**Contributor: Tony Voss**

**Entry: *Voorslag* (June, 1926 – July, 1927)**

‘A … Magazine of South African Life and Art’ appeared monthly until February 1927, then bi-monthly for one issue and finished as a quarterly: one in a long succession of little magazines, from the Pringle-Fairbairn *South African Journal* (1824), which sank after two issues, torpedoed by the threat of censorship, to Stephen Black’s *Sjambok*, launched in 1929, shipwrecked by libel action in 1931, and beyond. Funded by Lewis Reynolds, scion of a plantation sugar family, and edited by Roy Campbell (age 24), William Plomer (age 22) and Laurens van der Post (age 19) for its first three issues, *Voorslag* published verse, prose fiction and criticism, in English and Afrikaans. (Campbell intended to invite contributions in isiZulu.) These editors themselves contributed in all genres: perhaps most significantly, Campbell’s poem ‘The Albatross’and his review of Eliot, Plomer’s ‘Portraits in the Nude’, and van der Post’s ‘Nimrods van die See’. *Voorslag* was important for its recognition and renewal of and commitment to South African culture, for the debate it provoked and for what it contributed to the subsequent career and *oeuvre* of each of its initial editors, but broke on the reefs between age and youth, colonial and metropolitan, capital and labour.

**References and further reading**

*Voorslag: A Magazine of South African Life and Art; Facsimile Reprint of Numbers 1, 2 and 3 (1926) Edited by Roy Campbell, WilliamPlomer and Laurens van der Post*. (1985) Introduction and Notes by Colin Gardner and Michael Chapman. Pietermaritzburg: University of Natal Press; Durban: Killie Campbell Africana Library.