

REFLECTIONS of the SOUTH AFRICAN MEDIA

1994-2019



Edited by
Robin Sewlal

REFLECTIONS of the
SOUTH AFRICAN MEDIA
1994 - 2019

Robin Sewlal



This book is dedicated to all the women and men who have as well as those who continue to keep the media in South Africa voiceful and vibrant.

REFLECTIONS of the SOUTH AFRICAN MEDIA 1994 - 2019

Editor

Robin Sewlal

Editorial assistance

Andrea Alcock and Alan Melville

Layout & Design

Fanboy Signage & Design

Cover image & Artwork

Ashley Munsamy

© Robin Sewlal 2021

ISBN: 978-0-6397-1512-4

ISBN: 978-0-620-94662-9 (electronic)

Published by

Radiocracy, PO Box 201134, Durban North, South Africa, 4016
email: radiocracy@hotmail.com

The written material in this book may be copied or redistributed in any form, print or electronic, with appropriate acknowledgement for bona fide purposes, and not for commercial use.

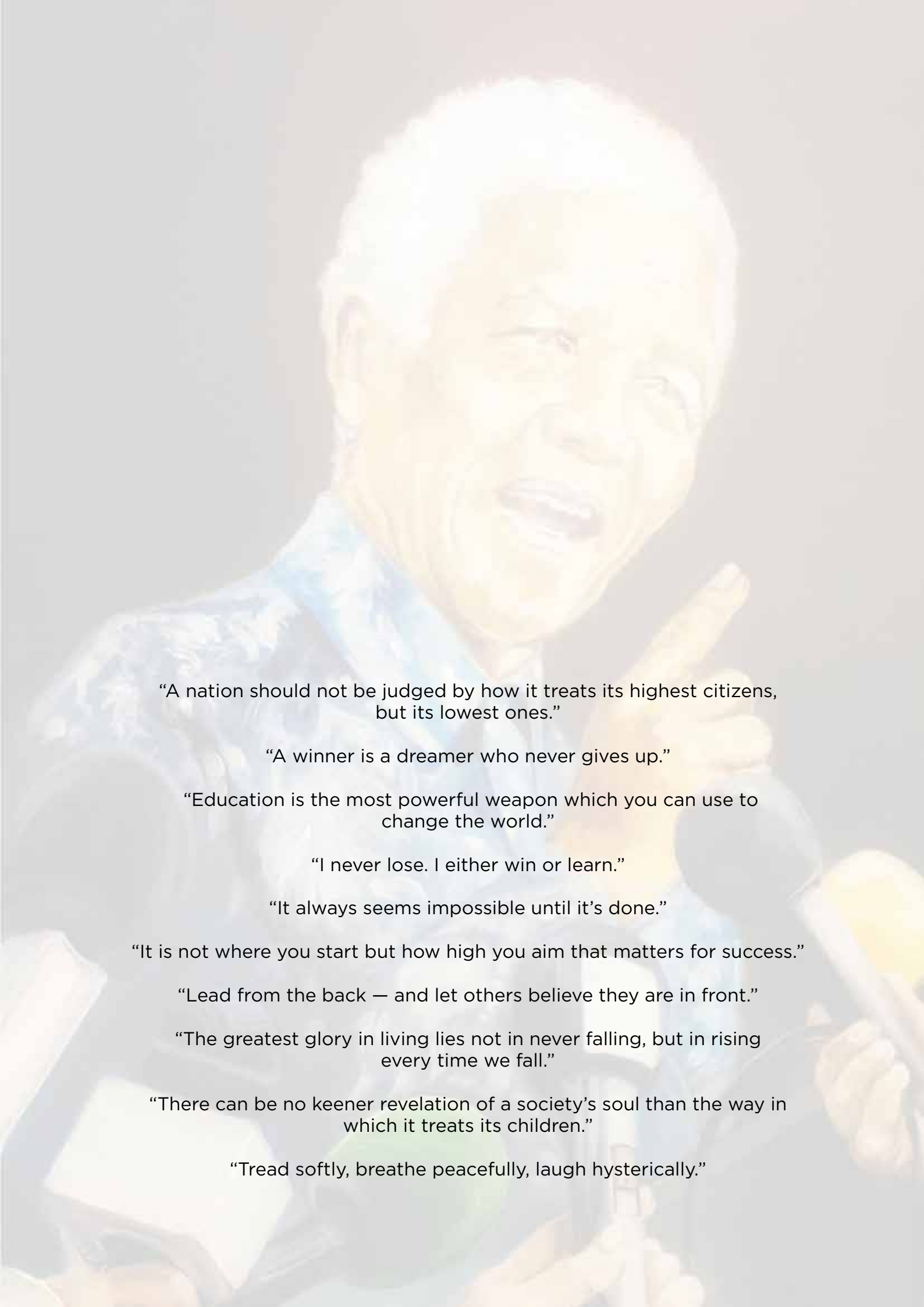
Disclaimer

The information, views and opinions contained in the contributions reflect those of the authors. While efforts were made to verify the content, the accuracy of all material furnished remains the responsibility of the contributors. Pictures used in the book have been supplied by the authors.



ASHLEY MUNSAMY
FINE ARTIST





“A nation should not be judged by how it treats its highest citizens,
but its lowest ones.”

“A winner is a dreamer who never gives up.”

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to
change the world.”

“I never lose. I either win or learn.”

“It always seems impossible until it’s done.”

“It is not where you start but how high you aim that matters for success.”

“Lead from the back — and let others believe they are in front.”

“The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising
every time we fall.”

“There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in
which it treats its children.”

“Tread softly, breathe peacefully, laugh hysterically.”

Contents

Message from the editor - Robin Sewlal	1
Foreword - Jeremy Thompson	2
1. Pace and tone of commercial radio - Alex Mthiyane	3
2. Film as a media platform - Anant Singh.....	5
3. Value of local journalism - Ashok Ramsarup.....	8
