

clamor

your DIY guide to everyday revolution

November 27, 2006

Dear Subscriber:

We're writing to you today because we've decided to stop publishing Clamor. We set out to create an independent magazine that would bulldoze borders, defy dogma, and inspire instigation. We wanted to create a magazine that extended the vibrancy of the underground zine community to a larger general audience and share the enthusiasm and energy we saw in our fellow do-it-yourselfers. We intended to redefine the progressive magazine. And while we feel like we accomplished those goals at various stages, one goal we never fully realized is that of making Clamor economically sustainable.

Seven years ago — almost to the day — the WTO Protests in Seattle were shaking the foundation of the world and we were hunched over our keyboards editing, compiling, and designing the first issue of Clamor. That first issue set in motion a project that would go on to publish the art and articles of over one thousand people throughout the world — many of whom who had never had their ideas and work seen by a mass audience. Over the years we've heard from readers near and far that this little magazine we've created helped folks feel connected to a global community of individuals and groups working to make this world a little better. We can't take that to the bank, but knowing we did that for seven years and 38 issues will have us forever beaming.

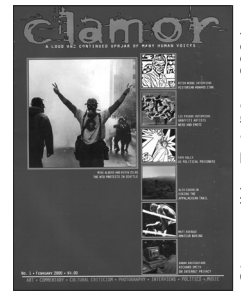
Clamor's future seemed so promising earlier this year when we brought on Mandy Van Deven and Nomy Lamm to help with the publishing side of Clamor. With their help, we were able to deepen conversations about issues of power and representation regarding race, class, gender, queerness, and disability within our staff that we had not been able to fully engage. We put together an Advisory Board of people whose perspectives could help guide us in articulating a broadly defined movement while becoming financially sustainable. We began a process to transfer legal ownership of Clamor from Jason and Jen to Mandy and Nomy with the ultimate goal of creating a worker-owned cooperative. We published an issue featuring an exposé on American Apparel that was downloaded by over 11,000 people online and garnered us some "fighting words" from American Apparel's public relations department. And we threw the second Clamor Music Festival in October to celebrate independent arts and media with hundreds of people across the country.

Despite all of this momentum, the obstacle of servicing old debt on an otherwise sustainable project while also negotiating major shifts in the magazine industry have proven too burdensome for us to continue publishing. But effective movement media doesn't need to last indefinitely to be successful. We're confident that many people have been inspired to do great things after reading about others doing the same in Clamor. We know this because we've been consistently inspired by the stories of struggle and triumph in Clamor. And while we'll miss that, we're also confident that there are independent media projects being born at this very moment with even greater promise.

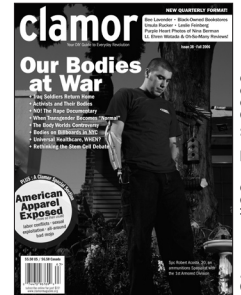
We have been lucky to have so many of you as subscribers and supporters. Without you we wouldn't have been able to publish Clamor for as long as we have. We have worked out an agreement with several of our peer magazines [Bitch, (bitchmagazine.org), Tikkun (tikkun.org), Herbivore (herbivoremagazine.com), Left Turn (leftturn.org), and Punk Planet (punkplanet.com)] to fulfill the remainder of your subscription. Please write us at subs@clamormagazine.org or send a postcard to Clamor c/o Jen Angel, 484 44th St, Oakland, CA, 94609 by the end of the year to let us know which magazine you would like to receive for the remainder of your subscription. Lifetime subscribers will receive a four-issue subscription to each of these publications, unless you tell us otherwise.

Thank you for all your support.
Jason, Jen, Mandy, and Nomy
for the Clamor crew

PS: *The Allied Media Conference and our online distribution projects (infoshop and infoshopdirect), two important projects launched in conjunction with Clamor Magazine, will not be affected by the closing of the magazine. Read more about the closing and what the Clamor staff will be up to now that they have a little more free time at www.clamormagazine.org*



Clamor #1 - Feb/Mar 2001



Clamor #38 - Fall 2006