Archives Digitised Collections

Creator(s)
Greer, Germaine (1939-)

Title
Soul - Intellectual Capacity

Date
1968-1970

Description
item: 2014.0039.0147

Terms and Conditions
Copyright owned by University of Melbourne. For information about ordering a copy of this image contact the University of Melbourne Archives: archives@archives.unimelb.edu.au

Preferred Citation
University of Melbourne Archives, Greer, Germaine (1939-), Soul - Intellectual Capacity, 2014.0039.0147
Without pleasure in that which has been undertaken in good earnest—without devotion to a satisfaction with triumph with it—nothing great was ever yet accomplished. What else is the pulse of their life? Inspiration is the electric shock which runs through the chains of existence, and is obeyed, though it is obeyed by men.

"Only by men?" interrupted Faustina; "and the prophets of the Hebrews and Roman nations who languished at death, and the priestesses of the German tribes, and the heroines of Sardis?

"I except the mere impulse when a woman's heart is touched, when it is moved by love—be it for an individual, for her country, or for her God—then the electric spark is communicated and the fire of inspiration flares up. But even then, a woman desires no more than to suffer and die for what she loves. No woman was ever
excited to the creating controlling world. Lifting
point—no, never: that is by inspiration. By
bistineque, by caprice—likely enough: she amuses
herself with these occasionally. But it never yet
entered the mind of a woman to make her overtly mental,
like Petrarch's Laura and Dante's Beatrice. They do
not even master art—much less conquer science.
That woman remains to be born, who is capable of
interesting herself in an abstract idea, to the
extent of enduring chains and torture, for its' sake, like
Galileo with his "Fuerzi minor."
We cannot
so much as form a notion of a female Socrates.

Pre pub