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1985 .. Year of the Cadre

PRELIMINARY TB ARCHITECTS BRIEF; FOR DMCAWA CULTURAL CENTRE -\_1 ' 1

Amwmwmtm .

;5 March 1985 -

1 0 Preface

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We prefer this paper by stressing that this document does not constitute in any way a final or near planning draft for the Dskawa Cultural Centre (DCC). It is merely intended to direct discussion and. invoke the comment and. criticism Which Will greatly aid us to more precisely formulate the DCC concept.

It should 'be borne in mind at all times that the DCC should be considered as a. model 'for a future South Africa; as an example for future Cultural Community Centres to be developed, in the liberatedn South African reality. At the same time the DCC must also act as a. means and. instrument of gaining that free South Africagnot least of all by acting as an important vehicle for our cadre development

## 2. Introduction

The DCC is intended to answer the pressing need for an AUG Cultural Centre; as well as to serve as a commnity cultural centre for the Dakawa settlement. The envisaged DCC would fulfil a training gag production function not only in the realm of "oultule"na.rrowly considered5'but also in the realm normally designated. as "crafts". The DCC would function to concentrate and focus our ANC cultural and craft skillsgand provide logistical and administrative infre-structure for the practice sf Wide range of diSCiPlinGSe

We are convinced that the dOVGlCLBPE DCC will 'be in a. position to produce ,inter-aliae-

a. Training gentertainment and propaganda videos. :

L5 garish \$Eaghic art and sculpture for sale at the proposed ANC gallery,

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o)Finished craft for sale as aboveoLikewise potteryperamicssbatikgete.

d)Printing of textbooksgtnaining nmaualsgcreative textsgand sll general printworke

e)Silksoroeneri posters and material for fundraising and propaganda.

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f Design and lay-out services for AM)

g Photographic services of all kinds

h Resource Centre,including library and reference facilities

l Word-prooessor operation and training facilities.Also computer applications.

j)'l'heatre production and training .Community theatre.

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DCC m2w

k) Music ensemble work and production of Music cassettes for DOG fundraising 82d prop. zomn nda purposes,

1) General socio-economic services

m) General community programmes, especially children's programme

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The DCC should be extremely tightly administered. A full-time director should be appointed; who would also be appointed to the national Cultural Secretariat. An administrative unit with proper administrative facilities should exercise day-by-day control over the DCC's valuable resources.

Each discipline or unit should possess an initial staff of at least one

Manager

coordinators

4. Training of DCC personnel

Identification of DCC personnel has tentatively begun. Training and upgrading of DCC personnel must begin at the earliest opportunity.

5. Fundraising

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Fundraising for DOG must begin as early as at the earliest opportunity.

Aside from normal fundraising channels, we could also investigate new or underutilized areas of support for ANC cultural work. All groups, unions and organisations around the world, individual anti-apartheid artists, benefit concerts and exhibitions by our own and solidarity artists, labour exchanges with cultural organs of government etc.

We should not forget: M7 objects raised by the sale of arts and crafts

produced by our own cadre, tours by our own musicians, sale of publications;

calendars, posters, toys, produced by ourselves; funds raised by showings of

our own videos and films, the sale of our own records and music

cassettes, etc.

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Should consist of 3m

Directors Office

General Office: minimum three people

Equipment room for radio and photostatic machines

Lodging, store, etc.

7. Main - 3m

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Should include

Adequate sized theatre with suitable lighting facilities .

Rehearsal room

Dressing room

Large lounge, bar, etc.

Covered Piazza, etc. for outdoor functions and rehearsals.

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DOC 23w  
 Small children's Theatre.  
 Coffee bar facilities  
 Theatre office for Dram, coordinator and. staff  
 8. Music 111357?  
 This unit should be extensive enough to accommodate Amandla. if necessary  
 It could include:--  
 1 large music room With piano  
 2 smaller practice rooms  
 1 Office /Work:room\_1  
 1 instrument lock-up store room  
 one large studio (10 b0 slmcd. With Video Unit)  
 All rooms to be acoustically tiled.  
 9. Fine Arts Unit  
 M&LLHJ -m; .7  
 2 large studios with good. light during the day and. good artificial  
 lighting.  
 Silkscreening Space  
 Lock-Jup stereo room for art 111a'ucial,oto.  
 Rimming Water and washbasin are desirable in region of Fine Arts Unit.  
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 Open Space office/workroom with 10019-4113 facility for ugtdpmen'b  
 large photographic darkroom  
 1:1. Library Unit  
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 Library should be easily accessible "to community with ample reading  
 space.  
 A large seminar room should be adjacent to the library.  
 A smaller room is needed. where two word-processors can be installed  
 A private office/workroom would. be desirable.  
 12. Handicrafts Unit  
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 1 large sewing room  
 2 handicrafts workrooms  
 Pottery and. ceramics facility 'to be allowed. for.  
 1. 1001? workshop With tools.  
 '1 large storeroom  
 1 office  
 13- Video Unit  
 Video viewing room for small .gToups.  
 Editing room for video editing equipment,  
 Large 0131 ice/x-ray room  
 Lockup facility 400 store video equipment and video library's  
 large studio(ao be share a. with music unit)  
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#### 14. Printing Unit

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We envisage a well-organised and well equipped printing facility

1 office for unit co-ordinator.

1 large general office

Typesetting :boom.

1657-051: zoom.

large Dark-room (including cold. storage facility for film stock)

Large floorspace for linachimes, guillotines, binders, and. staplers, exblating, etc.

large lockup storeroom

#### 15 . Guesthouse

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Important that there be a guesthouse facility for artists or lecturers in residence, or visiting artists or craftsmen. Could "be an extension of Director's residence.

#### 16. Recreational Facilities

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Indoor games room

Outdoor swimming; pool

#### 17. Catering

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Kitchen and. dining hall.

#### 18. Toilet and Bathroom

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Appropriate toilet and bathroom facilities

#### 19. Air Conditioning

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Air conditioning is essential for the Video Centre and. for the Photography unit because of the dust and humidity factors.

Air conditioning would also be highly desirable for some of the other Units, eg. library, fine art, administrative

Our recommendation would be that all closed areas be air conditioned

#### 20. Exhibition Space

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Given the nature of the DCC, it might be desirable to have a space easily accessible to the community where various exhibitions could take place.

This could also be the foyer or a walk-through entrance or an ante-room in the theatre complex '

#### 21 . Conclusions

The DCC might seem elaborate at first glance-but we are concerned to stress its nature as a production centre. Many of the skills concerned with the DCC already exist within our ranks, but we lack the administrative focus and logistical means to bring them into operation. At the same time training and upgrading will be vital components of the DCC's success. Success in the DCC project will establish a firm cultural revolution in the arts within our movement; and implemented in South Africa. from our movement to community and a firm cultural thrust in our reconstruction period.