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**MARXISM TODAY is expanding fast.**

**Already recognised as one of the best, we set our sights high – and want to grow and extend our influence. Last month we embarked on our most ambitious project yet: a complete redesign and relaunch.**

**But big plans are one thing. Making them happen is another matter. We're run on a shoestring, and a thin one at that.**

**This summer we launched an appeal to our readers for £10,000 to help finance our redesign, relaunch and exciting plans for the future. The result is in your hands. And so is our future. So far nearly £6,000 has been raised. We need you to help us reach the £10,000 target. We make no bones about it: if we fail we'll face serious difficulties.**

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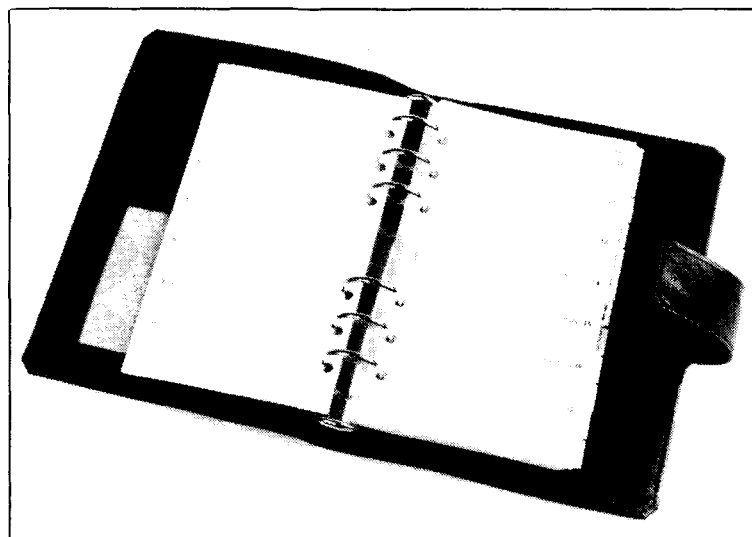
# Time to get organised

## Marxism Today exclusive offer

In these hectic times you need to be organised. You want all the details of a busy life at your fingertips. The answer – a Lefax personal planner, available only to MT readers. Now you can have all the facts you need when you need them. The handy sized binders come in three varieties: finest leather, canvas cloth with marbled papers and eye-catching vinyl. The six ring binders are built to last and are available in either black, red or pink (leather and vinyl); or black and blue (cloth).

Inside the planner contains: A specially designed Marxism Today cover; a week to a page diary for 1987; name and address A-Z index; notepaper and a pen-holder.

This offer gives you high quality at a competitive price with the opportunity to extend and personalise your planner through the substantial Lefax range. Buy one for yourself and one for that disorganised friend.



**Don't delay** – order now for these two offers and our other goods. Send to Marxism Today, Freepost (no stamp needed), 16 St John Street, London EC1B 1JB.

**Nicaragua  
Solidarity  
Campaign**

## Make a mug of Reagan

## MT Xmas Offer!

In association with the Nicaragua Solidarity Campaign – a gift pack including the stylish new MT mug, a Sandino mug plus a pack of high quality Nicaraguan ground coffee!

Description	Price	Size/Colour	Qty	Total
Lefax – leather	£36	Red/Black/Pink*		
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DIRECT FROM THE HALF MOON THEATRE

**'SHARP, INCISIVE, POWERFUL, FUNNY'**

*The Voice*

**'SAVAGELY COMIC' POLITICAL HIT** F TIMES

# STEVEN BERKOFF'S

**'SKILLED AND AUDACIOUS  
PIECE OF THEATRE'**

Standard

CHORUS

Around the land, in every pub,  
in every drinking room and lounge  
the voice of England can be heard  
discussing the Falklands with angry  
sounds  
as if the family jewels had been thieved.  
Outraged, the tele on, the pot of tea  
refuelling parched throats for verbal  
war.  
You'd never believe until last week  
they didn't know Falklands from  
Leigh-on-Sea.

