

# Guide to the South African Poster Collection

MS 1574



compiled by Carol King with staff of Manuscripts and Archives

May 1997

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## Table of Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Collection Overview .....  | 3  |
| Requesting Instructions .....  | 3  |
| Administrative Information .....   | 4  |
| Immediate Source of Acquisition .....                                    | 4  |
| Conditions Governing Access .....  | 4  |
| Conditions Governing Use .....   | 4  |
| Preferred Citation .....   | 4  |
| Associated Materials .....   | 4  |
| Scope and Contents .....   | 4  |
| Arrangement .....  | 5  |
| Collection Contents .....  | 6  |
| Original accession .....   | 6  |
| Accession 2007-M-007: Additonal Material, Circa 2003-2006, undated ..... | 11 |
| Accession 2013-M-037: Additional Material, Circa 2005, 2007 .....        | 13 |
| Accession 2014-M-023: Additional Material, 2008-2009 .....               | 14 |
| Selected Search Terms .....  | 15 |

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1574

**TITLE:** South African poster collection

**DATES:** 1969-2009, 1969-2009

**BULK DATES:** 1969-1994, 1969-1994

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 35.75 linear feet (14 boxes)

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 35.75 linear feet (14 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** The material is in English, Afrikaans, French, and Portuguese.

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists of over three hundred posters and related oversized material which document the government and politics of South Africa, primarily from the era of apartheid to the first democratic elections open to all races in 1994. Many of the posters represent numerous political parties, organizations against apartheid, and voter education groups. The cultural life of the country is represented by materials pertaining to South African poets and artists.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1574>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1574>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

- b. box
- f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Transferred from the African Collection Curator.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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### Conditions Governing Use

The photograph by James Blair in box 4, folder 11, for National Geographic may not be reproduced without permission from the magazine. Copyright status for the remaining collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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### Preferred Citation

South African Poster Collection (MS 1574). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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### Associated Materials

African Collection, MS 605; African Postcard Collection, MS 1575; Pamphlet Collection, MS 1351; South Africa Collection, MS 1559; South African Apartheid Collection, MS 1500. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Scope and Contents

The South African Poster Collection consists of posters and other oversized materials which document the political, social, and cultural life of South Africa, primarily from circa 1969 through 1994. The posters are arranged alphabetically by organization name. Additional oversized materials are arranged by category, and then alphabetically by organization name, personal name, or title within each category. Additions to the collection are arranged in a similar pattern.

Additional materials on South Africa are available in the following collections:

AFRICA COLLECTION, Manuscript group 605

AFRICAN POSTCARD COLLECTION, Manuscript group 1575

SOUTH AFRICA COLLECTION, Manuscript group 1559

SOUTH AFRICAN APARTHEID COLLECTION, Manuscript group 1500

SOUTH AFRICAN HISTORICAL COLLECTION, Manuscript group 1556

## **Arrangement**

The posters are arranged alphabetically by organization name. A small section of poster-like materials, such as calendars, maps, newspapers, and photographs, are arranged by category, and alphabetically by organization or personal name within each category. Additions to the collection are arranged in a similar pattern.

