

30. november 1938 til tidlig 1940, del 1

FAKTA

Dato:
30. november 1938 til tidlig 1940, del
1

Sidetæl:
p. 73-77

Dagbogens placering:
SMK

Ophavsperson/nøgleperson:
Ernest Mancoba

Generelle kommentarer:
Transskriptionsregler:
Stavefejl bevares, efterfulgt af
korrektion som [sic: korrekt
stavemåde]
Nødvendige indsættelser af
manglende tegnsætning tilføjet som
[.]
Nødvendig opdeling af afsnit som [/P]
Utydelige ord angivet med [illegible]
Strøgne bogstaver og ord er ikke
transskriberet translated 2025-02-06

Omtalte personer:
Lippy Lipshitz
Christian Poulsen
Auguste Rodin

RESUMÉ

Denne Mancoba-dagbog dækker Mancobas første måneder i Paris. Han er indskrevet på L'École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs i Rue d'Ulm. Han har fået venner med den danske keramiker Christian Poulsen, som han forkorter til "Xtian", samt forskellige andre studerende, som han forskellige steder identificerer som "Pultzer/Pulzer/Bulzer", "den algeriske", "Chargo/Chago" og "Roser" (blandt andre). Han har et besøg med en sydafrikaner identificeret som "Mall". Dagbogen slutter sandsynligvis i slutningen af december 1938 eller januar 1939. translated 2025-02-06

TRANSSKRIFTION

30 Nov –

The students talk about the 'grève' [sic: strike]¹ and not seriously – laugh about as if nothing –

I get again 12 Marks for my work [.] I am disgusted it is not good and blue streaks on it [.] Paul does something to it [.] I stop him – The Egyptian is fussy – he gets 14 pts [sic: points] – I can't stand him – He is an ox – Xtian [Christian Poulsen] is a [illegible] potter [.] no artist²–

In the afternoon we go to the drawing school at ----- [.] We find a woman posing [.] she is beautiful in the European way, lips red hair black – She has a beautiful body and I am thrilled [.] I draw as if possessed – It must be a strain to pose [.] she looks at the people as if to despise them [.] her personality dominates – & I [illegible] [.] I respect her and feel she is more human than them all – pretty girls [.] old men – young men and chinese [sic: Chinese] [.] She looks at me and I wonder what she is thinking – The studio is warm [.] there is a stove to warm her – I wonder what they would think in South Africa – a white woman exposing herself to the view of niggers and chinese [sic: Chinese] etc etc [.] the Dutch reformed Ch [sic: Dutch Reformed Church] would have something to say no doubt. A man looks at me and wonder if he is not a Nazi – I wonder if the other women do not envy her for her beauty [.] but they have money, position etc etc – She rests for some [illegible] & Algerian –

[/P] Xtian [Christian Poulsen] and I go to Le Dome for cigs [sic: cigarettes] – I am happy to be in their company [.] I like the Algerian [.] short fellow – He says one must teach oneself to be an artist [.] I wish I were a Frenchman & he [.] free – I think of the letter from Jones & I am unhappy – I walk as if I were French –

Return to find model talking to a young man & I feel the model will take her place one day beside Greta Garbo³ [,] it will be great to speak to her – She has been despised but she will take her place one day – She poses again & we are intent drawing & drawing –

Woman beside me works hard & man only left clever but limited by tradition – ([illegible] shows another room) – Another model [,] short & energetic [,] Short poses and it is wonderful how long she stands – humorous [,] smiles at the painted girl who smiles back in condescending fashion – Old man shouts “Change” after every 5 minutes [,] Xtian [Christian Poulsen] goes to next room – He likes long poses –

The room has a few paintings on the walls, a plaster male figure in plaster showing muscles –

At 7 [sic: 7 o'clock] we go away & pay – Xtian [Christian Poulsen] goes to search for [illegible name] – They eat together –

After supper I go to look for Russo Rosso [,] Bd Edgar Quintet [sic: Boulevard Edgar Quinet], I find him eating his supper [illegible] Studio – For the first time I feel I am face to face with a great artist – He reads Lippy [Lippy Lipshitz] letter & apologises for eating alone – He laughs says still the same old Lippy – asks about CapeTown – Produces a book [,] English [,] & says he has begun to learn English – I show him a few things & he laughs when he read correctly – we go to Le Dome [sic: Le Dôme café] & the artists stand in a corner & shows me to other [,] they are good fellows [,] most grey haired energetic fellows – They talk and a group walks through [illegible] & points at one or the other & they laugh. Rosso asks if Lippy is married – We take coffee & go down Bd Monparnasse [sic: Boulevard Montparnasse] talking [,] He tells me he has been 30 years in Paris [,] Le Dome [sic: Le Le Dôme] used to be the home of the artist but now too many Bourgeois Select & () & ----- were little place in those days when Lippy was there [,]