**'BERKOFF FIRES WITH ALL  
SATIRICAL BARRELS ...  
HIS TARGETS HIT WITH EXCET  
PRECISION.'** Time Out

**'LIKE ALL SUCCESSFUL SATIRES,  
IT STRETCHES BELIEF, BUT  
NEVER DEFIES IT.'** Today

**'DELICIOUSLY SCABROUS ...  
FAST PACED PIECE OF  
STYLISTED THEATRE  
EXCELLENT CASTING.'** City Limits

SAILOR

They're only blokes like us ...  
Don't fire ... not fire one off ...  
Like in cold blood ...  
Not warn 'em first and fire a warning  
shot?  
Like shift over boys, you're getting  
close

COMMANDER

It's not the second World War ... is it?

Fire one, 43 seconds it should take

**'STEPHEN BERKOFF -- SUCH  
MEN ARE DANGEROUS.'** Standard

**'THE POLITICAL PUNCH  
IS WELL PACKED, THE EFFECT IS  
SATIRIC AND COMIC.'** Guardian

**'BERKOFF DIRECTS WITH  
EXTRAORDINARY ENERGY,  
INVENTIVENESS AND MASTERLY  
STAGE CRAFT.'** Morning Star

**'TIGHT, MENACING, COMPELLING  
AND FULL OF EXQUISITE  
PHYSICALITY.'** Today



## SINK

# THE BELGRANO!

**'A SOPHISTICATED WEAPON'** Standard

Written and directed by Steven Berkoff

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### IT'S NOT THE SECOND WORLD WAR ... IS IT ?

**FROM  
OCTOBER 21  
FOR A LIMITED  
SEASON!**



# Women in The Mainstream

## A Roundtable Discussion

A new generation of women are taking up office in the labour movement. They're moving into the mainstream. They are no longer outsiders. But do they feel powerful?

The participants in the roundtable are: Tricia Davis who works for a public sector trade union and is on the Communist Party's National Women's Advisory; Gaynor Legal who is a Labour councillor in Cardiff and is a black activist and social worker; Inez McCormack, who is a trade union organiser in Northern Ireland; Frances Morrell who is leader of the Inner London Education Authority; and Clare Short who is Labour MP for Birmingham Ladywood. The discussion was chaired by Beatrix Campbell a member of *Marxism Today's* editorial board.

**I** would like you all to introduce yourselves to give people some idea of who you are and what has been your political trajectory.

**Frances** How a working class girl from the North ends up as leader of ILEA! I suppose I left the North after my formal education to come to London to see the world. In London I became involved in politics working for the National Union of Students in the late 60s, early 70s – a time which most people remember as a great period of student unrest. I was then hired by Tony Benn to be his policy adviser when he was Secretary of State for Industry and then for Energy. I worked for five years in the 74–79 Labour government. After that I did two things: firstly I became a member of the CLDP executive and took part in the battle to democratise the party. Secondly I thought I would get back in touch with real life by becoming a local councillor. And then I got elected to the GLC and ILEA.

Being a mother has been very important to me. As feminists, many women politicians have the confidence to be positive about motherhood. A home can be a loving institution where human values are maintained. This forces you to refer to the genuine human values, and you don't just get totally absorbed in the brutal political jungle.

**Gaynor** I come from a very large, mixed up extended family in Cardiff

and I came into mainstream politics through black politics and the black power movement in America. I became involved in forming pressure groups. And then I joined the Labour Party and about three years later was asked to stand as a candidate for Bute Town (or Tiger Bay) in Cardiff which has a long-standing black community. I was the second black councillor in Wales. My education began well after I left school. I went to a local school where children went in at 4½ and left at 15, but half way through my education the system changed and it became a primary school so I left, and having failed the 11-plus, went to a secondary modern school.

When I left school I went through the caring professions – I did nursery nurse training and then I became a social worker and that's where I am today.

My daughter was born when I was only 19. So we grew up together and whilst I was becoming involved in politics and finding out about myself, she was being dragged along. Consequently, she won't go anywhere near a demo and her ambition is to have a house without books and paper in it. But we're very good friends and she's my most astute critic.

**Tricia** I also come from a working class family but one where there was a very traditional respect for education and ideas. I suppose I was told that either I was going to crack it or it would