## Collection Contents

### Original accession

| Posters |   |           |
|---------|---|-----------|
| f. 1A   | Africa Fund [12 different posters on apartheid]   | [1980?]   |
| f. 1A   | Africa Muslim Party (AMP) [2 different posters]   | undated   |
| f. 1A   | African Christian Democratic party (ACDP) [1 election campaign poster]  | undated   |
| f. 1A   | African National Congress (ANC)<br><a href="#">See also: Inventory Box 7</a>  |           |
| f. 1A   | ANC: 1912-1982 (South African Youth in Struggle)  | undated   |
| f. 1A   | Advance to National Democracy! [3 posters with different slogans marking 1990 as "The year of Peoples' Action for a Democratic South Africa"]   | 1990      |
| f. 1A   | The authorized Madiba Collection [poster with pictures of silk and textile memorabilia for Nelson Mandela]  | undated   |
| f. 1B   | "After years of struggle.. now is the time for freedom!" [4 posters with different election campaign slogans]   | [1993?]   |
| f. 1B   | 47th ANC National Conference: Peoples Power for a Democratic Future   | 1991 July |
| f. 1B   | Christmas and Eid greetings cards [by ANC offering its goodwill and best wishes to South Africa and its peoples]  | undated   |
| f. 1B   | "Food for all: ANC demands lower food prices, no VAT on basics, drought relief for all"   | undated   |
| f. 1B   | The Freedom Charter [6 different posters]   | undated   |
| f. 1B   | "From Anti-apartheid to Pro-democracy" [3 posters with photos of Mandela and slogans supporting his presidential candidacy]   | [1993?]   |
| f. 1B   | Happy Birthday! [signatures of several people wishing Nelson Mandela a happy and joyous 75th Birthday]  | undated   |
| f. 1B   | "I have got my ID., get yours and vote for freedom!" [5 different posters calling voters to register]   | [1993?]   |
| f. 1B   | <i>Mayibuye</i> (Journal of the African National Congress) [8 posters advertising various issues of the journal, 1991-1994]   | undated   |
| f. 1B   | Nelson Mandela for President: vote for Peace, Freedom and Democracy! [4 different posters in support of Mandela's candidacy for president]  | undated   |
| f. 1B   | Now is the time to... be informed, choose your representatives.. [29 different posters with quotes of ANC's political and economic agendas and names of 200 candidates for the National Assembly] | [1993?]   |

## Posters &gt; African National Congress (ANC) (continued)

|            |  |                      |
|------------|--|----------------------|
| f. 1B      | NP Rule= Disaster [6 posters with different messages and slogans opposing the National Party (NP) and its candidates]  | undated              |
| f. 1B      | Solidarity with ANC! [2 different posters]   |                      |
| f. 1B      | Stop Savimbi's war! Recognise elected Angolan Government! [issued by ANC]  | undated              |
|            | Tribute to Heros   |                      |
| f. 1B      | Chris Hani, 1942-1993 [13 posters with different public messages and slogans published in commemoration of the assassination of Chris Hani (general-secretary of the South African Communist Party and member of the National Executive Committee of ANC) on April 10, 1993] | [1994?]              |
| f. 1B      | Oliver Reginald Tambo, president of ANC, 1969-1991 [8 different posters]   | undated              |
| f. 1B      | We salute our leaders [3 posters with photos of ANC founders and heroes]   | undated              |
| f. 1B      | We Demand... [7 differ posters with slogans demanding peace, freedom, democracy, interim government, constituent assembly]   | undated              |
| f. 1B      | Working together for jobs, peace and freedom [9 posters with different slogans conveying ANC's promise for "A better life for all"]  | [1993?]              |
| f. 1B      | 1984 Year of the Women [10 posters with different slogans and messages on Women and ANC in the struggle against apartheid]   | undated              |
| f. 1B      | 1993 : Year of Democratic Election [4 [posters with different slogans in support of ANC]   | [1993?].             |
|            | Anti-Apartheid Movement [London and other countries]   |                      |
| f. 1C      | Anti-apartheid calendar '88  | [1988?]              |
| f. 1C      | Anti-apartheid slogans and messages [25 different posters published by trade unions and other anti-apartheid groups]   | undated              |
| f. 1C      | Isolate Apartheid, Sanctions Against South Africa [4 posters with different slogans calling for arms embargo and sanctions]  | undated              |
| f. 1C      | Concerned Nurses of South Africa [4 posters announcing founding conference, different slogans]   | 1993, February 12-14 |
| b. 2, f. 4 | Conservative Party (CP/KP) [3 posters with different campaign slogans and candidate photo]   | undated              |
| b. 2, f. 4 | Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA)  | undated              |
| b. 2, f. 4 | Democratic Party/Demokratiese Party (DP) [10 vinyl posters with different election campaign slogans and candidate photos]  | undated              |
| f. 3A      | Apartheid posters  |                      |
| f. 3D      | Federal Party (FP)   | undated              |

