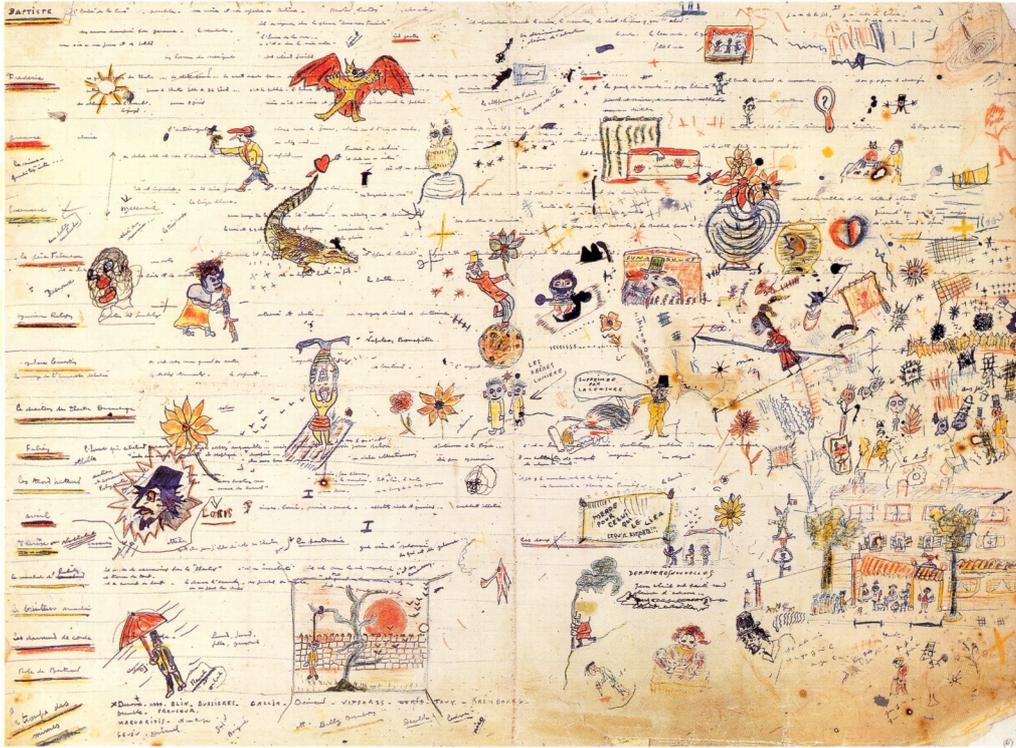
March 15th: Resumption of the shooting of *Enfants du paradis*.

July 10th: printing of a Prévert's notebook of poems, duplicated by the philosophy pupils of Emmanuel Peillet.

October 18th: Prévert stands up for Clouzot, accused of having been anti-French.

November-December: publication of three texts in *Poésie 44* and of ten texts in *L'Eternelle revue*.

Prévert suggests to Marcel Duhamel the title "Série Noire" for the new collection which the latter is about to launch at Gallimard.



Plot board. Handwritten notes and drawings of Jacques Prévert for the scenario of *Enfants du Paradis*, ink and coloured pencil on paper. French Film Library's Collection



Detail of the board

# The public recognition

**1945**

Publication of numerous texts in magazines (*La Rue, Messages, Labyrinthe, Arts, La Revue internationale, Action, L'Heure nouvelle*).

January-February: series of Robert Scipion's broadcasts, *L'école buissonnière*, consisted of texts and songs of Jacques Prévert set to music by Joseph Kosma.

February 21st: death of Suzanne Prévert.

March 15th: Release in theatres of *Enfants du paradis*.

April: Jacques Prévert works with Paul Grimault on the scenario of a cartoon inspired by an Andersen's tale *La Bergère et le ramoneur*.

June 15th: performance of Roland Petit's ballet *Le Rendez-vous*, on a Prévert's argument, with a music of Kosma; the scenery is signed by Brassai and the stage curtain by Picasso.