4. Sports journalism on the rise – Avashnee Moodley.....	10
5. Helping community radio - Bill Siemering	13
6. Connoisseur of the courts - Chris Marnewick.....	15
7. Creating community radio - David Hotchkiss.....	17
8. Caring for the environment - Desmond D’sa.....	20
9. Mahatma Gandhi Media Lecture - Ela Gandhi	22
10. Cultivating a culture of consumer rights - Fakir Hassen.....	24
11. Truth and Reconciliation Commission - Jaimal Anand	26
12. Television’s fight for survival - Jeremy Maggs.....	29
13. Looking in from afar - Joe Ritchie	32
14. Making a case for freedom of expression - Karthy Govender.....	34
15. Capital Radio closes . . . “no, no, no” - Kenny Maistry.....	39
16. A young black writer’s perspective on the publishing landscape - Khulekani Magubane	42
17. The left field of a study tour - Kiru Naidoo.....	45
18. An activist’s personal take on media diversity – Lumko Mtimde	48
19. Is the media’s coverage of the law sufficient? - Mapula Sedutla.....	51
20. On being a business journalist - Martin Challenor	54
21. Development of community television: Growth or stagnancy? - Mashilo Boloka	57
22. Is it the content or the cash? - Mathumo Manaka.....	61
23. A perspective on Greater Durban Television - Mikhail Peppas	63
24. Attached to the soil: Portraits of South Africans - Peter Glendinning	67
25. The relationship between the judiciary and media - Chief Justice Pius Langa.....	71
26. Media’s coverage of the elections – Ronesh Dhawraj.....	74
27. Does print media have a future? - Ryland Fisher	78
28. Madiba and the media - Sello Hatang.....	81
29. Snapshot of the SABC - Selwyn Bartlett	84
30. Role and impact of the media in politics - Sibusiso Ngalwa.....	86
31. Labour ‘broking’ with the media - Sizwe Pamla.....	89
32. Radiocracy: A pivotal moment for radio, democracy and development - Steve Ahern.....	92
33. Formation of the National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa - Steve Ahern.....	94

Journeys in Journalism

34. Fred Khumalo.....	97
35. Salma Patel.....	100
36. Uveka Rangappa	103
37. Yogas Nair	106
38. Zanele Buthelezi	108
39. Zayn Nabbi.....	110
40. Zodumo Maphumulo	113