



The mission of the Women's Caucus for Art is to create community through art, education and social activism

We are committed to:

recognizing the contribution of women in the arts

providing women with leadership opportunities and professional development

expanding networking and exhibition opportunities for women

supporting local, national and global art activism

advocating for equity in the arts for all

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WCA President's Update

from the desk of Priscilla Otani



Greetings From the President

Last weekend I attended a Bay Area Latina Artists' Symposium at the Galeria de la Raza in San Francisco. It featured a stellar group of panelists that included WCA Lifetime Achievement awardees Amalia Mesa-Bains and Ester Hernandez. I got an excellent overview of historical and contemporary Latina art and was inspired by young artists like Melanie Cervantes and Favianna Rodriguez who used their art to support activism in various communities. This symposium reminded me of the value of stepping outside of my studio and endless to-do lists, and learn what's going on in other artists' groups.

Learning what's going on is exactly what I did in April, when I got together with the Washington DC and Colorado chapters, dropped in on an art opening in NYC with Marcia Annenberg, and attended the annual ArtTable luncheon with Karin Luner. My cross-country trip gave me a

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deeper appreciation for the richness of creativity, interests and knowledge that reside throughout WCA and the pleasure of exchanging ideas one-on-one. I hope to see many of you in Michigan this summer. The Michigan chapter has gone all-out to provide a "wow" experience for all of us. Let's get together. Let's talk!

This Update is filled with news about what's going on, and the many opportunities for exhibitions, conferences, and grants. I hope you'll take the time to read about them and act on those that appeal to you.

And don't forget to send your stories to president@nationalwca.org.

Join Us for the WCA Summer Board Meeting in Michigan



The WCA Michigan Chapter is hosting this year's Summer Board Meeting in Dearborn, Michigan with an exhibition and several art tours. We will have the opportunity to enjoy the vibrant Michigan art scene, including a visit to Ann Arbor's popular Art Fair. If you want to get involved with National WCA or spend two solid days of networking with women in the arts from all over the United States, you don't want to miss this year's summer conference and board meeting.

WCA has booked hotel rooms at the Marriott Dearborn Inn at a great rate of \$119.00 per night. Call 1-800-228-9290 or 1-313-271-2700 and mention "Women's Caucus for Art Meeting." Dearborn Inn is located at 20301 Oakwood Blvd, Dearborn, MI. **Reservations must be made by 5:00 pm, Thursday, July 19, 2012.** Rooms are limited so book early!

Art Events Hosted by WCA Michigan

Thursday, July 19: River's Edge Gallery meet & greet and networking. Dinner to follow.

Friday, July 20: All day tours of Ann Arbor Special Collections and/or Art Fair. Man Up! No Balls About It opening reception.

Saturday, July 21: All-day tour of Detroit and dinner in Mexican Town.

Sunday, July 22: 10:30 - 5:00 pm: WCA Summer Board meeting at the Arab American National Museum.

Purchase tickets for art tours and Sunday's luncheon by clicking [here](#).

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Woman + Body: Korean Opportunity



The International Caucus is thrilled to announce its first juried call for exhibition in Korea. Titled *Woman + Body*, the show explores a range of sexual identification -- female, transgender, and male -- with a contemporary 21st century view. This show is the brainchild of International Caucus Chair Sherri Cornett and Hye-Seong Lee, of Gwangju University. Coinciding with the Gwangju Biennale, *Woman + Body* will include works by WCA and Korean women artists. Dr. Tanya Augsburg will jury the US artists' works. If you ever wanted to enter an international exhibition, here is your [opportunity](#). The deadline is July 27, and the call is open to WCA members only. More information about this show and the International Caucus can be found by going to <http://wcainternationalcaucus.weebly.com>.

Honoring Women's Rights



In early September, the WCA Pacific Region will host the conference and exhibition, *Honoring Women's Rights*, at the John Steinbeck Center in Salinas, CA. This event celebrates WCA's 40th anniversary and focuses on women's social, economic, and political history.