December 20th: printing of *Paroles* published by René Bertelé who set up his own publishing company *Le Point du jour*.

**1946**

Publication of numerous texts in magazines (*Le Clou, L'Heure nouvelle, Quadrige, Les Quatre Vents, Cahiers d'art, La Rue, La Gazette des Lettres, Vogue*).

January 15th: Marlène Dietrich informs the director of Pathé-Cinéma that she will not shoot *Les Portes de la Nuit*. She is replaced by Nathalie Nattier and Yves Montand takes on the role which had to be played by Jean Gabin.

February: First screening of *Aubervilliers*, short film of Eli Lotar, on a Prévert's comment.

March: Publication of *21 Chansons*, texts of Prévert on a music signed by Kosma.

May 10th: *Paroles* is available in bookshops

June 15th: printing of *Histoires*.

June-July: Vasarely exhibition, for which Jacques Prévert has written «Imaginaires».

October 24th: Creation of *Baptiste* at the Marigny theatre, mime show adapted from *Les Enfants du Paradis*, with Kosma's music and the scenery and the costumes signed by Mayo.

November 16th: birth of Michèle, daughter of Jacques and Janine.

December 3rd: first screening of *Les Portes de la Nuit* of Marcel Carné.

**1947**

March 4th: Wedding of Jacques and Janine.

April 28th: Beginning of the shooting of *La Fleur de l'âge*, revival of the scenario of *L'île des Enfants Perdus*.

June 25th: printing of the new « extended » edition of *Paroles*.

August: the shooting of *La Fleur de l'âge* is suspended.

October: *En Famille* is played for the first time at La Rose Rouge and staged by Michel de Ré.

**1948**

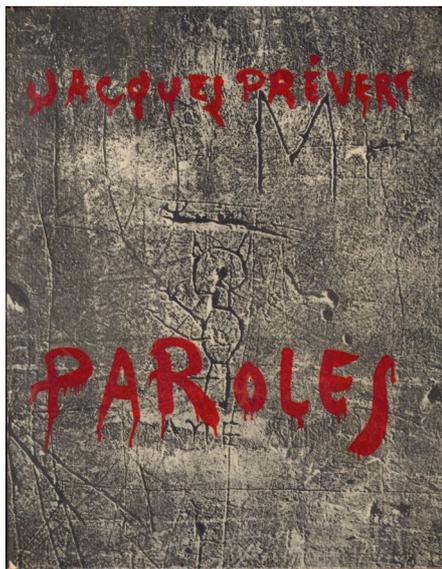
March: Preface of Jacques Prévert on Marianne Oswald's book *Je n'ai pas appris à vivre*.

May: Pierre Prévert produces his radio adaptation of *Bonne nuit capitaine*, a play of Jacques written for the Octobre group, broadcasted on September 1st.

July: Prévert signs the petition sent by Sartre and Cocteau to the president of the Republic in Jean Genêt's defence.

September: first screening of *Petit soldat*, cartoon of Paul Grimault adapted from an Andersen's tale by Jacques Prévert.

October 12th: Prévert falls from the window of the French Broadcasting. He is taken to the Marmottan hospital and will be several days in a coma.



First edition of *Paroles*, on Point du jour, printed the 20th of December 1945, released in bookshops the 10th of May 1946. Dummy of Jacques Prévert on a picture of Brassai.

# Paris, Saint-Paul-de-Vence, Antibes

**1949**

Convalescence in Saint-Paul-de-Vence.

March 7th: first screening of *Amants de Vérone*, the adaptation and the dialogues of which Jacques Prévert had made based on the scenario of André Cayatte.

July 27th: René Bertelé's publishing company Le Point du jour becomes a Gallimard collection.

December: Yves Robert stages at la Rose Rouge «L'Opéra des girafes» and «Branlebas de combat» in his show *Entrées et sorties, et ainsi de suite*.

The censorship committee of the National Radio Broadcasting forbids the broadcasting of the recording by Prévert of a part of his text «La Transcendance».

