

CLASS WARGAMES

SPRING OFFENSIVE

Wargames are a continuation of politics by other means.

As winter drew in, we returned to our homes to plan our strategy for the forthcoming year. Despite entering the field late in 2007, **Class Wargames** achieved a decisive victory at the **London Games Festival Fringe** in October. Having mapped out the territory, the first goal of our spring offensive was to advance into the world of Art. The month of March had hardly drawn to a close when we'd successfully infiltrated the **Institute of Psychoplasmics** at the Pump House Gallery in Battersea Park.

Having recruited our avant-garde artists, **Class Wargames** switched flanks by fielding our pieces at **Salute '08**, located in London's Docklands. We welcomed hardened wargamers to our ranks. We know that their contribution will prove decisive in the struggles to come.

However our Trained Bands would not be worthy of the name unless committed political agitators rally to our blood-red banner. To complete our mission, **Class Wargames** will liberate Red Lion Square *by any means necessary*. Here was where the revolutionary Left routed the NF fascists in 1974. Here the social turmoil of the May events is being brought to life at the **1968 and All That** conference and book fair.

Our Summer Campaign will consolidate these startling gains, bringing together artists, wargamers and political activists through regular club nights at the **Flea Pit**, on the outskirts of Shoreditch. This venue offers a variety of organic food with a licensed bar. As well as playing Guy Debord's *The Game of War* and Copplestone Castings' *Back of Beyond* with our recruits, **Class Wargames** will experiment with both figurine and board games that lay bear the sinews of our class oppression.

Ludic Labour!

La Semaine Sanglante



Place Blanche defended by the Communard Women's Battalion

Summer Campaign

The Flea Pit

Club nights on the 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:30pm till 11:00 pm:

- 20th May
- 17th June
- 22nd July
- 19th August
- 16th September

49 Columbia Road
London
E2 7RG

www.thefleapit.com

The Players

Dr. Richard Barbrook

University of Westminster

Izzy Black

Waterman's Art Gallery

Lucy Blake

Software Developer

Mark Copplestone

Copplestone Castings

Rod Dickinson

Artist

Fabian Tompsett

Class War 1985

Alex Veness

University of the Arts

The Game of War

Guy Debord and Alice Becker-Ho's book & game is available from:

Housemans Books

Stall in the main hall

or

Atlas Press

27 Old Gloucester Street
LONDON WC1N 3XX
www.atlaspress.co.uk

CLASS WARGAMES

PRESENT

GUY DEBORD'S THE GAME OF WAR

Karl Marx remarks somewhere that the great events of revolutionary history occur twice: the first time as fighting in the streets and fields; the second as tabletop encounters.

Class Wargames are playing Guy Debord's *The Game of War* using a replica of his original 1977 design for the board game.

Guy Debord is celebrated as the leader of the **Situationist International** and author of the searing critique of the media-saturated society of consumer capitalism: *The Society of the Spectacle*. What is much less well known is that after the May '68 Revolution, Debord devoted much of the rest of his life to inventing, refining and promoting what he came to regard as his most important project: *The Game of War*.

Politics is a continuation of war by other means.

The Game of War is a Clausewitz simulator: a Napoleonic-era military strategy game where armies must maintain their communications structure to survive - and where victory is achieved by smashing your opponent's supply network rather than by taking their pieces.

For Debord, *The Game of War* wasn't just a game - it was a guide to how people should live their lives within Fordist society. By playing this Clausewitz simulator, revolutionary activists could learn how to fight and win against the oppressors of spectacular society.

The 1789 French Revolution brought great changes in the art of war. Similarly, the establishment of spectacular domination has radically altered the art of government.

Meet the Players!
Situationism in England: from King Mob Echo to Class Wargames
Tower Room 2 at 2.00pm

PLUS:

Copplestone Castings'

BACK OF BEYOND



**Somewhere in Siberia
Summer 1919**

Led by Leon Trotsky, red infantry, sailors and partisans are advancing along the Trans-Siberian railway. Units of Admiral Kolchak's White Russian army and the Czech Legion decide to make a stand at a straggling trackside village.

A simple clash of ideologies? You might think so, but look more closely at the two forces and you'll see in microcosm all the political confusion that divided Russia during its civil war.

www.copplestonecastings.co.uk