

Those who received a copy of the first issue of *Engaged* magazine had to keep a careful eye on it lest it mysteriously disappeared. It came in the form of a natural cotton, long-sleeved T-shirt covered in enigmatic pieces of text about life and art. Admittedly, more people wanted to wear it than read it, but the run of 100 copies sold out when it appeared in Dillons and the ICA bookshop. *Engaged* stands out among other arty magazines like *Fuel* and *Cake*, from the recently featured graphic design group Blue Source, because it attempts to marry the message to the medium. All the pieces of texts featured in Issue 1, for instance, were originally written to appear on T-shirts, just as the texts on the 35" x 50" poster that is Issue 2 were intended for public display. Issue 3 comes out in May on CD ROM. Issue 4 is an exception to the rule, being published as a tin of alphabet spaghetti.

The magazine is put together by Rachel Steward (27) with the help of her flat-mate, David Rainbird, who does design. She funded the first issue herself and attracted contributors by distributing a newsletter, the response, she says, 'was massive'. When she's not working on *Engaged*, Steward is a performance poet who gears



her work to 'a live audience, you always have to remember that people are there to be entertained'. She applies the same philosophy to *Engaged*, which is there to be used and enjoyed, not just collected – Issue 2 comes with a small packet of wallpaper paste 'to encourage alternative display in the home, or on the streets'.

Elaine Paterson

Engaged is available from arts bookshops, or from 334A Kennington Road, SE11 4LD. e-mail: <engaged.demon.co.uk>. It costs £15 plus P&P.

fast & loose

'Wish I hadn't'

Morrissey, asked what was the first thing he does when he wakes up in the morning

'Now I may never have the body or face of a supermodel'

Lynne Perrie, who has abandoned a cosmetic surgery make-over for health reasons

