

GENRES OF CRITIQUE

Law, Aesthetics
and Liminality



KARIN VAN MARLE &
STEWART MOTH

EDITORS

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The Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) was born from a simple but powerful conviction: in this part of the world special initiatives are required to create and maintain an environment where we can generate and engage with conceptual frameworks and knowledge that may guide us in tracking and co-shaping global academic developments and that will allow us to address the 'big' questions and issues South Africa and the African continent face, also in a global context.

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Hendrik Geyer

STIAS Director

Stellenbosch

June 2011

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PUBLICATION

This book is dedicated to

PAUL CILLIERS

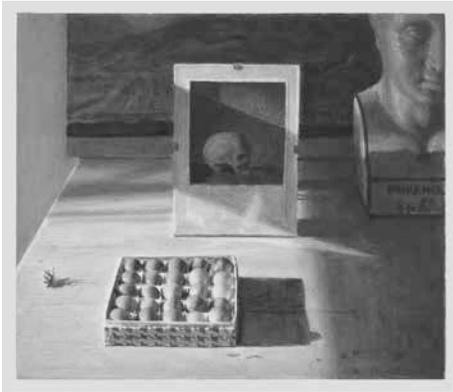
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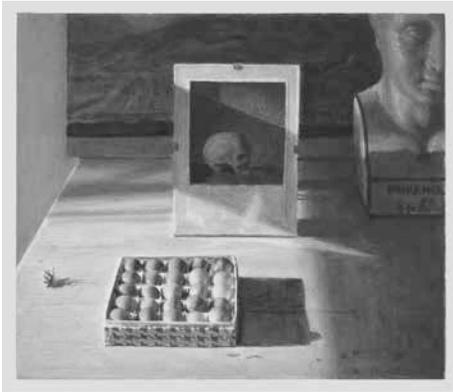
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INTRODUCTION

Stewart Motha and Karin van Marle

This project was conceived during the months of July and August 2008 and 2009 we spent at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS). Our brief was to conceptualise a project that would involve a group of international scholars coming together to discuss and investigate. Throughout our time at STIAS Paul Cilliers gave invaluable support, inspiration, and direction. We hope that the chapters in this volume reflect in some sense his deep understanding of complexity, and his enthusiasm and generosity voiced during individual and group discussions. This volume is dedicated to him.

Genres of Critique seeks to open and explore the liminal space of critique at the intersection of law, aesthetics and politics. We elaborate and expand the meaning and significance of critique through aesthetic forms for responding imaginatively to legal and political problems. Although this endeavour has wider significance, our focus is primarily on South Africa.

These essays arose out of a process of reading, writing and discussion among visiting scholars at STIAS in 2010. The project responds to the limits of the transplantation of critical legal studies into different jurisdictions, especially South Africa. Aesthetics has been a significant form of critically interrogating law in many sites, and the discussions