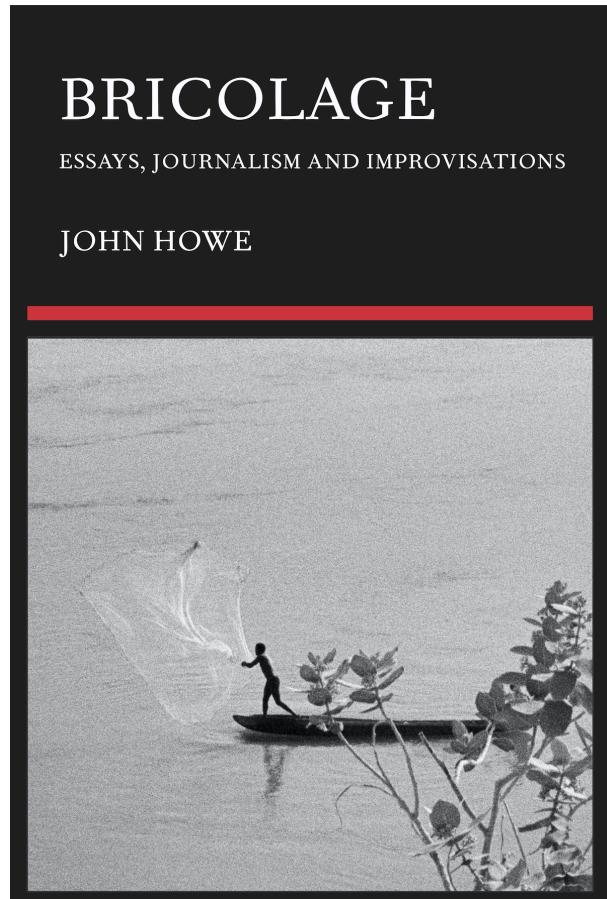


BRICOLAGE: ESSAYS, JOURNALISM AND IMPROVISATIONS

JOHN HOWE



Paperback, 234 x 156 mm, 304 pp
ISBN 978-1-5272-6530-1
Cover price £10

This book contains a cross-section of writings by John Howe (1938-2018), covering topics ranging from current affairs to psychology, the arts, cars, travel, personal reminiscences and contemporary life. It includes fiction and non-fiction, previously published and unpublished - a *bricolage* constructed from decades of professional work and private reflection.

A journalist and translator, John wrote for avant-garde publications, such as *7 Days* and *Bananas*, for the mainstream press such as the *Guardian* and French daily *Le Matin* and for the political journal *New Left Review*. Having developed an interest in Africa, he travelled through the continent. Among other accounts, the book features a personal portrait of Nigerian superstar Fela Kuti and a close-up view of the war being waged by the people of Western Sahara for independence from Morocco (1987). Nearer to home, he wrote about the Notting Hill Carnival and local characters. His appreciation of mechanics informed his writing on the car industry and its evolution towards automation.

'Evenings with Our Girl Rene' is utterly delightful and precise in its observations and social commentary and wise ... a reminder of what a very fine and distinctive writer he was.

Herbie Butterfield (retired), Department of Literature, Essex University

The description of Kampala in the immediate aftermath of the Idi Amin era in 'Anarchy in Vitro' is unforgettable and vivid.

Richard Synge, journalist and editor, Africa specialist

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