[/P] We part company [,] I am V [sic: very] happy [,] I go to Select & meet Xtian [Christian Poulsen] with Pelzie & white Danes – We sit & talk & go at 11. Pelzie was in Spain at the beginning of the Revolution⁴ & discuss the possibilities of the Strike tomorrow & I feel Daladier [Prime Minister of France, Édouard Daladier⁵] – might go & if not [,] a dictatorship in France.

[note in margin:] Read English papers Daily Mail [newspaper] Continental

I go to school and soldiers (Garde Mobile) at every street corner – At Prefecture [,] armed soldiers as I pass – I don't know what to feel – At school all is normal – the buses are running and no indications of grève [French: strike] – Make a Grecian decoration [,] a skull [illegible] & fellows think it is foolish –

Dinner & I go with Xtian [Christian Poulsen] & buys potatoes & does not go back to school

Afternoon I work on relief & Algerian makes a bust of me – afterwards we go to Cafoulade & have a wine - & then to his rooms [,] he is friendly – He shows me his work and copies of Rodin [Auguste Rodin]⁶ & Maillol [Aristide Maillol]⁷ – He draws & paints & go home & eat – No excitement

[/P] People buy the papers & I speak for the first time with man reading an English book – been to Cambridge – thinks the English student practical but agrees not logical – good fellows –

Meet Chago⁸ – Sad his brother dead – we look for paper - & back to bed – He speaks little & say 15yrs [sic: 15 years] ago he saw his mother

OVERSÆTTELSE

30 Nov –

Studerende taler om 'grève' [sic: strejke]¹ og ikke seriøst – griner som om intet –

Jeg får igen 12 karakterer for mit arbejde [,] Jeg er disgusted, det er ikke godt og har blå striber på [,] Paul gør noget ved det [,] jeg stopper ham – Den egyptiske er kræsen – han får 14 pts [sic: point] – Jeg kan ikke holde ham ud – Han er en okse – Xtian [Christian Poulsen] er en [ulæselig] pottemager [,] ingen kunstner²–

Om eftermiddagen går vi til tegneskolen på ---- [,] Vi finder en kvinde, der poser [,] hun er smuk på den europæiske måde, læber røde hår sorte – Hun har en smuk krop, og jeg er begejstret [,] Jeg tegner, som om jeg var besat – Det må være en belastning at posere [,] hun ser på folk, som om hun foragter dem [,] hendes personlighed dominerer - & jeg [ulæselig] [,] Jeg respekterer hende og føler, at hun er mere menneskelig end dem alle – smukke piger [,] gamle mænd – unge mænd og kinesere [sic: kinesere] [,] Hun ser på mig, og jeg undrer mig over, hvad hun tænker – Studiet er

varmt [,] der er en ovn til at varme hende – Jeg spekulerer på, hvad de ville tænke i Sydafrika – en hvid kvinde, der udsætter sig for niggeres og kineseres [sic: kinesere] udsigt osv. osv. [,] den nederlandske reformerede kirke [sic: den nederlandske reformerte kirke] ville uden tvivl have noget at sige. En mand ser på mig, og jeg undrer mig over, om han ikke er nazist – Jeg undrer mig over, om de andre kvinder ikke misunder hende for hendes skønhed [,] men de har penge, position osv. osv. – Hun hviler for nogle [ulæselig] & algerier –

[/P] Xtian [Christian Poulsen] og jeg går til Le Dome for cigaretter [sic: cigaretter] – Jeg er glad for at være i deres selskab [,] Jeg kan lide algerieren [,] den korte fyr – Han siger, man må lære sig selv at være kunstner [,] Jeg ville ønske, jeg var franskmand & han [,] fri – Jeg tænker på brevet fra Jones, og jeg er ulykkelig – Jeg går, som om jeg var fransk –

Jeg vender tilbage for at finde modellen, der taler med en ung mand, og jeg føler, at modellen en dag vil tage hendes plads ved siden af Greta Garbo³ [,] det vil være fantastisk at tale med hende – Hun er blevet foragtet, men hun vil tage sin plads en dag – Hun poserer igen, og vi er opslugt af at tegne og tegne –

