STATEMENT OF ORIGINS

When I came down as a Fulbright Professor at the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina in 1978, I found a very highly developed English and American Literature (and Language) Program - but no leetle mag. Which I thought I'd remedy with a kickoff number of ILHA DO DESTERRO - EXILE'S ISLAND. It is a poor, pitiful, lean kickoff, I know, but I just wanted to do it kind of like from the middle of the gorilla-populist spirit of the 60's - early sixties - when Mimeo was King and poverty never meant paper or mode of printing but only POVERTY OF SPIRIT.

I hope other members of the department will take this small pile of sticks and build it into more stately mansions - but without losing the esprit of the fresh, new, experimental... certainly NOT turning it (as a veteran of 22 years of English departments I think I have every right to fear) into a mausoleum of literature. I'd rather think of it as a beach, a tenniscourt, a sandlot ballpark, popular/populist/mass - not massive, the People, yes, and the LIVING more than the Dead.

HF - 1979