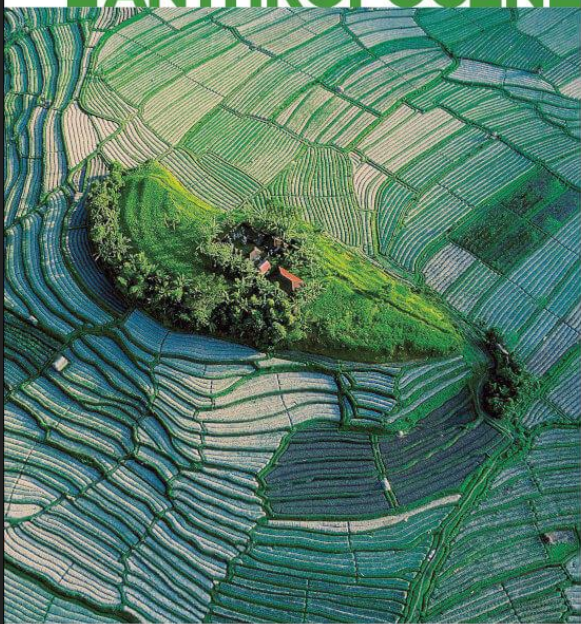


Le spectacle de
l'anthropocène :
Leçons de ténèbres
de Werner Herzog et
Collective narratives
de Tanja Deman



