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SPECIAL ISSUE

Cultural Critique

No. 3, Spring 1986
American Representations of Vietnam

Edited by
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Richard Berg, Occidental College

Scholars and critics in many disciplines have begun to study the great variety of documents, personal accounts, and stylized representations of America’s war with Vietnam. In many ways, it was a war waged by various media as well as in actual combat, and the aftermath of this war continues to haunt us with difficult questions about how the representation of another culture shapes foreign policy and public opinion. The Vietnam War tells us that politics and literature, historical fact and personal impression, documentary account and expressive form are involved with each other in the complex ways of cultural self-representation. This special issue of Cultural Critique offers various approaches to these practical and theoretical issues in the American representations of the Vietnam War.

John Carlos Rowe and Richard Berg, Vietnam in the Academy: Observations on the Rhetoric of Scholarship
John Carlos Rowe, Documentary Styles in the American Representation of Vietnam
Michael Clark, Snapshots: Remembering Vietnam
Claudia Springer, Military Propaganda: Defense Department Films from World War II to Vietnam

Richard Berg, Coming Home: The Veteran on Television and in Film
Noam Chomsky, Reflections on the Indochina Wars
Philip Kuberski, Genres of Vietnam
John M. Jakaitis, Two Versions of an Unfinished War: Dispatches and Going after Cacciato
W. D. Ehrhart, Poetry

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Individuals $15 (1 yr.) $30 (2 yr.) $45 (3 yr.)
Institutions $30 (1 yr.) $60 (2 yr.) $90 (3 yr.)

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Submissions: Two copies of article to Cultural Critique, English Dept., University of Minnesota, Mpls., MN 55455.