**1950**

February 18th: first screening of *La Marie du Port*, directed by Marcel Carné.

March 28th: radio interview with Ribemont-Dessaignes, which will be broadcasted the 14<sup>th</sup> of April.

In May, with Leiris, Ribemont-Dessaignes, Queneau and Merleau-Ponty, Jacques Prévert signs an appeal for the liberation of the poet Nazim Hikmet, political prisoner in Istanbul since 1932.

May 25th: He participates in the protest against the legal proceedings instituted against Editions Premières because of the distribution of *La Philosophie dans le Boudoir* written by Sade.

Publication of the text « Aux Jardins de Miró » in *Derrière le miroir*.

June 12th: Jacques Prévert is signatory of a manifesto of French film-makers against the detention of the Hollywood "ten".

June 28th: Jacques Prévert is signatory of the appeal to save Zavis Kalandra, a sentenced to death Trotskyist and Czech Surrealist.

September 8th (1<sup>st</sup> absolute 79 EP): Entry into the College of "Pataphysics".

November 11th: first screening of *Souvenirs perdus* of Christian-Jacque.

**1951**

January: Michel de Ré stages «L'Addition» at the Quartier Latin's theatre.

February: first screening of *Bim le petit Âne* of Albert Lamorisse, with a Jacques Prévert's comment.

May: the text «Limehouse» and collages are published in *Nef*.

Opening of la Fontaine des Quatre-Saisons, with the production of *Dîner de têtes* by Albert Médina.

June 25th: printing of the collection *Spectacle*.

September 1<sup>st</sup>: exhibition of drawings of Ribemont-Dessaignes, for which Prévert wrote «Itinéraire de Ribemont».

November 10th: printing of *Grand bal du printemps* at the Guilde du Livre, with photos by Izis.

December: Jacques Prévert is the witness at the wedding ceremony of Yves Montand and Simone Signoret at la Colombe d'Or in Saint-Paul-de-Vence.



Yves Montand and Jacques Prévert, Saint-Paul-de-Vence

# Return to Paris

1952

January: creation in Hamburg of *Cœur de Docker*, comedy-ballet on a text of Prévert and a music of Christiane Verger.

June: Journey to London with Izis and the publisher Albert Mermoud, for the project of a book which will give birth to *Charmes de Londres*.

September: presentation of *La Bergère et le ramoneur* in the biennial event in Venice. Grimault and Prévert oppose in vain to the public release of this movie the end of the direction of which they could not control.

November 30th: printing of *Lettre des îles Baladar*, with the drawings of André François.

December: publication of *Guignol*, illustrated by Elsa Henriquez.

Jacques, Janine and Michèle now live rue Guynemer, number 4 and are the neighbours of the Mitterrand couple.

1953

April 30th: printing of *Tour de chant*, with the drawings of Fabien Loris (Janine's first husband) and a music signed by Christiane Verger.

May 11th (22 palotin 80 EP) : Jacques Prévert, his dog Ergé and Boris Vian become Satraps of the college of Pataphysics, at the same time as Max Ernst, Marcel Duchamp and the fourth Republic.

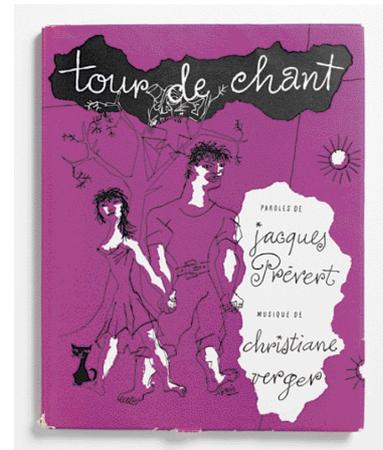
June 19th: Execution in the United States of the Rosenberg couple, for whom Prévert had written a text of support.

July: special issue of the magazine *Sortilèges* : «Jacques Prévert parmi nous» (Jacques Prévert among us).

October 20th: printing of *L'Affaire Henri Martin*, published under the direction of Sartre, with Jacques Prévert's contribution.

