

Department of Arts & Culture  
CRUSADERS AGAINST CHANGE.

South Africa is in the throes of change. At the core of this process is the struggle for transition from apartheid culture to a democratic cultural dispensation reflective of the future constitution of our society. It is a process that does not concern itself with the removal of a handful of faces from the control of cultural life, while retaining the cornerstones of apartheid intact. Too many lives, resources and talent from South Africans have been wasted due to the apartheid policies. Like all sectors of South African life, the arts and culture sphere demand transformation now!

This transformation entails the fundamental restructuring of the constitution, as well as the decision making and administrative structures responsible for the allocation of funds. to cater for all South Africans without regard to colour. creed or sex.

The PERFORMING ARTS COUNCILS (PAC'S): PACT.

PACOFES, CAPAB & NAPAC. have always enjoyed sole sponsorship by the apartheid government. They benefitted illegitimately by being falsely represented by apartheid as the sole representatives of what is "good culture" at the exclusion of the majority of South African artists .

The Performing Art Council's have earned themselves apartheid patronage at the expense of tax-payers' money though their achievements come nowhere near those marginalised artists who have carved a name for South Africa in the world against innumerable odds. One has only to recall the products of DORKEY

HOUSE with its history of names like: Hugh Masekela, Miriam Makeba.

Caiphus Semenya, Jonas Gwangwa etc. Who has not Heard of SARAFINA?

Why have they never featured in these grand palaces of apartheid and instead have to receive praise and awards as far afield as the USA. How does the PAC's compare with this record?!

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NEGOTIATIONS ARE ONLY MEANINGFUL WHEN ALL PARTIES  
NEGOTIATE IN GOOD FAITH.

This realisation drove the ANC Department of Arts & Culture to open  
discussion with the PAC's regarding their transformation.

A meeting was arranged between Cde Wally Serote and Louis Bezuidenhout  
a deputy director of PACT. Its objective was to set a principle of establishing an  
interim joint working committee, consistin g of two representatives from DAC and  
PACT.

The ANC as a facilitator forwarded the following concerns:

it That the stakeholders within the performing an councils, the artists.

musicians. production personnel. administration staff and policy makers be  
involved through representation in the process of transformation.

t The community who are the "consumers" of PACT's produce particularly  
artists within this community be represented and involved in this process of  
transformation.

T That the process forttransformation should proceed according to democratic  
principles and procedures:

3. Identifying those who will be affected by decisions

b. Involvin g those parties appropriately

c. Involving those parties in the design and implementation of the  
transformation

d. Keepin g all stakeholders informed and creating opportunities for feedback

e That those participatin g in the commission be mandated representatives of  
the artists and workers organisations and that they be committed to the entire  
process.

#### COMPOSITION OF THE COMMISSION

After consultation with the progressive cultural bodies regarding representation  
on the commission. the ANC recommended the following composition:

t 5 representatives from progressive cultural structures (to include unions );  
lnd

t' 5 representatives from PACT( this include staff and the artistic community).

The five representatives nominated by the ANC'S Department of Arts and  
Culture would be drawn from the following progressive structures:

The Association for Community Arts Workers Centres (ACAC)

The Performing Arts Workers Equity (PAWE)

The Congress of South African Writers (COSAW)

- The South African Music Alliance (SAMA)

V The Dance Alliance (D.A.)

WDAC

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMISSION

The objectives of the commission would be:

- a. To propose a new artistic policy for PACT: and
- b. to propose a process of internal transformation of PACT which would address:

- The structure of PACT
- PACT'S employment and personnel policies
- Affirmative action
- Promotion policies.

The commission would be responsible for projects aimed at ensuring transformation. namely:

- a. The outreach programme:
- b. new appointment of staff and interim restructuring; and
- c. training of staff and affirmative action appointments.

To enable the commission to take full responsibility for the outreach programme it was recommended that a Trust be established to be administered by the commission. All donations from the business and financial sectors for the outreach programme would be administered by this Commission.

These recommendations were forwarded to PACT. However at this stage PACT did not want to commit itself. nor did it raise the issue of "domination" by the ANC. An exploratory meeting was held between Wally and Dennis Reinecke the chief director of PACT. Cde WALLY SEROTE raised the following issues:

- a. The participation of the above mentioned art forms in the joint working committee:
- c. they are hedging: and
- d. that our perception was that they were resisting to agree on timeframes . for the transformation.

Dennis Reinecke denied all the above mentioned issues which were raised to him by Cde Wally Serote. In the light of this intransigence the ANC demands:

- Resumption of Negotiations and that PACT does so in good faith. That they .xit in negotiations as equals and that they should recognise the wrongs of their policies. past and present:

- formation of a joint working committee and its terms of reference:
- time frames for the transformation process:
- resignation of Reinecke: and

if PACT does not accede to negotiations about restructuring, then there should be a review of government funding of these structures. El