



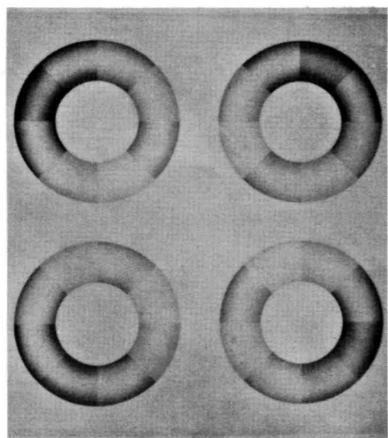
I am going to work for the future which is sure to come, a future in which people will be seen as human beings, not as sexual stereotypes, when all human beings will know about the struggle of women to participate as full human beings, to contribute our gifts to the world. Until then, I will try to make my art according to my precepts. I am committed to making art out of my experiences as a woman - making it available to as many women as I can, by finding ways to exhibit it so that many people can see it, by selling my work at low prices, by trying to build a female art community which has high standards and a broad base.

— Judy Chicago

Feminist

Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted and gathered into barns, and no man could head me and ain't I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man - when I could get it - and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman? I have born thirteen children, and seen most of 'em sold into slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me - and ain't I a woman?

—Sojourner Truth



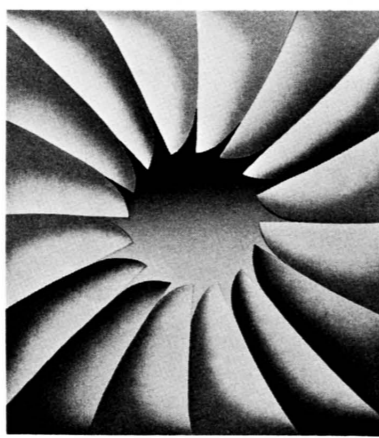
Every woman is supposed to have the same set of motives, or else to be a monster. I am not a monster, but I have not felt exactly what other women feel—or say they feel, for fear of being thought unlike others . . . You are not a woman. You may try, but you can never imagine what it is to have a man's force of genius in you and yet to suffer the slavery of being a girl. To have a pattern cut out . . . this is what you must be; this is what you are wanted for; a woman's heart must be of such a size and no larger, else it must be pressed small, like Chinese feet; her happiness to be made as cakes are, by a fixed recipe.

—George Eliot

Studio

Well - I made you take time to look at what I saw and when you took time to really notice my flower you hung all your own associations with flowers on my flower and you write about my flowers as if I think and see what you think and see of the flower - and I don't.

—Georgia O'Keeffe



The Feminist Studio Workshop is an experimental program in female education in the arts. Our purpose is to develop a new concept of art, a new kind of artist and a new art community built from the lives, feelings and needs of women.

—Judy Chicago, Arlene Raven, Sheila de Bretteville



Workshop



When a woman artist positively identifies herself to us through her work, she commits a courageous and daring act of self exposure, because her contribution has neither spoken to nor been understood by the mainstream of the culture, and the content of her art has been bypassed by interpretations which could not reveal it. Thus a woman's saying, 'I am, I know myself, and I feel a fundamental optimism - a grasp upon my own survival as a model for human survival', is saying something which challenges the prevailing world view. If consciousness is the content of feminist art, this level of human responsibility and hope is the content of consciousness.

—Arlene Raven

Feminist

I do not delude myself, as Man does, that I create in proud isolation... Woman's creation, far from being like Man's, must be exactly like her creation of children, that is, it must come out of her own blood, englobed by her womb, nourished with her own milk. It must be a human creation, of flesh, it must be different from Man's abstractions.

—Anaïs Nin



Art...attempts to found the world anew on a human liberty: that of the individual creator: to entertain such a pretention, one must first unequivocally assume the status of a being who has liberty. The restrictions that education and custom impose on woman now limit her grasp on the universe; when the struggle to find one's place in this world is too arduous, there can be no question of getting away from it. Now, one must first emerge from it into a sovereign solitude if one wants to try to regain a grasp upon it: what woman needs first of all is to undertake, in anguish and pride, her apprenticeship in abandonment and transcendence; that is, in liberty.

—Simone de Beauvoir

Studio

My aim is to depict woman apart from her relations to man. If I have not portrayed something truly feminine, then I have failed.

—Mary Cassatt

The woman's approach presents a different emphasis. I think that women will contribute . . . a great deal to the visual arts . . . for there is a whole range of formal perception belonging to feminine experience . . .

—Barbara Hepworth



The Feminist Studio Workshop is committed to the development of an integrated female support community in which art making, art historical and critical analysis, public, design arts and feminist consciousness merge into a new frame of reference.

—Judy Chicago, Arlene Raven, Sheila de Bretteville



Workshop



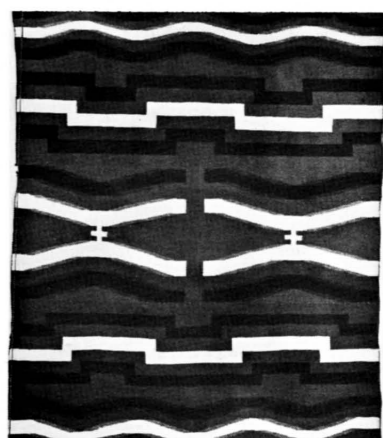
The design arts are the public arts, the communications which influence such consciousness as we have. I have become increasingly aware of the extent to which our visual environment reinforces repressive attitudes when it could offer alternatives. By basing our design arts on an ideology which encourages the direct voice of the individual women in society, we can point out the contradictions inherent in patriarchal, one-directional channels of communication. We can present our ideas, feelings and needs directly to a larger audience than the loft, gallery and museum going elite, when we make our communications using mass media technology.

—Sheila de Bretteville

Feminist

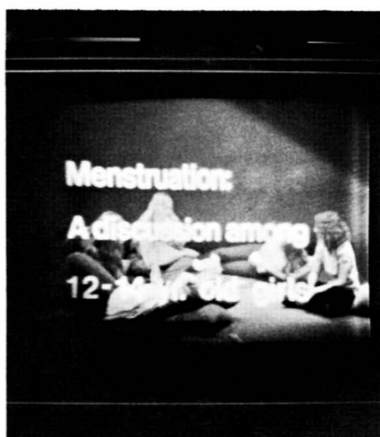
I believe, at present, women are the best helpers of one another. Let them think; let them act; till they know what they need. We ask of men to remove arbitrary barriers. Some would like to do more. But I believe it needs that Woman show herself in her native dignity to teach them how to aid her; their minds are so encumbered by tradition.

—Margaret Fuller



...true emancipation...begins in woman's soul. History tells us that every oppressed class gains true liberation from its masters through its own efforts. It is necessary that woman learn that lesson. That she realize that her freedom will reach as far as her power to achieve her freedom reaches. It is, therefore, far more important for her to begin with her inner regeneration, to cut loose from the weight of prejudices, traditions, and customs.

—Emma Goldman



Studio

Behind us lies the patriarchal system; the private house, with its nullity, its immorality, its hypocrisy, its servility. Before us lies the public world, the professional system, with its possessiveness, its jealousy, its pugnacity, its greed...The question we put to you is how can we enter the professions and yet remain civilized human beings...

—Virginia Woolf



In the Feminist Studio Workshop women will be free to explore alternative ways of introducing their female perspective into society. For more information about the programs offered, write:

Feminist Studio Workshop
14120 Van Nuys Boulevard
Pacoima, California 91331



Workshop