November: Text of Prévert for a Cornélius Postma exhibition in Saint-Paul-de-Vence.

November 20th: printing of *L'Opéra de la lune*, with the drawings of Jacqueline Duhême and a song set to music by Christiane Verger.



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December: publication of four texts in *Les Lettres nouvelles*.

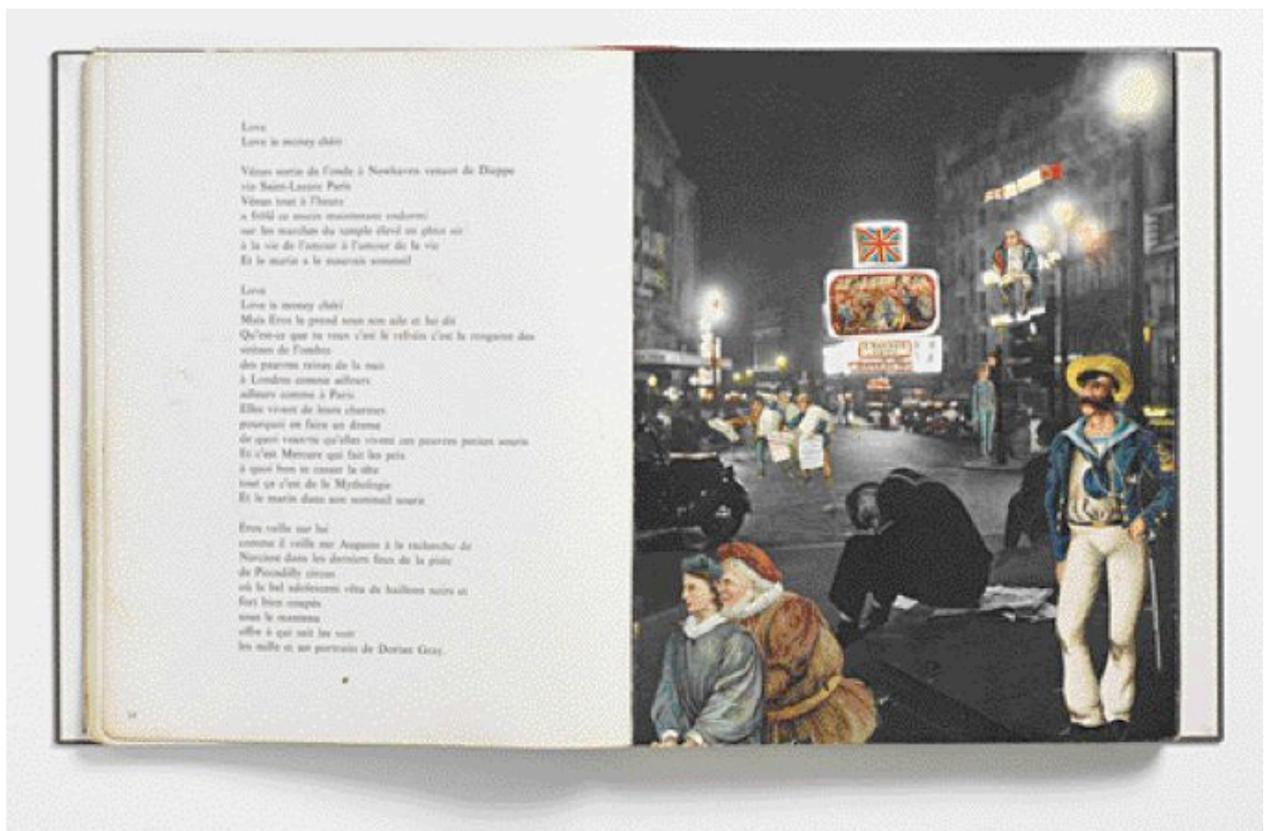
1954

Publication of numerous texts in magazines.

June 15th: Jean-Pierre Grenier stages, at la Fontaine des Quatre-Saisons, the second version of *La Famille Tuyau de Poêle*.

