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*The Work and Thought
of Jean Grenier
(1898–1971)*

J. S. T. GARFITT

THE MODERN HUMANITIES RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

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(1898–1971)

by

J. S. T. GARFITT

LONDON
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J. S. T. G.

ABBREVIATIONS

When a page-reference is given in the following form: *IM*, 115 (119), the first number is that of the relevant page in the first edition, and the number in parentheses is that of the relevant page in the most recent edition. This applies to *C*, *EO*, *IM* and *LI*.

<i>(N)NRF</i>	<i>La (Nouvelle) Nouvelle Revue française</i>
<i>AC</i>	<i>Albert Camus (Souvenirs)</i>
<i>AP</i>	<i>L'Art et ses problèmes</i>
<i>APH</i>	<i>A propos de l'humain</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>Borès</i>
<i>C</i>	<i>Le Choix</i>
<i>C(2)</i>	<i>Absolu et choix (1961)</i>
<i>C(3)</i>	<i>Absolu et choix (1970)</i>
<i>CM</i>	<i>Célébration du miroir</i>
<i>E</i>	<i>Écrits</i>
<i>EBL</i>	<i>Entretiens sur le bon usage de la liberté</i>
<i>ELF</i>	<i>Entretiens avec Louis Foucher</i>
<i>EM</i>	<i>L'Existence malheureuse</i>
<i>EO</i>	<i>Essai sur l'esprit d'orthodoxie</i>
<i>EPC</i>	<i>L'Esprit de la peinture contemporaine</i>
<i>ET</i>	<i>L'Esprit du Tao</i>
<i>G</i>	<i>Les Grèves (1957)</i>
<i>IM</i>	<i>Inspirations méditerranéennes</i>
<i>L</i>	<i>Lexique (1955)</i>
<i>LI</i>	<i>Les Îles (1933)</i>
<i>LI(2)</i>	<i>Les Îles, suivi d'Inspirations méditerranéennes (1947)</i>
<i>LI(3)</i>	<i>Les Îles (1959)</i>
<i>LL</i>	<i>Jules Lequier, La Liberté</i>
<i>LOC</i>	<i>Jules Lequier, Œuvres complètes</i>
<i>M</i>	<i>Music</i>
<i>MIX</i>	<i>Mémoires intimes de X.</i>
<i>NL</i>	<i>Nouveau Lexique (1969)</i>
<i>P</i>	<i>Prières (1965)</i>
<i>PC</i>	<i>Essais sur la peinture contemporaine</i>
<i>PL</i>	<i>La Philosophie de Jules Lequier</i>
<i>R</i>	<i>Le Problème du mal chez Renouvier</i>
<i>RQE</i>	<i>Réflexions sur quelques écrivains</i>
<i>SC</i>	<i>Santa-Cruz et autres paysages africains</i>

ABBREVIATIONS (cont.)

<i>SMC</i>	<i>Sur la mort d'un chien</i>
<i>TL</i>	<i>Troisième Lexique</i>
<i>VN</i>	<i>Voir Naples</i>
<i>VQ</i>	<i>La Vie quotidienne</i>

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

- 1898 Camille-Jean-Charles Grenier born, in Paris, 6 February.
- c. 1900 Parents divorce, mother returns to Brittany, later remarries.
- c. 1904–15 Grenier attends École Saint-Charles in Saint-Brieuc.
- 1917 *Licence-ès-lettres* (Paris). Meets Guilloux in Saint-Brieuc.
- 1918–22 Further study in Paris, leading to *agrégation* (philosophy). Grenier's mother and stepfather are lodging in Paris with him at this period.
- 1922 Meets Lambert, in Saint-Brieuc, and Max Jacob, in Paris. Death of stepfather.
- 1923 First teaching post, in Avignon. Trip to Austria and Italy.
First published essays and reviews.
- 1923–24 Algiers. Helps to launch *Philosophies* (1st issue 1924).
- 1924–26 Naples, Institut Français. Visits London (July 1925).
Articles on Schopenhauer, Lequier, Jacob, Martin-Chauffier.
On philosophers. 'Le Charme de l'Orient' (1925).
- 1926–28 Employed by Éditions Gallimard.
Trip to Greece (1926). Lecture tour of Central Europe (Spring 1928). Seeks to launch collection about animals. *Suppléant* at Cherbourg (May–July 1928). Nominated to Tunis.
First reviews for Paulhan's *NRF*.
'Interiora rerum' (1927).
- 1928–29 Marriage, Tunis post falls through.
Scheme for society to promote Europeanism (with Chamson, Guilloux, Halévy). Elected one of first three *pensionnaires* of the Fondation de Lourmarin Laurent-Vibert.
- 1929–30 Visits Spain with Guilloux.
Helps to launch 'Les Terrasses de Lourmarin'.
'Portrait de Mouloud' (1929).
- 1930–31 Departure for Algiers (–1938).
Teaches Camus in *classe de philosophie*.
'Cum apparuerit'; 'Sur l'Inde'; 'Childe Harold' (written December 1930).

