

Revue André Malraux Review

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A Note from the Editors

It is a great honor and pleasure to be able to bring to our readers the first part of Walter G. Langlois' new book on André Malraux and his courageous expedition in search of the mythical kingdom of the Queen of Sheba, the Yemen saga. Professor Langlois' name will be familiar to most if not all by virtue of his eminent status as the "Doyen" of Malraux Studies in North America. The founding editor of the *Mélanges Malraux Miscellany* in 1969, now the present *Revue André Malraux Review*, Professor Langlois has written dozens of important studies on Malraux and twentieth-century French literature. His book on the Yemen saga is, as is characteristic of all of his writings, painstakingly and meticulously researched. We are delighted that Professor Langlois would agree to allow this work to be published first in the pages of the *RAMR*.

In addition, we are delighted to welcome new contributions from European scholars, with insightful essays by Abdelaziz Bennis and Marie Michèle Venturini. Professor Bennis is an active participant in the Société scientifique Amitiés Internationales André Malraux in Paris, and his new bibliographical study of Malraux scholarship will soon be published by the prestigious Minard series. We are privileged to include his elegantly written essay on the role of the "farfelu" in Malraux's early writings. Marie Michèle Venturini recently completed a doctorate on A.M. at the University of Corsica. We are pleased to be able to include her cogent analysis of the role of myths, especially in the political realm, for Malraux's life and works.

In volume 32 of the *RAMR*, we will complete the publication of Professor Langlois' *Malraux and Corniglion-Molinier in Search of Sheba: An Arabian Adventure (Yemen 1934)*. We are also anxious to hear from new (or previous) contributors who have research that they would like to bring to the public. French studies have changed in many exciting ways in North America during the past decade or so. The entire Francophone literary and cultural scene now beckons French

scholars, and this, along with new interdisciplinary approaches, has been an essential and necessary change for the better in the profession. Nonetheless, we note with some sadness the apparent waning interest in the more traditional single-author studies. Doctoral dissertations on André Malraux appear to be on the decline in North America, and, consequently, there may be fewer scholars publishing on him in the near future. We have noted this phenomenon by the decline in submissions to the *RAMR* by North American scholars. To end on a happier note, European scholars are still plowing fertile ground in Malraux studies, and the myriad of conferences and other gatherings devoted to A.M. during the past several years bodes well for the future.

Karen D. Levy
John B. Romeiser
January 2004