September: *Les Lettres nouvelles* publish a set of texts of Prévert on Miró intended for a book which will be released in 1956.

December: Jean Giono is elected to the Académie Goncourt; Queneau and Salacrou had voted for Prévert.



*Charmes de Londres*, texts of Jacques Prévert and photos by Izis, 1952.  
Internal pages with the original collage of Prévert on Izis's photography.

## 6 bis, cité Véron

**1955**

Franju direct a short film, *Mon chien*, with a comment of Prévert.

The Prévert family settles down in 6 bis Cité Véron, behind the Moulin Rouge. The neighbours are Boris and Ursula Vian. Their common terrace is called "the terrace of the three Satraps", Jacques's dog, Ergé, is also a high dignitary of the College of Pataphysics.

January: publication in les *Cahiers du Collège de 'Pataphysique* of the text «À Alphonse Allais».

May: printing of *Lumières d'homme*, at la Guilde du Livre.

May 3rd: text of Prévert for a Betty Bouthoul exhibition.

June 16th: printing of *La Pluie et le Beau Temps*.

**1956**

January 1<sup>st</sup>: publication at *Mercure de France* of the text «La boutique d'Adrienne» for a tribute to Adrienne Monnier.

June 14th: creation at Enghien of the Maurice Béjart's ballet based on «Le Balayeur», on a music signed by Louis Bessières.

September: series of portraits of Prévert by Picasso.

October: printing of *Joan Miró*, texts of Jacques Prévert and Georges Ribemont-Dessaignes, with reproduction of Miró's works.

November 7th: Jacques Prévert is signatory to the protest against the repression by artillery and Soviet tanks of the Hungarian people's revolt.

December 19th: first screening of *Notre-Dame de Paris* of Jean Delannoy, adapted from Victor Hugo's novel by Prévert and Aurenche.

**1957**

Prévert writes a text for the movie *La Seine a rencontré Paris* of Joris Ivens.

May 17th: Private viewing of an exhibition of Jacques Prévert's collages at Adrienne Maeght, in her gallery Rue du Bac. René Bertelé prefaces the album *Images* published on this occasion.

June: texts for the exhibitions of the painters Jom and Tom Keogh.

August 14th: In the magazine *Arts*, Prévert announces his life story, which would be entitled «Raconte pas ta vie» (Don't tell your life story).

December 14th: Vilato exhibition in Geneva, for which Prévert writes a text on his engravings.

**1958**

January 27th: Publication in small volume of a second text of Prévert on Pierre Charbonnier, on the occasion of an exhibition of the painter.

March 31st: broadcasting of a radio text about poetry.

March and July: publication in *Aujourd'hui* of a text about André Villers's photographs, «En regardant des portraits», and of «Le monde en vaut la peine», a tribute to Fernand Léger with the photos of Gilles Ehrmann.

Release in theatres of Pierre Prévert's short film, commented by Jacques, *Paris mange son pain*.

**1959**

Jacques Prévert reads a poem on Desnos in *La belle saison est proche*, a Jean Barral's short film.

March 1<sup>st</sup>: printing of *Portraits de Picasso*, consisted of a text of Prévert and photos of the painter by André Villers.

June 10th: Writing of the "Message of the Transcendent Satrap Jacques Prévert to greet the arrival of Its Magnificence the Vice-Guardian Baron on the terrace of the three Satraps ", which will be published in the Files of the College of Pataphysics.

June 11th: "Champagne-Aclamation" in honour of the Baron Mollet on the Terrace of the Three Satraps. Jacques Prévert is absent but the College of Pataphysics publishes for the occasion "The Whole Universe is full of its magnificence, choir of Racine-Prévert, music of Mendelssohn ".

June 23rd: death of Boris Vian.

August: Shooting of sequences of *Paris la belle*, directed by Pierre Prévert, in Saint-Paul-de-Vence in the property of the architect Jacques Couëlle.

September 7th: publication in the magazine *Elle* of « Mémoires » by Jacques Prévert, which he will go over again and complete in 1972 under the title «Enfance», for the collection *Choses et autres*.