- 1931–32 Helps to launch *Sud*.
‘Les Îles Kerguelén’, ‘Les Îles Fortunées’, ‘L’Île de Pâques’.
- 1932–33 Teaches Camus in *lettres supérieures*.
LES ÎLES. Essays in *Alger-Étudiant*.
- 1934–35 Attends AGM of ‘Les Amis d’*Esprit*’ and part of Pontigny *décade*
(August).
Prose-poems in Capasso’s *Lirica*.
- 1935–36 Speaks at Congress of Académie Méditerranéenne (November).
Completion and *soutenance* of theses on Lequier.
‘La Pensée engagée’ (*Esprit*); ‘L’Age des orthodoxies’ (*NRF*).
LEQUIER.
- 1936–37 Encourages Charlot to set up in publishing. Gives papers at Ninth
International Congress of Philosophy, and Second International
Congress of Aesthetics.
SANTA-CRUZ.
- 1937–38 Attends Pontigny *décade*. Leaves Algiers.
ESSAI SUR L’ESPRIT D’ORTHODOXIE. Essays for
Aguedal (Bosco). Plans ‘Essai sur l’idée d’Absolu’.
- 1938–40 Lycée Michelet (Vanves). Mobilized: *infirmier militaire*,
Draguignan. Then at Sisteron.
‘Lettres à Cornélius’ (1939).
- 1940–41 Montpellier.
LE CHOIX. INSPIRATIONS MÉDITERRANÉENNES
(completed 1939).
- 1941–42 Nominated to Algiers, but unable to leave France. Remains at
Sisteron.
- 1942–44 Lille, part-time and provisional post as *maître de conférences*.
Regular articles for *Comœdia*.
- 1944–45 Lille: *professeur titulaire*. Interested in ‘philosophie de
l’existence’: Wahl, Marcel etc.
Edits *L’Existence*. Takes over art criticism in *Combat*.
- 1945–50 *Détaché* at Alexandria and Cairo.
Articles for *Valeurs* (Etiemble), *Cahiers de la Pléiade*
(Paulhan).
ENTRETIENS SUR LE BON USAGE DE LA LIBERTÉ
(1948). Articles in *Empédocle*. First *Lexique*.
- 1950–51 Returns to Lille.
‘L’Humain’. *L’ESPRIT DE LA PEINTURE
CONTEMPORAINE*. Max Jacob, *Lettres à un ami*. First
fragment of *Les Grèves*.

- 1952 Jules Lequier, *Œuvres complètes*.
- 1953 First articles for *NNRF*; 'L'Époque des Sybilles', etc.
- 1954 First preface for Club Français du Livre (Dumas).
- 1955 *A PROPOS DE L'HUMAIN. LEXIQUE*. Articles for *L'Œil*, regular column in *L'Express*.
- 1956 J. Howlett, 'Une Tendre Lucidité'.
 Preface: Dostoyevsky.
 Preface: Tolstoy.
 Articles for *L'Œil*, *L'Express*.
 First part of *Les Grèves* in *NRF*.
- 1957 *L'ESPRIT DU TAO; LES GRÈVES; L'EXISTENCE MALHEUREUSE; SUR LA MORT D'UN CHIEN*. Articles for *L'Œil*, *La Nef*.
- 1958 Articles by R. Campbell, G. Picon.
 Preface: Nietzsche, Rousseau.
 Regular column in *Preuves*.
 Regular reviews of philosophy books on radio.
- 1959 *ESSAIS SUR LA PEINTURE CONTEMPORAINE*.
 New edition of *Les Îles*, with preface by Camus.
- 1960 *Preuves, XX^e siècle*.
- 1961 *ABSOLU ET CHOIX* (revised edition of *Le Choix*).
Borès. Articles in *Preuves*.
NRF: essays on Egypt.
- 1962 Appointed to Chair of Aesthetics and Science of Art, Sorbonne.
LETTRES D'ÉGYPTE.
 Preface: Camus (Pléiade, also Sauret).
 Articles in *Preuves*.
- 1963 *ENTRETIENS AVEC 17 PEINTRES NON-FIGURATIFS*.
 Final articles in *Preuves*. *NRF*: first article on creation.
- 1964 *NRF*: second article on creation. First essays for *La Vie quotidienne* (1968).
- 1965 *CÉLÉBRATION DU MIROIR; PRIÈRES*.
NRF: third article on creation.
 Introduction: Rousseau (Livre de poche).
- 1966 Series of three articles on dandies; two articles on Senancour.
- 1967 Exhibition catalogues.
- 1968 Retirement. Grand Prix National des Lettres.
LA VIE QUOTIDIENNE; SENANCOUR; ALBERT CAMUS (SOUVENIRS).
 Prefaces: Labiche, Lequier.

- 1969 *ENTRETIENS AVEC LOUIS FOUCHER. NOUVEAU LEXIQUE* (Fata Morgana).
- 1970 *ABSOLU ET CHOIX* (third, new, edition).
L'ART ET SES PROBLÈMES; MUSIC; QUATRE PRIÈRES.
 Preface: Molinos. 'Paulhan critique d'art'.
 Three articles in *Revue philosophique*.
- 1971 Death of Jean Grenier, 5 March.
MÉMOIRES INTIMES DE X.
 Two articles in *Revue philosophique*.
- 1973 *VOIR NAPLES; RÉFLEXIONS SUR QUELQUES ÉCRIVAINS.*
- 1977 Reissue of third edition of *Les Îles*.
- 1979 *JACQUES.*
- 1980 *JEAN GRENIER — GEORGES PERROS: CORRESPONDANCE 1950–1971.*
- 1981 *ALBERT CAMUS — JEAN GRENIER: CORRESPONDANCE 1932–1960.*