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| Collège de Sociologie |
| **[Enter any *variant forms* of your headword – OPTIONAL]** |
| The Collège de Sociologie was a discussion group of French intellectuals established in Paris in March 1937, which lasted until late 1939. Co-founded by Georges Bataille (1897-1962), Roger Caillois (1913-1978) and Michel Leiris (1901-1990) – a fourth initiator, Jules Monnerot (1908-1995), was swiftly dismissed – the group’s name was a deliberate provocation. Didacticism was not its goal, and it abjured the sociological tradition, with its roots in scientific method. Instead, the Collège focused on the modern relevance of myth, power and the sacred to combat the fascist menace on the rise in the 1930s. Building on Émile Durkheim’s ethnological research into primitive societies, the lectures, which were often improvised, covered such topics as carnival, shamanism, Sade, power and the army. |
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| Further reading:  (Gill)  (Hollier)  (Durkheim)  (Falasca-Zamponi)  (Richman) |