**1960**

Movie releases of *Paris la belle* by Pierre Prévert and *Primitifs du XIII<sup>ème</sup>* by Pierre Guilbaud, with Jacques Prévert's comments.

Publication of numerous texts in magazines.

May: *Cinéma 60* publishes a special issue «Jacques Prévert et Paris», covering the texts of three short films about Paris.

Publication in *Dossier 12 du Collège de 'Pataphysique* of «Lettre à Boris».

June 21st: Edith Piaf receives the test-pressing of her latest lp in which is featured the song "Cri du Coeur ", text of Prévert and music of Henri Crolla.

November: publication by *Premier plan* of a special issue dedicated to Jacques Prévert, consisted of unpublished extracts of unshot scenarios.

December: publication of two texts under the title «Adonides» in *Derrière le miroir*.

**1961**

Michel Boisrond directs *Les Amours célèbres*, film composed of sketches for which Jacques Prévert wrote the scenario and the dialogues of one of them, "Agnès Bernauer".

Publication of *Couleurs de Paris*, text of Prévert followed by Peter Cornélius's photos.

February: Shooting by Pierre Prévert of a series of six programmes for the Belgian television, broadcasted in October and November under the title *Mon Frère Jacques*.

March 15th: Publication of the text *Primitifs du XIII<sup>ème</sup>* by *L'Avant-Scène Cinéma*.

Summer: writing in Antibes of a tribute to Magritte for an exhibition in London.

October 25th: Publication of «À tes vingt ans Pablo» in a special issue of the *Patriote* of Nice paying homage to Picasso.



Jacques Prévert on the terrace of the Cité Véron, known as «The Terrace of the three Satraps»

# Images

- 1962** Collage for the first edition of *L'Écume des jours* by Boris Vian in 10/18. Texts for the work *Les Halles, l'album du cœur de Paris* with Romain Urhausen's photos and texts for various exhibitions.
- January 29th: printing of *Diurnes*, with cuttings of Picasso and photographic interpretations of André Villers.
- 1963** February 9th: printing of *Histoires et autres histoires*.
- March 14th: publication in *L'Express* of an interview with Madeleine Chapsal during which Jacques Prévert announces the collection *Fatras* and brings up his work with Miró.
- August 5th: exhibition in Antibes, in the Grimaldi castle, of one hundred and twelve collages.
- December 10th: exhibition of collages in the Parisian Knoedler gallery with drawing-dedication of Picasso in the catalogue.
- 1964** January 15th: publication in *France-Soir* of a Jacques Prévert's protest text against the pollution of seas.
- May: tribute text to Braque published in *Derrière le miroir*.
- June 29th: Recording of *Solite comme tout*, anthology established and presented by Prévert, broadcasted on July 4th.
- August-September: shooting by Pierre Prévert of a short film, *Le Petit Claus et le Grand Claus*, adapted from Andersen by Pierre and Jacques, which will be broadcasted on December 25th.
- August 31st: printing of *Chiens ont soif*, text of Prévert and lithographs of Max Ernst.
- 1965** Writing of numerous texts for exhibitions.
- L'Avant-Scène cinéma* publishes a cutting of *Jour se lève*.
- January: printing of *Cirque d'Izis*, with four original compositions of Chagall and photos by Izis.
- April-June: The magazine *Art et essai* publishes the unpublished scenario of *Une partie de campagne*.

August: Pierre Prévert shoots *La Maison du passeur*, the dialogues of which are of Jacques.

October 27th: a text of Prévert appears in the programme of Françoise Hardy's recital at the Olympia.

**1966** January 28th: printing of *Fatras*, with fifty seven images of Prévert. An exhibition of collages is organized for the occasion at La Pochade gallery, boulevard Saint-Germain.

August: Pierre Prévert shoots *À la belle étoile* which he adapted with his brother and whose broadcasting will take place on December 24th.

September 28th: death of André Breton.

