

25th
BIRTHDAY
SPECIAL

LAST WORD

KNOW

IT ALL

*Facts about COSMO
you may not know*

**The first edition
of South African
COSMO cost R1,50.**



• **IN JANUARY 1998
WE SHOT OUR MAIN
FASHION SPREAD WITH KATE MOSS.**

- In January 1985 South African COSMO was banned for the first time when a Committee of Publications found an advice column on fellatio a little hard to swallow. The banning was overruled.
- Our launch party in 1984 was held at the Cape Town home of Sol Kerzner and his then-wife, Anneline Kriel, with founder of US COSMO Helen Gurley Brown and her husband David Brown as guests of honour.

*The local cover star
to appear most often
on South African
COSMO is model
Tanya Fourie.*

- The international cover star to appear most often on South African COSMO is model/actress Paulina Porizkova.
- COSMOPOLITAN IS PUBLISHED IN 52 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD.
- Only six of those editions – US, UK, Australia, India, the Philippines and South Africa – are published in English.

**On the cover of its first
issue, COSMO wrote:
'The last, last, last word
on ORGASMS'. How did
we think we were going
to proceed from there?**

- COSMO was threatened with banning by the South African Defence Force in March 1988 after we published an article by Shona Bagley called 'Conscription makes war on love'. Then-editor Jane Raphaely saw the SADF off with chocolate cake and the promise to happily see them in court.

**Since our launch issue, you
– the readers – have asked
agony aunt Irma Kurtz
over a thousand questions.**

- The December 1992 edition, featuring pictures from Madonna's book *Sex*, sold out.
- During the '80s COSMO published a cooking book. Not the *Naked Chef* variety. Yes, even we've had a few lame moments.
- In COSMO's 10th-birthday issue Judy Sexwale wrote a piece called 'Island chronicles', describing the role COSMO played in the lives of political prisoners on Robben Island. Among other things they created a secret code from the magazine to communicate with each other and their loved ones. You can read this article in Jane Raphaely's memoir *The Recipe*, which will be published in May.

**COSMO's
biggest-selling
edition was
January
2007, with
144 549
issues bought.**



(Local model Nicola Breytenbach graced that winning cover.) □