Kvinden ved siden af mig arbejder hårdt, og manden til venstre er kun klog, men begrænset af tradition – ([ulæselig] viser et andet rum) – En anden model [,] kort og energisk [,] Korte poser, og det er vidunderligt, hvor længe hun står – humoristisk [,] smiler til den maledede pige, der smiler tilbage på en nedladende måde – Den gamle mand råber "Skift" efter hver 5 minut [,] Xtian [Christian Poulsen] går til næste rum – Han kan lide lange poser –

Rummet har et par malerier på væggene, en gips mandlig figur i gips, der viser muskler –

Kl. 7 [sic: 7 o'clock] går vi væk og betaler – Xtian [Christian Poulsen] går for at lede efter [ulæseligt navn] – De spiser sammen –

Efter middagen går jeg for at lede efter Russo Rosso [,] Bd Edgar Quintet [sic: Boulevard Edgar Quinet], jeg finder ham, der spiser sin middag [ulæseligt] studio – For første gang føler jeg, at jeg står ansigt til ansigt med en stor kunstner – Han læser Lippy [Lippy Lipshitz] brev og undskylder for at spise alene – Han griner og siger stadig den samme gamle Lippy – spørger om Cape Town – Frembringer en bog [,] engelsk [,] og siger, at han er begyndt at lære engelsk – Jeg viser ham et par ting, og

han griner, når han læser korrekt – vi går til Le Dome [sic: Le Dôme café], og kunstnerne står i et hjørne og viser mig til de andre [.] De er gode fyre [.] de fleste gråhårede energiske fyre – De snakker, og en gruppe går forbi [ulæselig] og peger på den ene eller den anden, og de griner. Rosso spørger, om Lippy er gift – Vi tager kaffe og går ned ad Bd Monparnasse [sic: Boulevard Monparnasse] og snakker [.] Han fortæller mig, at han har været 30 år i Paris [.] Le Dome [sic: Le Le Dôme] plejede at være kunstnernes hjem, men nu er der for mange bourgeois selektierer & () & ----- . var lille sted i de dage, da Lippy var der [.]

[/P] Vi skilles [.] jeg er V [sic: meget] glad [.] jeg går til Select og møder Xtian [Christian Poulsen] med Pelzie og hvide danskere – Vi sidder og taler og går kl. 11. Pelzie var i Spanien i begyndelsen af revolutionen⁴ & diskuterer mulighederne for strejken i morgen, og jeg føler, at Daladier [Frankrigs premierminister, Édouard Daladier⁵] – måske vil gå, og hvis ikke [.] en diktatur i Frankrig.

[note i margen:] Læs engelske aviser Daily Mail [avis] Continental

Jeg går i skole, og soldater (Garde Mobile) er ved hvert gadehjørne – Ved Prefecture [.] bevæbnede soldater, som jeg passerer – Jeg ved ikke, hvad jeg skal føle – I skolen er alt normalt – busserne kører, og der er ingen indikationer på grève [fransk: strejke] – Lav en græsk dekoration [.] et kranium [ulæselig], og fyrene synes, det er tåbeligt –

Middag, og jeg går med Xtian [Christian Poulsen] og køber kartofler og går ikke tilbage til skolen

Om eftermiddagen arbejder jeg på relief, og algerieren laver et byste af mig – bagefter går vi til Cafoulade og får en vin - & så til hans værelser [.] han er venlig – Han viser mig sit arbejde og kopier af Rodin [Auguste Rodin]⁶ & Maillol [Aristide Maillol]⁷ – Han tegner og maler og går hjem og spiser – Ingen spænding

[/P] Folk køber aviserne, og jeg taler for første gang med en mand, der læser en engelsk bog – været i Cambridge – mener, at den engelske studerende er praktisk, men er enig i, at han ikke er logisk – gode fyre –

Møder Chago⁸ – Trist, hans bror død – vi leder efter papir - & tilbage til sengs – Han taler lidt og siger, at han for 15 år siden [sic: 15 år] så sin mor

¹ W. Sze: On 30 November 1938, a general strike was called by the French Communist party to protest against government policy

² W.Sze: Christian Poulsen (1911-1991, Denmark), ceramicist. He met Mancoba at L'École Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs (Paris) where they were both studying.