A FILM BY WERNER HERZOG
LESSONS OF DARKNESS

DICTIONNAIRE
CRITIQUE DE
L'ANTHROPOCÈNE



CNRS EDITIONS

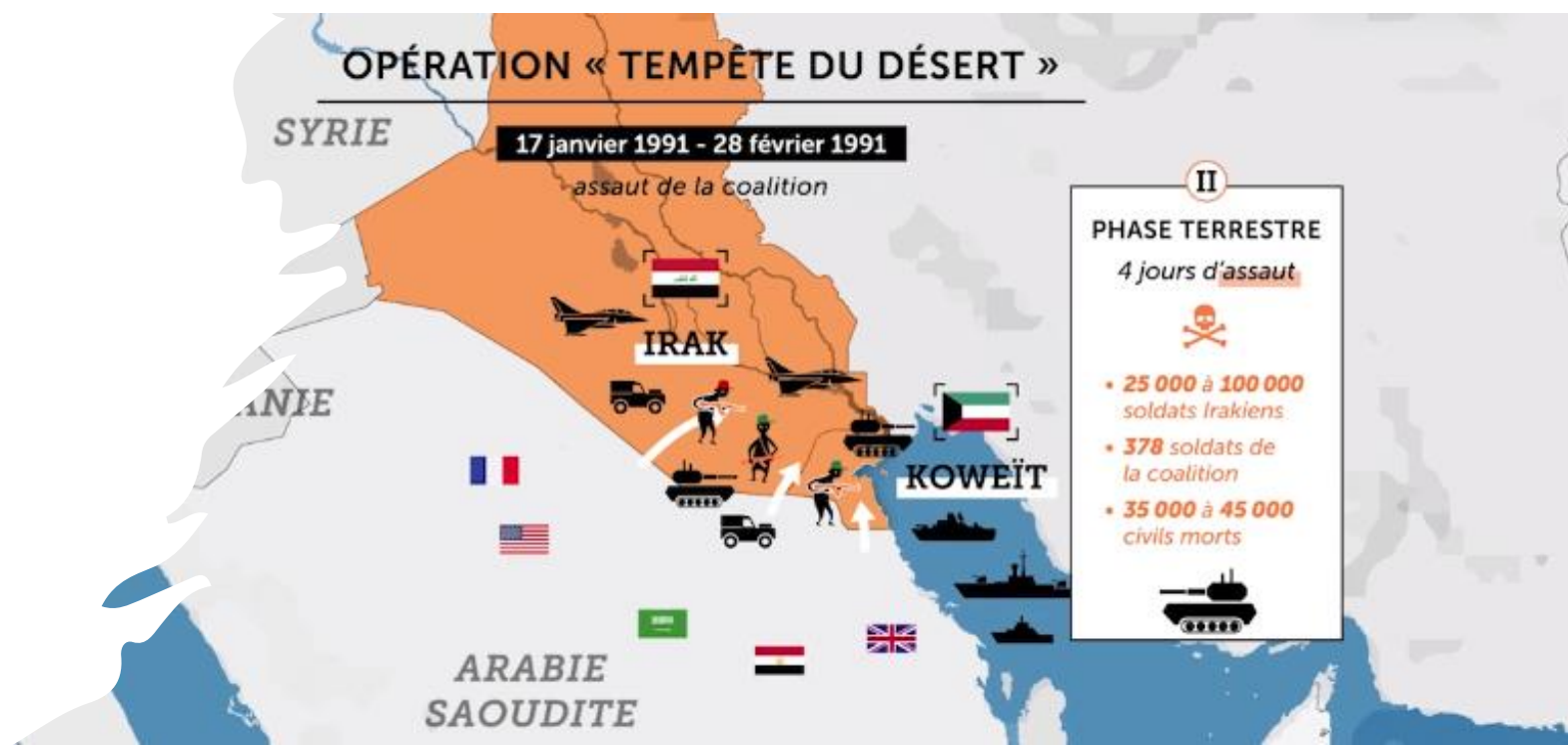
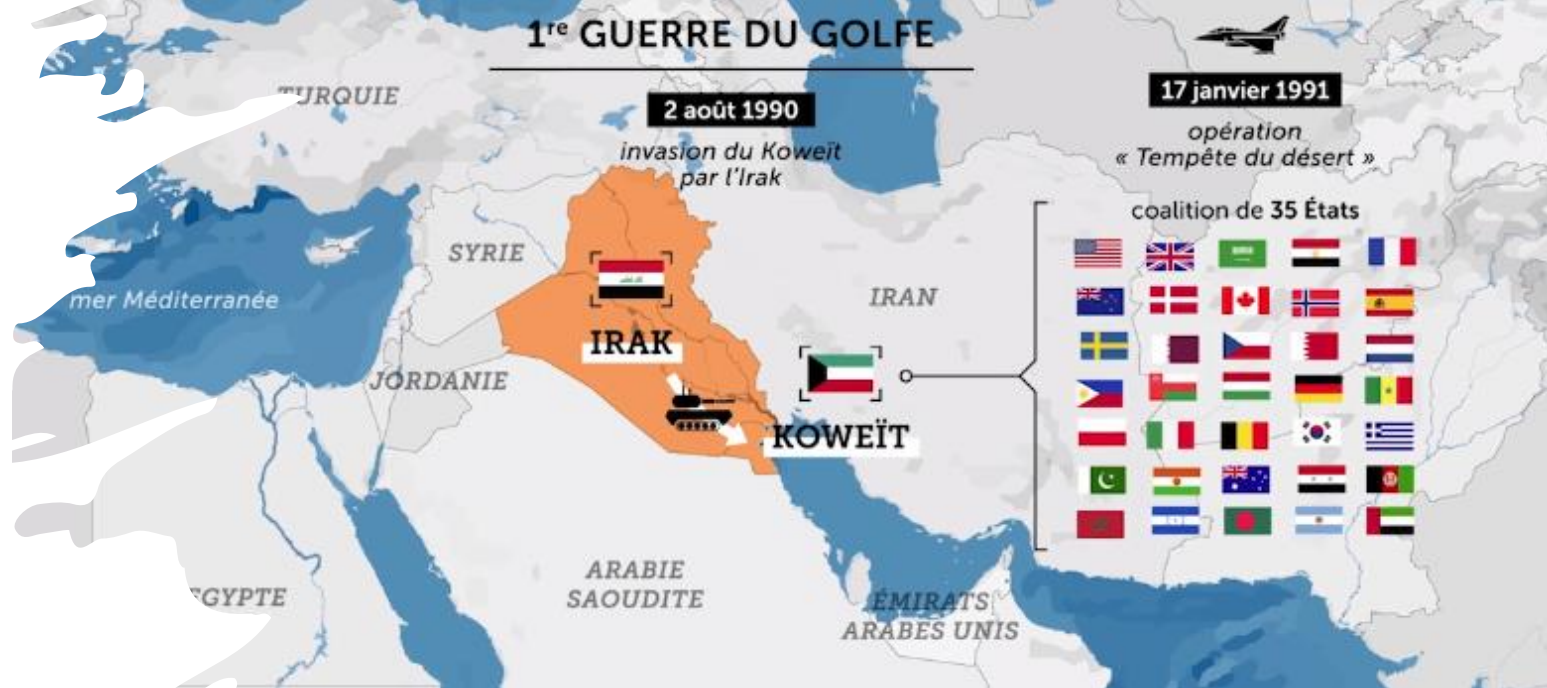
**Une notion pour
comprendre la
crise
environnementale
: l'anthropocène.**





- *Leçons de ténèbres* de Werner Herzog : Dénoncer les conséquences écologiques de la première guerre du Golfe.

La première guerre du Golfe (1990-1991)



Le « regard étranger » comme moyen de dénoncer l'absurdité des actions humaines



« A planet in our solar system. White mountain ranges, clouds, a land shrouded in mist. The first creature we encountered tried to communicate something to us. »



« Are they going to rekindle the blaze ? Has life without fire become unbearable for them ? »

**Une profonde
ambiguïté :
Esthétisation ou
dénonciation du
désastre?**





« This was once a forest, before it was covered with oil. Everything that looks like water is in reality oil. Ponds and lakes are spread out all over the land. The oil is treacherous because it reflects the sky. The oil is trying to disguise itself as water.

