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Exhibitions of resistance posters: contested values between art and the archive

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Abstract

This research report has followed three periods in the history of the political struggle for freedom in South Africa, from the height of the Anti-apartheid struggle in the 1980s to the present day by way of exploring three exhibitions of resistance posters as case studies. It is located in the realm of political and art history. Looking at the positioning of the resistance poster in South African art history, the intension is to highlight how these exhibitions have used display strategies to construct values reflected in the resistance poster. The three selected exhibitions are as follows: firstly, *Thami Mnyele and Medu Art Ensemble Retrospective (2008),* Second is the exhibition *Images of Defiance: South African poster of the 1980's (*2004). And the third exhibition *Interruptions: Posters from the Community Arts Project Archive (*2014).