



Fonds Eperor

Humans & Horses: a community of destiny

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With the support of the IFCE and the Fonds EPERON

Horse's historiography

- Horse's history is inscribed in cultural history and techniques history
- Horses are studied as elements of culture and not as cultural agents
- Recently a zoocentric history has started emerging
- From 1960 to 2015, historians lost interest in work's history
- >> Therefore, we note that sociohistoric studies on labor between humans and animals / horses have not been considered so far

The functions of the horse

• The manifest and agentive functions of the horses



















Some historical testimonials









The functions of the horse

• The horse's symbolics functions













• The latent function of distinction













Common living and working conditions

Peoples riders and squires societies





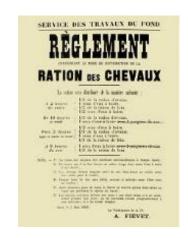




• XIXth century: horse's democratization and proletarianization











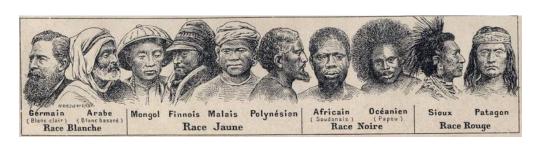
A community of destiny?

• XIXth century: animal cause and *distinction*















Relationships of life and work between humans and horses today

• XXth century: a baroque, hedonistic and sentimental equestrian culture



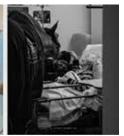












New way of life, new representations











Tomorrow?

• Banning?











• Reinstatement?









To conclude

• Horses are indeed agents who participated in the construction of our cultures and of wich they are also the representatives. Animal work is a social fact and in that it is inseparable from other social facts.

• Hence the interest of making a history of working relationships between humans and animals / horses. A history not anthropocentric or zoocentric but in equal parts.

• « To be interested in horse is to be interested in human [...] Pull the end of the wool beyond, it is all the pull-over that comes. Pull the horse, it is all the man who is unpicked » Jean Louis Gouraud

Thank you for your attention