Submit your art now to *Honoring Women's Rights: Visual Voices Together*. The jurors are Dr. Joyce Aiken, Patricia Rodriguez, and Dr. Ruth Weisberg. The deadline for submission is June 17. Apply [here](#).

A stellar list of speakers is expected for this conference, including Malissa Feruzzi Shriver, California Arts Council Chair, Louise Bernikow,

and Dr. Thea Iberall. Panelists will cover:

- Genres of feminist art
- Art and women's history
- Issues and Voices of Art Activism

The conference will also include film screenings, exhibition reception, gourmet box lunch and a musical performance.

Buy your conference tickets right now at the earlybird price by clicking [here](#).

For complete information, go to www.honoringwomensrights.org.

A Special Mother's Day in Philadelphia



On Mother's Day, at a fundraiser at the home of actor Will Smith's mother, Philadelphia chapter members Joanna Fulginiti, Alisa Fox, Jeanne Lombardo, Ellen Bonnett and Eva Preston had a table for the Ragdoll Project. This event, attended by 300 guests, mostly mothers and their families, enabled Joanna and her team to explain how domestic sex trafficking affects runaways, girls in foster care and girls in abusive family situations. The members also distributed brochures for Dawn's Place, the only shelter in Philadelphia that houses victims of sex trafficking. Attendees expressed interest in making dolls and contributing to the Ragdoll Project, or in donating money to Dawn's Place.

The goal of the Ragdoll Project is to educate artists and the public on human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. Through events like this, Joanna and her colleagues got residents in Philadelphia to think about sex trafficking and what they can do to prevent it, and support the victims. They promoted Dawn's Place, in the hopes of getting more support and funding for victims in their area.

Ask Ulla!

Q. I've been president of my chapter for many years and need to take a break. How can I get someone else to take the job? -- Anonymous

A. Let your chapter know that you need a break, even though you truly enjoyed your presidency. It's important that you do not complain about being the president of your chapter -- no one wants to take over a tough or negative position.

Plan a nice get-together in a pleasant environment like your home or in a restaurant. This will put your chapter members in a positive mood. Inform them there is a time for change and progress in your chapter and that can only be accomplished with new leadership. If no one steps up, suggest that instead of one president, the chapter could have two

co-presidents. This way the co-presidents can share ideas and responsibilities.

If this does not work, inform your members that you will not stay on as their president beyond a certain date. Let them know that it is not healthy for a chapter to have one president for too many years. Announce a democratic vote about your chapter's future. If all else fails, pronounce your chapter as "Inactive" for the time being. Usually, someone with new energy and ideas will come along and your chapter will be in action again.

Confused about national WCA? Worried about your chapter? VP-Chapter Relations, Ulla Barr, will answer your questions. We also welcome additional solutions and ideas from members. Send questions and solutions to president@nationalwca.org with the subject line: Ask Ulla! We'll publish 1-2 Q&As per Update.

\$150 Award for 2014 CAA Panel Idea

Help us submit an interesting panel proposal for the 2014 CAA Conference in Chicago (February 19-22, 2014). The 2014 program includes 4 categories: Historical Studies, Contemporary Issues/Studio Art, Educational and Professional Practices, and Open Forms. As an affiliate of CAA, WCA's proposal will be juried by CAA's Annual Conference Committee. Click here for more details from CAA. If you have an interesting topic, email president@nationalwca.org with: the title of the panel, one-paragraph description of the panel, potential panelist, and which of the four categories your proposal fits best. Your suggestions will be acknowledged, if I receive a compelling suggestion, you will win an award of \$150. The deadline is July 1, 2012.

\$500 Artlines Opportunity

We want you to transform the fall edition of ArtLines into an art zine. Here's an opportunity for a WCA member to create a one-of-a-kind collector's edition art newsletter for WCA. The winner will be paid \$500 for her work. The deadline for application is July 1, 2012. To apply, go to www.nationalwca.org, click on the **Membership** tab, then click **Grants & Opportunities**. Or, click [here](#).

