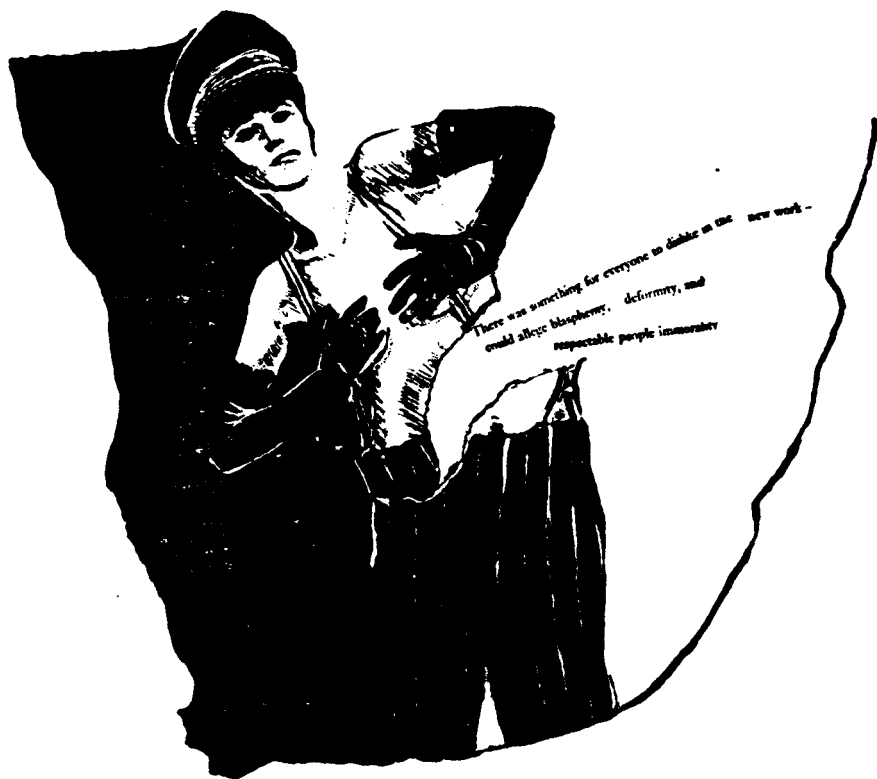


# CRITICAL ARTS

## A Journal for Media Studies



(Special Issue: Censorship in South Africa)

June 1980 Vol 1 No 2



# CRITICAL ARTS

Vol 1 No 2 June 1980

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Published by  
Critical Arts Study Group  
University of the Witwatersrand  
1 Jan Smuts Avenue  
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# EDITORIAL

Reader response to the first issue of Critical Arts: A Journal for Media Studies was well above that anticipated. The initial print run of 500 copies was supplemented by an additional 300 to meet the demand. We expect our distribution figure to reach over 1000 by the end of the year.

It is also interesting to note that the Journal is being ordered by an increasing number of universities in the United States. Clearly, Critical Arts is fulfilling a previously unserved academic need.

In this column in the first issue we stated that this issue would carry a special edition on Drama and Theatre. A quick perusal of the Contents page will show otherwise. Although there are ten departments of drama in South Africa, only two papers were forthcoming, one from a French semiotician, and the other from a post-graduate student. This lack of response, seen in conjunction with a readership profile of this Journal, suggests that its major contribution will be in related areas such as sociology, anthropology, political science, history and African Studies. That is not to say that it is irrelevant to the departments of drama at South African universities. The content of Critical Arts may well be irrelevant to the courses presently offered in those departments. This journal is concerned with the arts, media and communication in a Third World context, and follows a paradigm similar to a number of other journals in related disciplines. The direction followed by the Editorial Board is committed to study of process and form from the point of view of popular culture. Perhaps we have clung to our elitist chimeras for so long that those of us involved in the performing arts, film, television etc. are unaware of the underlying principles which structure our narrow vision of the world.

This issue, then, carries a number of articles on censorship and one on advertising. These papers were drawn from the Conference on Censorship held at the University of Cape Town from 22nd-25 April 1980. A report on the conference is carried on pages 42-45.

The third issue will be devoted to Drama and Theatre and the fourth to mass media in South Africa.

The cover was designed by Paul Roumanoff. Paul was also responsible for the cover design of the first issue. Thanks also to our typist, Christina Langsberg.



Cover design by Paul Romanoff

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