

3. Foreword

Forward Together

Denis Goldberg is the perfect networker. The experienced civil engineer with the bright but realistic ideas and with the help of friends in many countries, has drawn innumerable people internationally into his circle with the purpose that has driven him from the beginning of his activism: South Africa needs intensive solidarity and support. Since the democratic turning point in 1994 there has been the need to overcome the trauma and wounding of human dignity caused by Apartheid in every aspect of life and to nourish the step by step triumph of the dream of a “Rainbow Nation.”

We in Germany saw, at the time of the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, the problems of integrating two different political systems. Manifold individual histories and fundamentally different social narratives have to grow together. There is still much more to do. We are aware that South African and German histories are in many respects not comparable, but the artist Joseph Beuys writes: democracy (in the sense of unlimited, acknowledged human rights) is a never ending process and gains have to be fought for and won over and over again. For this reason to sow the anti-racist seeds needs determined characters and Denis Goldberg is able to develop such characters through presentations and personal conversations especially with his younger audiences. With empathy, with the wish to exchange experiences and with enthusiasm for critical questions and constructive answers he helps people to discover new visions and

ways of moving forward together along the unending road to more democracy and more tolerance.

This peoples' friend and teacher of people, Denis Goldberg, has motivated untold numbers of men and women, youth and children in South Africa, in Germany, Great Britain and elsewhere to continue along this road.

With this book the authors as well as the editorial and publishing team want to honour him with all their admiration, friendship and love on the occasion of his 80th birthday. This Festschrift – commemorative publication – brings together mainly subjective and personal contributions by those who have become part of his network, who have known him at different times of his life and have had the good fortune to accompany him for shorter or longer periods.

The musicians of the Kronedal Music Academy in Hout Bay, where Denis Goldberg lives, are his latest friends who have in a very short time crept into his heart. Their part in Denis' life is therefore at the end of the book. But they will certainly not be the last who get caught up in his net.

The editors want to give their heartfelt thanks to all the authors for their commitment.

Tina Jerman, Birgit Morgenrath, Eberhard Neugebohrn, Christel Schwiederski, editors of the German edition

David Kenvyn, editor of the English edition

Tina Jerman, M.A. studied History of Art, Philosophy and Literature. She was the coordinator for Culture and Development in the Eine-Welt-Netz in the Bundesland North Rhine-Westphalia. Since its inception in 1982 she has been the CEO of EXILE Kultur Koordination based in Essen, Germany. She was the project leader (among others) of interkultur.pro, co-founder and member of the Executive Committee of the Eine-Welt-Netz NRW; and in 2004/5 Director of the Eine-Welt Department of the NRW Bundesland Government.

Birgit Morgenrath, main co-editor, is a respected journalist in radio and print media as well as a co-author of substantial studies of colonial relations; most notably a volume on *The Third World in the Second World War* published in German.

Eberhard Neugebohrn. C.E.O. of the Foundation Environment and Development: North Rhine Westphalia (Stiftung Umwelt und Entwicklung: Nordrhein-Westfalen)

Christel Schwiederski has worked since 2012 for the Foundation Environment and Development Northrhine-Westphalia (SUE-NRW). Previously a freelance journalist specialising in Development Cooperation, Interculture and the Environment, among other topics. From 1981 to 1996 lecturer in German Literature and Regional Cultural Studies Lecturer (*Dozentin*) in Berlin, Budapest and New York.

David Kenwyn has been involved with Southern African since 1968, volunteering in the Anti-Apartheid Movement, the Committee for Freedom in Mozambique, Angola and Guine (CFMAG), the Mozambique, Angola and Guine Information Centre (MAGIC) and the ANC London Offices. Executive Committee member of the London Anti-Apartheid Committee from 1982-94. delegate to the ANC International Solidarity Conferences in Arusha, Tanzania (1987), Johannesburg (1993) and Pretoria (2012). He assisted the ANC in 1994 election campaign. Invited guest at the ANC 100th anniversary celebration at Mangaung in 2012.

David has been a member of the National Executive of Action for Southern Africa, the successor organisation to the Anti-Apartheid Movement, since its foundation in 1994. He has visited South Africa 10 times since 1993.

David has known Denis Goldberg since 1985 and has been proud to work alongside him as a colleague and friend.

For more about Denis Goldberg's life:

Denis Goldberg, *The Mission: a life for freedom in South Africa*, 2010, New African publishers, Johannesburg. Originally published by STE, Johannesburg.

Denis Goldberg, *Der Auftrag, ein leben für die Freiheit in Südafrika*, 2010, Assoziation A, Berlin, Hamburg



Tina Jerman

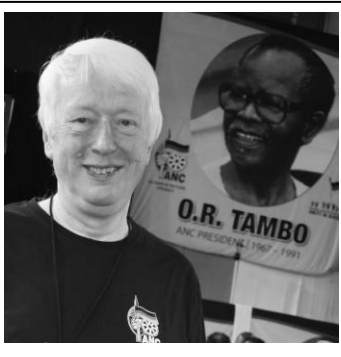
Birgit Morgenrath



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Fotos: top left, ThomasKrehwinkel; right: personal;
Bottom: left: personal; right: Suresh Kamath