

years of deprivation. Of great importance is also the openly antagonistic treatment the Group receives in Parliament and in the media. The women are ridiculed as "Labudists," earning epithets ranging from "unpatriotic atheists" to "hysterical feminists." The most outspoken among them are caricatured in political cartoons and in the cabaret. More sinister, however, is the danger of silencing any "dissident" female voices within their own political parties. For example, the Liberty Union has recently suspended Barbara Labuda for six months for offending the sensibilities of other party members.

## MARIE-CLAUDE JULIEN

### Étincelle

Il est des brasiers sordides  
Aux détours de nos peurs  
Derrière chaque geste de pitié

Il est des rancoeurs incendiées  
Dans les yeux des abandonnés  
Dans chaque mort un relent de remord

Il est des rêves qui se repaissent  
De champs de blé mûr enflammés  
Aux odeurs de faibles libertés

Il est dans chaque bonheur une solitude  
Où reposent les cendres d'une guerre

Il est des éternités incandescentes  
Dans la solitude des êtres  
Des déserts immenses dans les coeurs

Il est des espaces dans le temps  
Où naissent les étincelles  
Et chacune prend l'espace qu'il lui faut

Il est des horizons dardés de lumière  
Des aurores qui embrasent l'univers  
Des nuits où s'éteignent les illusions

Il est toujours le début des cendres  
Quelque part

*Marie-Claude Julien est historienne, voyageuse, voyageuse, curieuse des gens. Elle a visité plusieurs époques et quelques pays. Elle rêve d'un monde exempt de frontières et de préjugés.*

Still, the struggle continues and Polish women are learning to challenge ideologies that tend to treat them instrumentally, whether these be state socialist, market-oriented, or nationalist-nativist. In this sense, the women's movement in Poland has made a giant step forward, from being just a reactive force during the anti-abortion campaign, to becoming a political force capable of initiating action and change.

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<sup>1</sup>By such writers as Eva Stachniak. See also Nanette Funk's response to Drakulic.

<sup>2</sup>The question of who should be learning from whom is related to the problem of inequalities existing within feminism itself. Thus we have Nanette Funk calling for western feminists to learn from the East, and now the idea of the East learning from the Third World. I wonder why it is always the ostensibly less privileged who have to be used as a resource.

<sup>3</sup>The following analysis of the activity of the Parliamentary Women's Group has been made possible thanks to the materials kindly provided by Alicja Guszpit, director of Barbara Labuda's electoral office of the Liberty Union (Unia Wolności) in Wrocław.

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