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Sommario/riassunto	This study is both particularistic and generalizing. At one level it can be seen as an investigation of French urban marketplaces as systems of communication, with a microscopic examination of verbal interaction and sociability patterns in a specific cultural setting. At another level it constitutes an attempt to show some relationships between the ethnography of communication, urban anthropology and symbolic interactionism: all three lines of inquiry converge here to highlight the

social and symbolic dimensions of traditional street markets in modern
urban France, with primary focus on the ro
