Greg George

speakers still occupied the covered way but faced east. Liberties struggle in 1977 the audience area had been built out. The and covered way. Changes to the area seemed to express a kind of that time. A crucial element in this was the Forum Area where very frequent through to the mid-seventies, there was a shared cultural ethos for much of the area between the Student’s Union Building and the Relaxation Block. Nevertheless Brian would come back the next day and repeat the exercise tried out their own rhetorical talents. Munching students digested ideas your-face speakers to direct action on Brisbane streets. People hesitantly spread vegetarianism around them and loopies spread love; or urged by in-of some arcane thing of which they’d never heard, while Hare Krishnas detained, half-unwilling. There, they might be invited to consider the merits precinct at the eastern end of the campus, where the Union had constructed "The Forum at UQ St Lucia was an experience as much as a space. In a

The following personal accounts reflect the memories of those for whom...and take effective action. Political responses of a generation. Through the dynamics of the Forum, an

Springboks demonstrations during the S

Campaigns that exposed and directly challenged the police-state-minded impose a S

frequent and more violent. The 1971 rugby union turn for the worse. Clashes between police and demonstrators were more

Compared to earlier marches, the surge in the number of protesters that

kicking and threatening students as they forcibly removed the protesters Close to central Brisbane at Roma Street, the marchers were confronted by

As the march went through the University Grounds it was interrupted twice: by a police van and by large numbers of police (who did not have a permit). The crowd was so large that it spilled across the roadway spreading back to the

After the vote, about 4,000 students and staff, approximately half the campus population at the time, set out to march the 8 kilometres from the

students and academic staff, joined in and the lunchtime forum became a

During the 1960s, significant protest movements were erupting on university campuses around the world. In the early 1960s, attention

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Demonstrations in the mid-1960s were often quickly broken up by police,

use of police force at those events was widely condemned by students resulted in many arrests; a majority of the demonstrators. The excessive

As it left the university grounds. Similar treatment was given to protesters as it left the university grounds. Similar treatment was given to protesters

students at the Refectory (the student cafeteria, usually referred to as The

students and workers took part in demonstrations and strikes aimed at

students demonstrated in support of civil rights and against the escalating

university campuses around the world. In the early 1960s, attention

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The Forum in session. Fryer Library Collection: Papers of Eva and Ted Bacon,

My earliest memory was the day I saw Brian Laver take out a Refectory

Remembering the University of Queensland Forum compiled by

Humphrey McQueen speaking at a rally in Centenary Park at the conclusion of a

(Archive 4)

2011

1970 which was a prelude to the first Vietnam Moratorium march.

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can be e-mailed to:

BDC (including full name and brief details of your activism in this period)

arising from such joint effort by BDC members.

The circle is comprised of an email group that exchanges information and resources about the events and activities spanning the period 1960 to 1985. The circle is comprised of an email group that exchanges information and resources about the events and activities spanning the period 1960 to 1985.

In an effort to develop and preserve the historical legacy of an era Stanwell.

remained in my heart ever since.

For me the Forum was exciting, exhilarating, and ever present. It became the norm for what should happen at a University. It was pivotal in my

And rhetoric, and I began to see the invalidity of their positions.

How could we white fellas want to stop Apartheid in South Africa and not be

This is where I heard from young Aboriginal men, Dennis Walker and his

Vietnam, Cambodia and also South America. It was where I heard my

learned that communists were many and varied, and far from putting out

Martin, who convinced me that it was imperative to stand against the war. I

The war. In fact it was those who refused to sign up for conscription

But one could not avoid the Refec, nor the environs of the Forum. One

I entered UQ with excitement and fear. I was most terrified

of going to the Refec on account of that was where those ones my father

passed overwhelmingly.

present were visibly affected by the reports, and the Uni Strike motion was

chaos from the night before. The large numbers of staff and students

1971) I joined Mitch Thompson walking towards the Refec. He said we were

"Bruce Dickson

Loved the rampage, the follow-on from words to action.

There was no music.

The seriousness and the boredoms;

Read the Red & Black's dangerous books

When there was such a lack of remorse in heaven.

Over the top with vitriolic splendour,

Met my lover listening there,

Dancing, damning words.

The loud-hailer breath of rhetoric.

And therefore the Forum found me, before I met the faces,

Thank you. It found me first day on campus.

Jim Prentice addresses the Forum, circa 1971. Left to Right: Jim Prentice (with

Draft-resister's Union table set up in the Forum area.

John Stanwell

than civil liberties, and before long I was radicalized on those issues as

Liberties campaign that culminated in the September '67 march by 4,000

- gathered and spoke loud and strong.

Debra Beattie

feminism, of grass-roots activism and of the perniciousness of racism. I

do now was 'smooth the pillow' as the Aboriginal Australian was a dying

I heard Dennis Walker speaking/shouting his anger and never again forgot

straight after to go to the protests at Bowen Hills - and was there the day of

I still feel was worth the 'price'.

Without a doubt, the Forum was a powerful force in my politicization, which

in the area. A fairly lengthy debate took place one Friday afternoon when a

and a leading member of the Democratic Club over the placing of NLF flags

fair bit older than the rest of the students; he would turn up with his

Vietnam'

by Bruce Dickson published in Semper Floreat, November 1974 (Vol 44 No 16).

"There was a fascination in listening to the speeches in the forum area in

...and I began to see the invalidity of their positions.

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