Radical Civil Society
Analysis and Activism from Africa

BRUNCH AT THE BRECHT – OCTOBER 1, 12-3PM
451 West Street, Manhattan – RSVP please at (212) 242-4201

Dennis Brutus, Patrick Bond & Amanda Alexander
launch new books and DVDs from the Centre for Civil Society in Durban
Commentary: Joel Kovel (Bard) & Anne-Maria Makhulu (Princeton)

- Is Africa’s economy improving thanks to G8 charity?
- What conflicts divide civil society and elites in South Africa?
- Why were there 5800 protests (recorded by the police) in 2005?
- What kind of solidarity is needed?

POETRY & PROTEST by Dennis Brutus (Haymarket, 2006)
LOOTING AFRICA and TALK LEFT WALK RIGHT
by Patrick Bond (Zed Books and UKZN Press, 2006)
CCS WIRED (double DVD set)(ccs, 2006)
ARTICULATIONS and NEW WORK FROM DURBAN
co-edited by Amanda Alexander (Africa World Press and CCS, 2006)

Suggested Donation: $6/$10/$15 – No One Turned Away
Patrick Bond is director and Dennis Brutus (Prof Emeritus at U. of Pittsburgh Africana Studies) and Amanda Alexander (Columbia U. History PhD programme) are visiting scholars at the Centre

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Introducing two new DVDs highlighting research, advocacy and mobilisation

**CCS WIRED (2006.1)**

Research-in-progress, plus documentaries on South/ern Africa's new social mobilisations

CCS and our filmmaker friends – Heidi Bachram, Heinrich Bohmke, Ben Cashdan, Daniel Chavez, Michele Citoni, Rehana Dada, Sally Giles, Fazel Khan, Vincent Moloi, Ntokozo Mthembu, Aoibheann O’Sullivan, John Pilger, Gillian Schutte Singiswa, Sipho Singiswa, Greg Streak, Jann Turner and Shannon Walsh – announce the first edition of CCS WIRED, two DVDs that capture some of our Centre’s research-in-progress as well as scenes of struggle, pain, suffering, joy, victories, defeats, and commitments in South Africa and across the Southern African region.

It’s a goldmine of data and doccies. We have jammed our own publications - *Research Report* collections, Wolpe Memorial lectures, *Civil Society Readers, etc* - plus more than 30 films representing South/ern Africa’s ‘new social mobilisations’ onto two pieces of plastic.

CCS WIRED documents protests and social justice campaigns in SA that began in a systematic way when Durban’s Chatsworth community erupted in 1999. Going back further, John Pilger generously offered his 1998 film *Apartheid Did Not Die*, which predicted the subsequent uprisings. By late 2005, the SA Police estimated that there were 5800 protests in the prior year, 13% of which they deemed ‘illegal’. Something is wrong in the New SA - the research and films available in CCS WIRED show what, and why citizens are resisting.

There is also documentation of regional Southern African advocacy for social and ecological justice – which will be the primary focus of CCS WIRED (2007.1), given civil society’s efforts to build the World Social Forum in Nairobi from 25-29 January.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: We offer gratitude to the contributors, especially the low-paid doccie makers. They have given us their work gratis; please support them when you see them filming in a war zone near you. (In some cases, the filmmaker offered us a high-resolution version you are free to broadcast or screen to the public. In other cases the filmmaker desires that you contact them by email so as to obtain a high-res version if you want to do a screening or broadcast the doccie.) The DVDs can be screened on a computer only (not a DVD player). For best results, copy the DVDs to your hard drive and play direct.

Invaluable production support was provided by Ben Cashdan, Library Design, Collective Film and Video, and TripleAim. Our funders are warmly thanked: Sanpad, Osisa, Southern Africa Trust, Mott, Atlantic Philanthropies, Ford, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, ActionAid, OxfamGB and the Harold Wolpe Memorial Trust.

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Looting Africa
The Economics of Exploitation
Patrick Bond

DESPITE THE RHETORIC, the people of Sub-Saharan Africa are becoming poorer. From Tony Blair’s Africa Commission, the G7 finance ministers’ debt relief, the Live 8 concerts, the Make Poverty History campaign and the G8 Gleneagles promises, to the United Nations 2005 summit and the Hong Kong WTO meeting, Africa’s gains have been mainly limited to public relations. The central problems remain exploitative debt and financial relationships with the North, phantom aid, unfair trade, distorted investment and the continent’s brain/skills drain. Moreover, capitalism in most African countries has witnessed the emergence of excessively powerful ruling elites with incomes derived from financial-parasitical accumulation. Without overstressing the ‘mistakes’ of such elites, this book contextualises Africa’s wealth outflow within a stagnant but volatile world economy.

‘Patrick Bond’s book provides a solid theoretical, empirical, and analytical framework showing and proving that the processes of looting the African continent, which started with the slave trade, have continued to this day’ – Professor Issa Shivji, University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

‘A brilliant analysis and timely expose of the rapacious forces ranged against Africans today.’ – John Pilger

Contents
List of Figures, List of Tables
Preface and Acknowledgements
1. Poor Africa: Two Views
2. Global Uneven and Combined Development: Neoliberalism, Stagnation, Financial Viability
3. Financial Inflows and Outflows: Phantom Aid, Debt Peonage Capital Flight
4. Unequal Exchange Revisited: Trade, Investment, Wealth Depletion
5. Global Apartheid’s African Agents: Homegrown Neoliberalism, Repression, Failed Reform
7. . Civil Society Resistance: Two Views

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