This lake here aswell, like everything else, is blank oil. »

INTRODUCTION [*Das rheingold* (overture) – Richard Wagner]

I. A CAPITAL CITY [*Peer gynt, Death of Aase* (Suite n°1, Op. 46) – Edvard Grieg]

II. THE WAR [Ibid.]

III. AFTER THE BATTLE [*Parsifal* (overture) – Richard Wagner]

IV. FINDS FROM THE TORTURE CHAMBERS [Sonata for two violins, op. 56 – Sergei Prokofiev]

V. SATAN'S NATIONAL PARK [*Stabat Mater* – Arvo Pärt]

VI. CHILDHOOD [...]

VII. AND A SMOKE AROSE LIKE A SMOKE FROM A FURNACE [*Götterdämmerung* (Siegfried's death and funeral march) – Richard Wagner]

VIII. A PILGRIMAGE [...]

IX. DINAUSORS ON THE GO [*Messa de Requiem (Recordare)* – Verdi]

X. PROTUBERANCES [...]

XI. THE DRYING UP OF THE SOURCE [*Notturmo* op. 148 – Schubert]

XII. LIFE WITHOUT FIRE [Symphony n°2 « Resurrection » - Gustav Malher]

I AM SO TIRED OF SIGHING ; LORD, LET IT BE NIGHT [Ibid.]



Extrait de la série *Collective narratives* (2013) de Tanja Deman

INTRODUCTION [*Das rheingold (overture)* – Richard Wagner]

- A planet in our solar system. White mountain ranges, clouds, a land shrouded in mist. The first creature we encountered tried to communicate something to us.

I. A CAPITAL CITY [*Peer gynt, Death of Aase (Suite n°1, Op. 46)* – Edvard Grieg]

- Something is looming over this city. This city that will soon be laid waste by war. Now it is still alive biding its time. Nobody has yet come to suspect the impending doom.

II. THE WAR [Ibid.]

- The war lasted only a few hours. Afterwards, everything was different.

III. AFTER THE BATTLE [*Parsifal (overture)* – Richard Wagner]

- All we could find were traces. Had human being actually lived here ? Had there ever been a city ? The battle had raged so ferociously that afterwards grass would never grow here again.

IV. FINDS FROM THE TORTURE CHAMBERS [Sonata for two violins, op. 56 – Sergei Prokofiev]

- We met a women who wanted to tell us something. She had been dragged away by soldiers along with her two grown sons and her to watch her sons being tortured to death before her very eyes. This caused her to lose her speech, but she still tried to tell us what had happened.

V. SATAN'S NATIONAL PARK [*Stabat Mater* – Arvo Pärt]

- This was once a forest, before it was covered with oil. Everything that looks like water is in reality oil. Ponds and lakes are spread out all over the land. The oil is treacherous because it reflects the sky. The oil is trying to disguise itself as water.

- This lake here as well, like everything else, is blank oil.

- « And there were voices and thunders and lightnings. And there was a great earthquake such was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake and so great. And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And every island fled away, and the mountains were not found. » [Apocalypse selon Saint-Jean]

VI. CHILDHOOD

- Even the tears were black. When my child wept his tears were black. When his nose ran, it ran black. Even the spit in his mouth was black.

- The soldiers came at night while the children were sleeping. They drag this one here out of bed and one of the soldiers trampled one the child's head with his heavy boot and then pressed all his weight down on it. They held on to my husband and me and threatened us with their rifles. I said « please, take your boot away you're crushing his head ». Look at this little fellow, he hasn't spoke a word since. It was terrible for me. And then they shot my husband. That was a year ago. The boy used to be able to talk, but now he says nothing more. Only once, he said « Mama, I don't ever want to learn how to talk ».

VII. AND A SMOKE AROSE LIKE A SMOKE FROM A FURNACE [*Götterdämmerung (Siegfried's death and funeral march)* – Richard Wagner]

- « And the fifth angel sounded. And I saw a star fall from the heaven onto the earth. And to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. And he opened the bottomless pit, and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as a smoke from a great furnace. And the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke. And in those days shall men seek death and shall not find it and shall desire to die and death shall flee from them ». [Apocalypse selon Saint-Jean]

VIII. A PILGRIMAGE [...]

IX. DINOSAURS ON THE GO [*Messa de Requiem (Recordare)* – Verdi]

X. PROTUBERANCES [...]

XI. THE DRYING UP OF THE SOURCE [*Notturmo op. 148* – Schubert]

XII. LIFE WITHOUT FIRE [Symphony n°2 « Resurrection » - Gustav Mahler]

- Two figures are approaching an oil well. One of them holds a lighted torch. What are they up to ? Are they going to rekindle the blaze ? Has life without fire become unbearable for them ? Others, seized by madness, follow suit. Now they are content. Now they have something to extinguish again.

I AM SO TIRED OF SIGHING ; LORD, LET IT BE NIGHT [Ibid.]