## Posters (continued)

|   |   |               |
|---|---|---------------|
| f. 3D                                     | Freedom Front/Vryheidsfront (VF-FF) [a slogan with photo of General Constand Viljoen]   | undated       |
| f. 3D                                     | Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) [15 different voter education posters]   | undated       |
| International Defense and Aid Fund (IDAF) |   |               |
| f. 3B                                     | <i>Nelson Mandela: The Struggle is My Life</i>  | [1978?]       |
| f. 3B                                     | <i>Children Under Apartheid</i>   | [1979?]       |
| f. 3B                                     | <i>Women Under Apartheid</i>  | [1979?]       |
| f. 3B                                     | <i>Zimbabwe in Struggle</i>   | 1978          |
| f. 3B                                     | The Keep It Straight and Simple Party (KISS)  | undated       |
| f. 3C                                     | Mandela, Nelson [artist's sketch of Mandela while in prison]  | undated       |
| f. 3E                                     | National Land Committee [calendar with awareness messages on the objectives and missions of the Committee]  | 2001          |
| f. 3E                                     | National Organization of Labour Students and the ANC Youth  | undated       |
| National Party/Nasionale Party (NP)       |   |               |
| <a href="#">See also: Inventory Box 7</a> |   |               |
| f. 3E                                     | Anti-communist and anti-ANC slogans [15 different campaign posters]   | undated       |
| f. 3E                                     | Election campaign slogans in support of its presidential candidate F. W. de Klerk   | undated       |
| f. 3E                                     | The future is at your feet (NP Youth)   | undated       |
| f. 3E                                     | National Union of Mine Workers [2 different posters with photos of Cyril Ramaphosa and Nelson Mandela, celebrating mineworkers' struggle]                                     | undated       |
| f. 3E                                     | New Republic Party (NRP) [bumper stickers and 5 different election posters with photos of party's candidates]   | undated       |
| f. 3E                                     | Nigerian National Committee Against Apartheid [3 different posters calling for sanctions against the apartheid regime of South Africa]  | undated       |
| Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC)   |   |               |
| f. 3E                                     | The 25th Anniversary of the launching of the Decisive Positive Action Campaign Against Pass Laws which resulted in the Sharpeville and Langa Shootings on the 21st March 1960 | 1985 March 21 |
| f. 3E                                     | The 80's -Decade of the Azanian Revolution  | undated       |
| f. 3E                                     | Support the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC)   | undated       |
| f. 3E                                     | Vote PAC [2 different posters]  | undated       |
| f. 3E                                     | Progressive Federal Party (PFP) [10 different election posters with slogans and photos of party's candidates]   | undated       |



