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Segal, Lynne (2014) 'A blaze of freedom' before reality bites back. In: 'A BLAZE of FREEDOM' before reality bites back. Recalling the Red Carnation Revolution, Portugal, April 25th, 1974, 15 Oct 2014, Coimbra, Portugal. (Unpublished)

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‘A BLAZE of FREEDOM’

before reality bites back

Recalling the Red Carnation Revolution,
Portugal, April 25th, 1974

Lynne Segal



Romance & Solidarity



‘the festival of the oppressed’:
Welcome to revolutionary Portugal
standard TAP air crew message



Movement of Portuguese Plastic Artists: “Art for Revolution—All Power to the Imagination!”



The Three Marias: New Portuguese Letters.

 “How can we use words to help us and talk to each other, woman to woman, and tell each other how we are still the property of men, the spoils today of warriors who pretend to be our comrades in the struggle, but who merely seek to mount us and be cavaliers of Marianas who are prisoners in other prisons and nuns in different convents, without realizing it? ”(296)

Women's Liberation March, London 1971



March, 1971



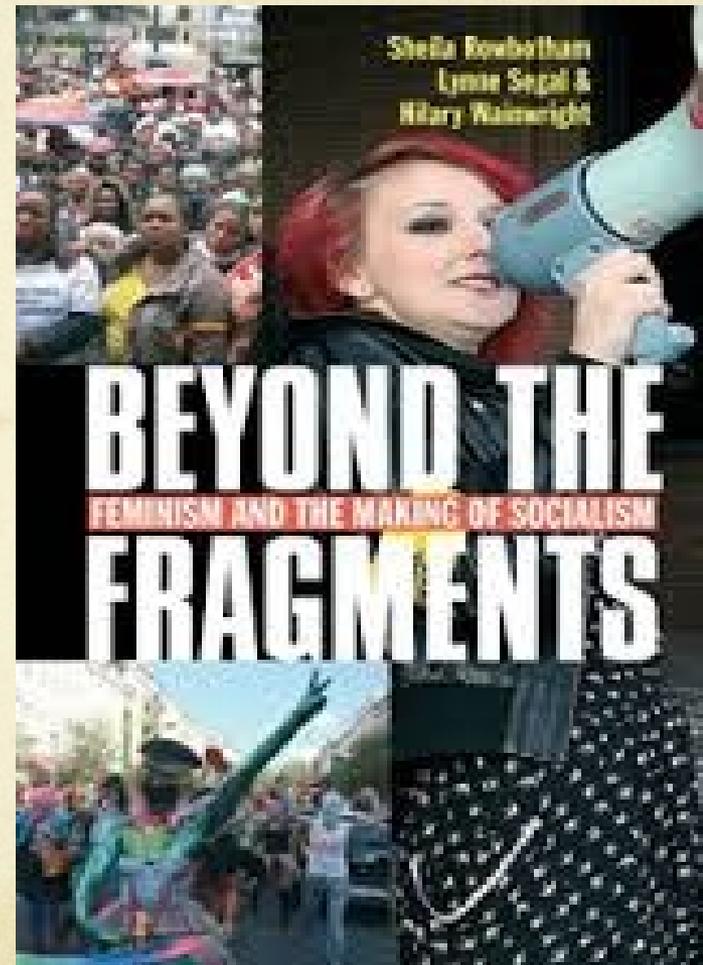
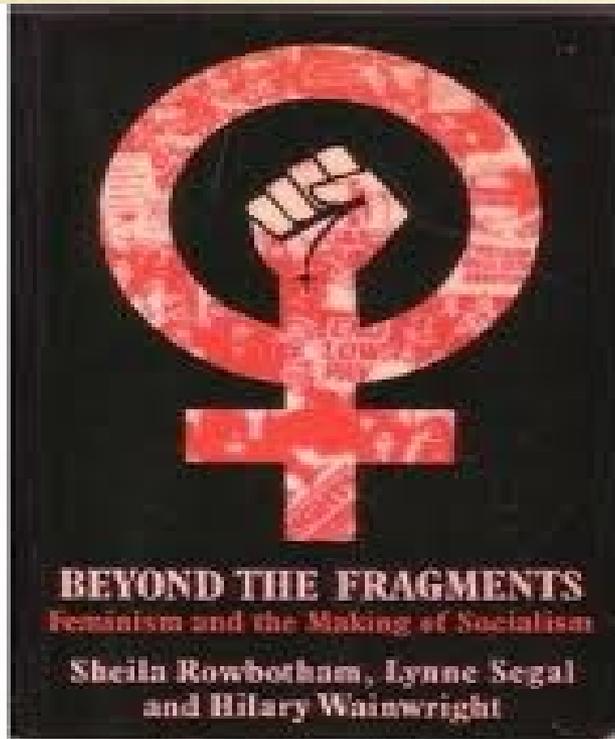
Sheila Rowbotham: “Women’s liberation brings to all of us a strength and audacity we have never before known before”



Divisions between Women



Beyond the Fragments, 1979/2013



Lisbon, 2011/2012: Largest demonstrations in 30 years, as once again public workers, policemen & military personnel joined hands against job losses & austerity budgets.



After all these years...



Stuart Hall's 80th birthday message



“Finally, for someone who is committed to political & social change, I am astonished, looking back, to find how consistent I remain. I still believe that the poor should inherit the earth, that capitalism is a barbarous way of organizing social life, that despite all its political complexities that social, sexual & racial justice is possible & worth fighting for. I think that while sometimes the situation looks extremely bleak – as it does at the moment - there are always what Raymond Williams calls ‘emergent forces and ideas’, which cannot be contained within the existing structure of settlements & compromises which constitute the dominant social order. Other wishes, desires, ideas & interests cannot be indefinitely contained. They will always break through in ways you cannot anticipate or predict.”

‘one period’s necessary strategies can mutate into the monsters of another time’ Adrienne Rich



Adrienne Rich, Midnight Salvage

it's the layers of history
we have to choose, along
with our own practice: what must be tried
again
over and over and
what must not be repeated
and at what depth which layer
will we meet others

the words barely begin
to match the desire

and the mouth crammed with dollars
doesn't testify.