UPCOMING BOOK PRESENTATIONS AT DE VERDIEPING

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March 4, 2024 19h

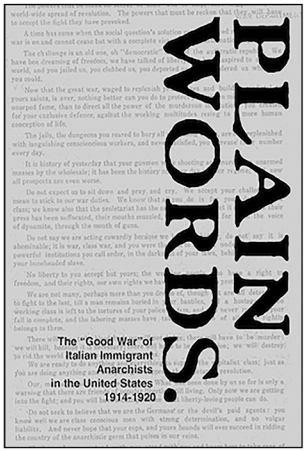
Plain Words, the "Good War" of Italian Immigrant Anarchists in the United States, 1914-1920.

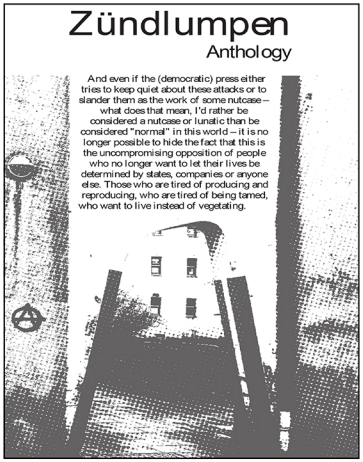
Roofdruk/Compass editions, January 2024. 336 pages.

Between 1914 and 1920, anarchists of Italian origin who had emigrated to the United States found themselves in a country openly hostile to all the exploited, in the midst of a profound capitalist and industrial restructuring, and on the verge of the outbreak of the First World War. In the thick of social war, they did not resign, nor did they settle for convenient choices: they proposed and developed an autonomous anarchism in opposition to the pragmatism of politics.

In their struggle for a full life, that was never satisfied with mere survival, they set up printing presses and distributed publications in order to shatter the ignorance and fatalism of the oppressed. They acquired weapons and attacked the leaders and structures of social pacification, militarism, capitalism and the judicial system, in order to destroy the power of the oppressors. They did both primarily through the strength of their own ideas.

Anarchist history is generally used by institutions and academics to neutralize subversive experiences, which end up being turned into anecdotes and deprived of their spark of life. In the face of such intentions it is more necessary than ever to discuss and deepen the ideas and practices of the uncompromising comrades who preceded us, to nourish the possibilities and imagination of the present.





March 8, 2024 19h

"Zündlumpen" Anthology – Presentation and discussion

From February 2019 to September 2021, "Anarchistisches Wochenblatt Zündlumpen" (TN: "Zündlumpen Anarchist Periodical") was published in Munich, Germany. It was never really clear whether Zündlumpen was more of a street paper or a discussion paper for anarchists – it included elements of both approaches. It was notorious for its combative style, and it had a certain emphasis on a radical critique of the covid measures and all of their supporters, whether they call themselves anarchist or not, and it reinforced and developed this critique over time with ever more detailed and in-depth analyses. In addition to covid, the newspaper simultaneously dealt with other topics which are, of course, inseparable: militarism and police, psychiatry, repression, technology and cybernetics, genetic engineering and transhumanism, individualism and egoism, morality and behavioral control, civilization. It explored the omnipresent question of how we as anarchists want to act and deal with each other, while continuing to welcome revolts and acts of sabotage, and engaging debates across the issues. In September 2021, Zündlumpen was then discontinued after a total of 85 issues out of concerns about repression. In fact, a preliminary investigation was opened against various people accused of publishing Zündlumpen, the outcome of which is still pending.

A selection of articles have been translated into English and compiled in an anthology, that will be presented in this evening. After that, we want to discuss with you about covid and leftism, science and technology.

De Verdieping, anarchist distro, printing and meeting place, Anna Spenglerstraat 83, Amsterdam