The name Alain Borer is long associated with the poet Arthur Rimbaud. Borer devoted thirty years of research, beginning with the review *Le Bateau ivre* (Geneva, 1965) and up through the centennial edition (*Œuvre-vie*, Arléa, 1991), including books translated into several languages. Eminent scholar and poet Alain Borer is the first person to trace Rimbaud’s long path from Charleville to Aden and Harar—a vast space he calls the Rimbaldie—a parallel universe from one century to another. In 1976, a century after Rimbaud, he arrived in Ethiopia at the age of 26, the same age when Rimbaud disappeared there.

He created a feature film *le Voleur de feu* (TF1, 1978, with Leo Ferré) and a travel-account published in two simultaneous volumes, *A Sieur Rimbaud, merchant accounts*, and a *Travel Album* with Philippe Soupault, 1984. Borer’s now classic *Rimbaud in Abyssinia* (Seuil, 1984) was translated by Rosmarie Waldrop and published by William Morrow in 1991. Borer’s essential conclusion of Rimbaud’s quest, found in *Rimbaud l’heure de la fuite* (Gallimard, 1991, illustrated by Hugo Pratt), attempts to discover this "paradigm Work-Life," a real "key to this savage parade," which he presents as a preface to the new American translation of Rimbaud by his friend and colleague at USC, the poet Mark Irwin.