## Posters (continued)

|       |   |                |
|-------|---|----------------|
| f. 3E | South African Communist Party (SACP) [poster issued on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of SACP, 1921-1991]   | [1991?]        |
| f. 3E | South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU)  | undated        |
| f. 3E | Sports Organization for Collective Contributions and Equal Rights (SOCCER)  | undated        |
| f. 3E | Truth and Reconciliation Commission [two different posters announcing activities of the Commission and encouraging people to make their statements by contacting the Commission at the nearest office]  | [1994?]        |
| f. 3E | Women's National Coalition (WNC) [8 different posters on women's rights issues]   | undated        |
|       | Workers International to Rebuild the 4th International [Socialist Movement]   |                |
| f. 3E | Announcement for a public speech to be held in Natal  | 1994 April 13  |
| f. 3E | Announcement for a public speech to be held in Salt River   | 1994 March 5   |
| f. 3E | Vote Workers International for a Revolutionary Workers Party, No Compromise Socialism Now [election campaign slogan]  | undated        |
| f. 3E | Workers' List Party (WLP) [2 posters with different election campaign slogans]  | undated        |
| f. 3E | Ximoko Progressive Party (XPP) [election campaign poster]   | undated        |
| f. 3E | Unidentified photos and posters   | undated        |
|       | Calendars   |                |
| f. 4A | American Committee on Africa. Published by the Committee in cooperation with the United Nations Centre Against Apartheid [each month contains a poster by a different artist on the theme of apartheid; text in English, French, Portuguese and Arabic] | 1978, 1979     |
| f. 4A | "Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU): ten fighting years, 1985-1995"  | 1996           |
| f. 4A | "The Full Colour 1990 Picture Calendar," by Caroline Cullinan [A Weekly Mail Publication]   |                |
| f. 4A | "Liberation Calendar" [published by O.A.U. Liberation Committee]  | 1993           |
| f. 4A | <i>Rioters Digest</i> . Michaelis [School of Art] Society. Cape Town, Deersur Press. [calendar for the months Jun to Sep with daily news entries on the subject of apartheid; 5 leaves]   | 1976           |
| f. 4A | "...Salutes Our Heroes: Mandela, Tambo, Luthuli, Dadoo, Fischer, Sisulu," [Snapper Clothes]   | undated        |
|       | Maps  |                |
| f. 4B | Final consolidation proposals for Kwazulu [by Bantu Administration and Development, Development Work Division]  | 1973 March 4   |
| f. 4B | Proposed magisterial district boundaries for Kwazulu [by Bantu Administration and Development, Development Work Division]   | 1972 January 8 |

## Newspapers and news clippings

|       |   |               |
|-------|---|---------------|
| f. 4C | <i>New Nation</i> [cover page of the Mandela Release Commemorative Issue] | 1990 February |
| f. 4C | <i>Share: Looking at Life in South Africa</i>                             | 1990 Mar, May |
| f. 4C | <i>Sunday Times</i> [cover page reads "Election Results Drama"]           | 1994 May 1    |
| f. 4C | <i>Volkstem</i> [United Party]  | 1974 October  |

## Photographs/reproductions

|       |  |         |
|-------|--|---------|
| f. 4C | Blair, James, photographer [large mounted photograph of two native women]<br>Photograph may be reproduced only with the permission of <i>National Geographic Magazine</i> .                              | 1977    |
|       | Gordon, Robert Jacob [Plettenberg Bay reproduction]<br><a href="#">See: Inventory Box 6</a>  | undated |
|       | Kruger, Stephanus Johannes Paulus (1825-1904)  | undated |
| f. 4C | <i>Boekenhoutfontein</i> [colored reproduction of painting by Sahriel de Jonh? of the homestead of State President Paul Kruger near Rustenburg]  | 1969    |
| f. 4C | <i>1899, Pretoria</i> [reproduction of 1901 etching by F. Wichgraf of State President Paul Kruger and his executive council]   | undated |
| f. 4C | Langenhoven, Cornelis Jakob [nine broadsides reproducing a collection of photographs presented by the Cape Provincial Library Service in celebration of his centenary, 1873-1973; captions in Afrikaans] | 1973    |
| f. 4C | Sacks, Shelley ["Images from South Africa," portfolio of six signed prints]  | undated |
| f. 4C | South African poets [thirty broadsides with photographs and biographical sketches; in Afrikaans]   | 1977    |
|       | Thompson, Clarence C.  |         |
| f. 4C | "Hold the Day" [in honor of Nelson Mandela]  |         |
| f. 4C | "Pathway to Freedom" [in commemoration of the United Nations International Year of Sanctions against Apartheid]  |         |
|       | African National Congress  |         |
| b. 5  | <i>A Better Life for All</i> [poster of Nelson Mandela, 21.5 ft. X 3 ft.]  | [1994?] |
|       | Gordon, Robert Jacob   |         |
| b. 6  | <i>1778 Panoramic View of Plettenberg Bay</i> [color reproduction consisting of two sections, each measuring 4.5 ft. X 1.5 ft.]  | [1994?] |
| b. 7  | National Party [vinyl] wall hanging of party logo, 4 ft. x 10 ft.]   | [1994]  |