**1967** Paul Grimault acquires the negative of *La Bergère et le ramoneur* and works again with Jacques Prévert on the movie.

Publication of *Arbres*, with engravings of Ribemont-Dessaignes.

Summer: *L'Avant-Scène cinéma* publishes a cutting of *Les Enfants du paradis*.

**1968** An editing of Prévert's texts said by himself and accompanied with screenings of collages, directed by Roger Lebreton, is presented in various places in France.

April 24th: Jacques, Pierre Prévert and Paul Grimault go to the General assembly of the Film library to support Henri Langlois.

May: Prévert shows his sympathy to the students and workers protest movements and his hostility to the repression by several texts.

September 23rd: printing of *Varengeville*, with reproductions of Braque's paintings.

March: *l'Avant-Scène cinéma* publishes a cutting of *Drôle de drame*.

November: after *Le Diamant*, directed by Paul Grimault, Jacques Prévert finishes for him a new scenario which will become *Le Chien mélomane*.

**1970** Texts for the Recalcati, Tiliio, Venard, Villers and Renée Halpern exhibitions.

September: printing of *Imaginaires*, a collection of texts and collages, for Albert Skira.



*Le Désert de Retz*, collage. Fragments of illustrations and engravings heightened on a photograph by Izis.  
Reproduced on the cover of the first edition of the collection *Fatras* (1966).

# Omonville-la-petite

**1971**

June: texts for the exhibitions of Boubat and of the painter Delaporte.

August: Jacques and Janine buy a house at cap de La Hague, in Omonville-la-Petite, next to their friends Alexandre and Nane Trauner.

December 20<sup>th</sup>: printing of *Fêtes*, with etchings of Calder.

**1972**

September 20th: printing of *Choses et autres*.

November 8th: printing of *Hebdromadaires*, interviews with André Pozner.

Release of an André Pozner's short film entitled *L'Animal en question*, meeting of Jacques Prévert and a racoon.

**1973**

Movie release of *Chien mélomane* of Paul Grimault.

Publication of *Eaux-fortes*, text of Prévert accompanied with five engravings signed by Marcel Jean.

March: Michèle Prévert, Jacques's daughter, known as Minette, gets married to Hugues Bachelot.

July 10th: death of René Bertelé.

October: Publication in the Swiss magazine *Du*, created by Arnold Kübler, father of Ursula Vian Kübler, of "Irrespect humain", accompanied with eight collages.

November-December: Publication of *Images de Jacques Prévert*, with forty eight collages and a text of Bertelé.

**1974**

January 29th: Prévert records and presents texts of the Octobre group for the programme *Remettez-nous ça* of Gérard Descotils, broadcasted on February 21st.

April, May and November: printing of the new editions of *Visiteurs du soir* then of *Drôle de drame* and finally of *Enfants du paradis*, consisted of photograms captioned by the dialogues of the movie.

May 18th: birth of Michèle and Hugues Bachelot's daughter: Eugénie.

August 25th: Broadcasting by France Musique of Arnaud Laster's programme *L'antenne est à Jacques Prévert*, last broadcast in which he participates.

**1975**

Publication of *Jour des temps*, with engravings of Max Papart.

October-December: The national Drama centre of Franche-Comté presents a show entitled Jacques Prévert et le groupe Octobre.

Writing of «Transhumance» for Robert Doisneau, which will be published in Zoom in January, 1976 and of a text for a Betty Bouthoul exhibition.

*Adonides* is printed, but the work will only be released three years later.

**1976**

April 5th: printing of a volume collecting *Grand bal du printemps* and *Charmes de Londres*, without the photos of Izis.

Jacques Prévert writes «La Méningerie» and «Silence de vie» for the nursery school of Jaunay-Clan, in Vienne, first school to be called Jacques Prévert.

**1977**

April 11th: Jacques Prévert dies from a lung cancer in his house of Omonville-la-Petite.



© Photo : Hugues Bachelot

Jacques Prévert and Eugénie, his grand-daughter, Omonville-la-petite, April 1976