\$1,500 Curatorial Residency

Have you dreamed of curating a show? WCA is offering a \$1,500 curatorial residency that includes a month-long exhibition at San Francisco's Arc Gallery in the summer of 2013. Deadline for applications is September 7, 2012. Click here for details. To apply, go to www.nationalwca.org, click on the **Membership** tab, then click **Grants & Opportunities**. Or, click [here](#).

Wilderness Mind: Dissolving Duality





premiered an exhibition, *Wilderness Mind: Dissolving Duality*, at the Angel's Gate Cultural Center. Curated by Deborah Thomas, the exhibition includes 30 works by Carolyn Applegate, Ulla Barr, Marie Cenkner, Danielle Eubank, Ann Isolde, J.J.

L'Heureux, Nancy Lissaman, Meg Madison, Hiroko Momii, MaryLinda Moss, Sandra Mueller, Annemarie Rawlinson, Deborah Thomas and France White. The exhibition continues through August 18.

Writes curator Thomas, "Although on first impression, "wilderness" may call to mind places of intense experience in nature, far from civilization, it reveals itself to be more a state of mind that defies location, either geographical or imaginary--one in which social structure relaxes, logic slips away, and time and space collapse."

Reversing the Gaze at Kinsey



Approximately 70 people attended the opening reception for *Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze* at the Kinsey Institute Gallery in Bloomington, IN on April 13. This exhibition was first shown in San Francisco at the SOMArts Gallery in November of 2011. Karen Gutfreund

and Brenda Oelbaum, two of the four exhibition partners on this show, attended the opening and panel discussion together with eight artists. Says Catherine Johnson-Roehr, Curator of Art, Artifacts and Photographs, "The exhibition has been well-received by our visitors, though a few students had trouble figuring out why we were showing so many pictures of naked men!"

Legacy Initiative



SF Weekly recently published an article about Sylvia Sleight's painting, *Lawrence and Susanna Delgado*, which was exhibited during *Man as Object: Reversing the Gaze* and afterwards donated to Mills College.

WCA worked with the estate of Sylvia Sleight to make this happen. This gift launched WCA's Legacy Initiative, headed by Past President Janice Nesser-Chu. Read the complete article by clicking [here](#).

Add to the Lifetime Achievement Awards Database

Between now and June 30, members may submit names for consideration or update information already in the Lifetime Awards Nominations Database. Who knows? Someone you nominate may be selected by the Honors Committee next year or in future years to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award.

To access the database, go to www.nationshugobon.org, log into the

To access the database, go to www.nationalwca.org, log into the membership portal, click on membership, then click on LTA database.

To Add Information

Click FIND to see if your nominee is already in the database. If you want to add information on that person, click NEW ENTRY/UPDATE. Check the UPDATE box. Type the full name of the nominee, then add the update information.

To Add Nominee

Click NEW ENTRY/UPDATE. Check the NEW ENTRY box. Fill out the form with as much information as possible.

When done, click SUBMIT. Your entry will be pended until additions and changes are reviewed by the Honors Chair for accuracy. After review, they will go "live." Don't miss this opportunity to add someone who you believe is worthy of consideration by the Honors Committee for WCA's signature Lifetime Achievement Award.

Rusty Cantor: Aug. 6, 1927 - Mar. 13, 2012



We are sad to report that Rusty Cantor, President Emerita of the Northern California chapter, passed away on March 13, 2012. Rusty was both a powerful feminist voice for the chapter and a strong conscience in the battle against censorship in the arts. Her studio was a welcoming place for

members and her Christmas parties were legendary. Rusty passed away surrounded by her family and WCA members Helen Poole Newman, Eleanor Dickinson and Riko Takata. To quote Eleanor, "Rusty had quite a life: loved by most, angered by a lot, starting a lot of issues and causes."

On the right is Eleanor's drawing of Rusty's hand; a hand that represents her vibrant feminist spirit. For more details about Rusty, please visit www.ncwca.org.



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