**Accession 2007-M-007: Additional Material, Circa 2003-2006, undated**

|     |  |                               |
|-----|--|-------------------------------|
|     | African National Congress  |                               |
| b.1 | Mbeki for President  | undated                       |
| b.1 | "They fought for freedom"  | undated                       |
| b.1 | Cape Town Month of Photography   | 2005 February<br>16- March 20 |
| b.1 | Department of Arts and Culture   |                               |
| b.1 | Library Week [2 copies]  | 2005 March                    |
| b.1 | Library Week   | 2006 March                    |
| b.1 | "Drawing Room" [art exhibit]   | undated                       |
| b.1 | Helen Suzman: Fighter for Human Rights [exhibition]                        | 2005 March                    |
| b.1 | Out in Africa: Gay and Lesbian Film Festival                               | 2005 March-<br>April          |
| b.1 | Project Vote   | undated                       |
|     | Publishers book promotion posters  |                               |
|     | Book covers  | Circa 2005                    |
| b.2 | Ahmed Kathrada Memoirs   |                               |
| b.2 | Beyond the Apartheid Workplace: Studies in transition                      |                               |
| b.2 | The Dassie and the Hunter: A South African Meeting                         |                               |
| b.2 | The Dream in the Next Body   |                               |
| b.2 | The Elusive Moth   |                               |
| b.2 | Flowers of the Nation  |                               |
| b.2 | GHAAP: Sonnets from the Northern Cape                                      |                               |
| b.2 | Homecoming: Voorkamer Stories (II)   |                               |
| b.2 | Life Sentence: A Biography of Herman Charles Bosman                        |                               |
| b.2 | Rough Guide to South Africa: Lesotho and Swaziland                         |                               |
| b.2 | This Carting Life  |                               |
| b.2 | This Life  |                               |
| b.2 | Within Loving Memory of the Century: An Autobiography, Azaria J. C. Mbatha |                               |
| b.3 | Booksellers' Choice Awards   | 2005                          |
| b.3 | Bosman, Herman Charles [books by]  | undated                       |

## Publishers book promotion posters (continued)

|     |   |            |
|-----|---|------------|
| b.3 | Brink, Andre  | undated    |
| b.3 | Chimurenga: Who No Know Go Know                           | undated    |
| b.3 | Cameron, Edwin  | undated    |
| b.3 | Literary Awards   | 2005       |
| b.3 | Marais, Eugene N. [books by]                              | undated    |
| b.3 | Umuzi [books printed by]                                  | undated    |
| b.3 | Women in Government Gender Advocacy Programme [2 posters] | 2003, 2004 |
| b.3 | Workers International Vanguard League                     | undated    |

**Accession 2013-M-037: Additional Material, Circa 2005, 2007**

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|     |   |            |
|-----|---|------------|
| b.1 | Poster advertising <i>DRUM</i> , a South African magazine<br>One side has an image of Nelson Mandela; the other side an image of Thandiswa Mazwai, a South African musician, singer, and songwriter.  | Circa 2005 |
| b.1 | "Making Peace Exhibition 2007: Two Presidents, Two Fighters, Two Peace Prize Winners"<br>Poster has images of Nelson Mandela and Albert Luthuli, former presidents of the African National Congress and recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize. <i>Making Peace</i> , an exhibit of photographs and text, was launched at the Nelson Mandela Foundation, 2007. | 2007       |

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**Accession 2014-M-023: Additional Material, 2008-2009**

*6 linear feet (3 boxes)*

The material is in English or Afrikaans.

There are 32 posters from various groups documenting the 2009 elections, many in both English and Afrikaans. There are also five exhibition poster from the District Six Museum.

|             |  |      |
|-------------|--|------|
| b. 3, 1f. 2 | Election posters                       | 2009 |
| b. 3        | District Six Museum exhibition posters | 2008 |

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Anti-apartheid movements -- South Africa  
Apartheid -- South Africa  
Elections -- South Africa  
Voting -- South Africa

### **Genres / Formats**

Posters -- South Africa