³ W. Sze: Greta Garbo (1905-1990, Sweden/New York), actress

⁴ W. Sze: Spanish Revolution of 1936

⁵ W. Sze: Édouard Daladier, Prime Minister of France from 1933 to 1934 and from 1938 to 1940

⁶ W. Sze: Auguste Rodin (1840-1917, France), artist

⁷ W. Sze: Aristide Maillol (1861-1944, France), artist

⁸ W.Sze: through the diary, Mancoba refers to this person alternatively as Chago and Chargo

30 Nov.

The students talk about the 'Gæve'
and not seriously - laugh about
as if nothing -

I get again 12 marks for my
work I am disgusted it is not
good and blue streaks on it
Paul does something to it I stop
him - The Egyptian is fussy -

He gets 14 pts - I can't stand
him - He is an ox - Klean is a
men potter no artist -

In the afternoon we go to
the drawing school at - - -

We find a woman posing she is
beautiful & the European say lips
red hair black - She has a
beautiful body and I am thrilled
I draw as if possessed - It must
be a strain to pose she looks
at the people as if to despise them
her personality dominates - & I grudge
I respect her and feel she is more
human than all - pretty girls
old men - young men and children
She looks at me and I wonder

what she is thinking - The studio
in Paris there is a stove for warm
her - I wonder what they would
think in South Africa - a white
woman exposing herself to the view
of negroes and Chinese etc etc
The British refused it would have
something to say no doubt. A man
looks at me and wonder if he
is not a Nigger - I wonder if the
other bones do not say that
for her beauty but they have
money, position etc etc - She
change, nests for some months +
Algiers - Ch. Khan and I go to
Le Douar for Ags - I am happy
to be in their company like the Algerian
Arab fellows - He says we must
teach myself to be an artist
I wish I were a Frenchman she
free - I think of the letter from
Joan + I am unhappy - I walk as
if I were French.
Return + find model sitting to a
young man + feel the model will
take her place one day beside

Grete Sarto it will be great to speak
to her - She has been despised but
she will take her place one day -
She poses again & we are intent
drawing & drawing -

Rona sends the books hard & na-
mely left, clever but limited by
tradition - (Africa has another volume) -

Another model short & energetic
short poses and it is hard to get her
long she stands - humorous. Smiles
at the painted girl who smile back
in undecadent fashion - Old man
shouts "change" after every 5 minutes
Alpha goes to next room - He likes
long poses -

The room has a few paintings on the
wall, a plaster male figure & plaster
showy muscles -

At 4 we go away again - The
rehe goes to search for Poutyke - They
eat together -

After supper I go to look for Rocio
Roni. But Sagar Quintet, I find he
early he is in his studio - For the
first time I feel I am face to face with

a great artist. He reads Lipp's letter +
apologise for caty alone. He laughs
says shall the same old Lipp - Asks
about Capetan - Produces a book
right + says he has begun to learn
English - Shows him a few things
+ he laughs when he read something
he goes + down + the artists stand
a corner + shows me to the the are
good fellows most grey haired dejected
fellows - they talk and a girl looks
through the door + points out one or
the other + the laugh - Ross asks
if Lipp is married - we take coffee
+ go down Bd Morpanani talks
he tells me he has been 30 years artist
he has used to be the home of the
artist but now too many bourgeois
select + - here little
place. How days when Lipp boy
there he part of my I am happy
I go to select + meet + have with
Pelye saw the Dang - we sit +
talk + go at 11. Pelly boy
Spier at the begin of the night +
discuss the possibilities of the future

Read.
English
Papers.
Daily Mail
Continued

Knows & feel Dadaism might go
+ if not a dictatorship - France -
I go to school and soldiers (Garde
Mobile) at every street corner - at
Prefecture armed soldiers as I pass - I don't
know what to feel - at school all
is normal - the buses are running and
no indication of war - Make of Greek
decoration a small fellow thinks it is
foolish -

1938
1923
1918

Dinner + I go with Khan & buy potatoes
+ do not go back to school

Afternoon work on relief + Helgevan makes
a bust of me - afterwards we go to Capoulade
I had a wine + the room he is
friendly - He shows me his work and
copies of Rodin + Maillol - He draws
+ paints + go home + eat - No exhibit
people by the papers & I speak for the
first time with him reading an
English book - been to Cambridge - thinks
the English student practical but agrees
not logical - good fellows -

meet Chagall - said he wrote the dead
we work for paper - at back to
bed - He speaks little + say 15400
copy to see his brother