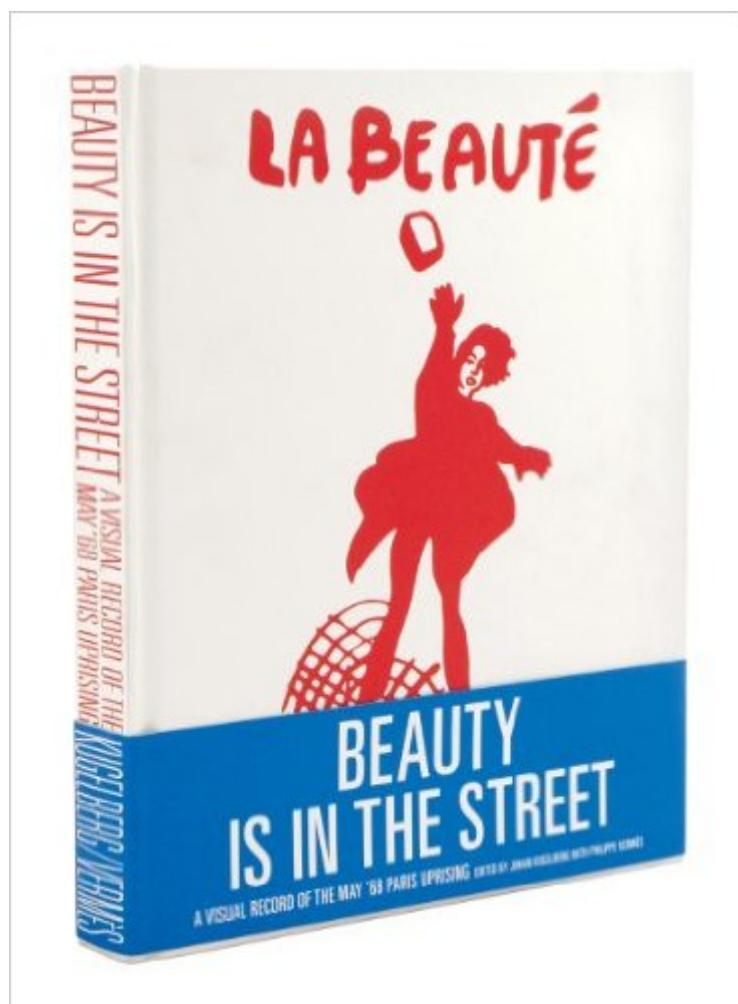


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# Beauty Is In The Street: A Visual Record Of The May '68 Paris Uprising



## Synopsis

In May 1968, thousands of workers and students took to the streets of Paris, provoking an unprecedented wave of strikes, walkouts and demonstrations. The confrontations between police and protesters led to a general strike of eleven million workers that brought the country to a virtual standstill and nearly toppled Charles de Gaulle's government. The faculty and student body of the Ecole des Beaux Arts were among the strikers, and a number of the students met spontaneously in the college's lithographic department to produce the first poster of the revolt, which bore the declaration à œUsines, UniversitÃ©s, Unionâ • (â œFactories and universities unite,â • loosely translated). From this initiative was born the Atelier Populaire (or â œpopular workshopâ •), a collective of print shops that produced hundreds of posters to encourage the protestors and to report on police brutality. These posters included many of the often Situationist-inspired mottos for which May '68 is remembered today, such as â œBe young and shut upâ • and â œreturn to normalâ • (accompanied by a picture of a herd of sheep). *Beauty Is in the Street* reproduces more than 200 of these posters in full color, which have since become landmarks in political art and graphic design. Also included is a thumbnail index of an additional 411 posters; a wealth of archival documentary photographs and new translations of firsthand accounts of the clashes between the students and strikers and the police, many published in English for the first time; and an introduction by Philippe VermÃ¨s, one of the founders of the Atelier Populaire.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 272 pages

Publisher: Four Corners Books (August 31, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0956192831

ISBN-13: 978-0956192837

Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 9 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (3 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #545,073 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #41 inÂ Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Posters #533 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Commercial > Illustration #794 inÂ Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Politics & Government > Ideologies & Doctrines > Communism & Socialism

## Customer Reviews

After seeing just a few of these online in small fuzzy format, it is a joy to finally see most of the posters and with a clarity never known before. You will want a second copy just to tear them all out and frame them all. Huge book crafted well for the size and page count.

Excellent survey of the street art that came out of the Paris strikes of 1968,

From both graphic design and historical perspectives, this is fascinating.

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