

the Woman's Building

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For release:
Updated: March 20 2017

SAVE THE DATE: "Animating the Archives: the Woman's Building" opens May 13, 2017

(Los Angeles, CA) Fifteen emerging Southern California women artists have received fellowships to create new works about the [Woman's Building](#) * and the feminist art movement here. It's part of "Animating the Archives: the Woman's Building," a [Metabolic Studio](#) Special Project in Archiving. The project seeks to further preserve the history of the iconic feminist art organization, both through traditional archiving methods and by encouraging a new generation of artists to engage that history. The works, which range from visual to performance art, from media to social practice projects, will be on view at Avenue 50 Studio, 131 North Avenue 50, Highland Park, CA 90042, from Saturday, May 13 through Saturday, June 3, 2017. A series of public performances, readings and discussions will be presented in conjunction with the exhibition.

Fellowships have been awarded to Johanna Breiding, CamLab, Teresa Flores, Raquel Gutierrez, Hackers of Resistance, Onya Hogan-Finlay, Carolina Ibarra-Mendoza, Marissa Magdalena, J. Alex Mathews, Felicia 'Fe' Montes, Cindy Rehm, Gladys Rodriguez, Hana Ward, Lisa Diane Wedgeworth, and Diana Wyenn. Funding for the fellowships has been provided by the Metabolic Studio.



the Woman's Building on 1727 North Spring Street in 1978 when the artwork, *Great Lady Rising* from the "Naked Lady" series by Kate Millett was installed on the top of the building.

From 1973 to 1991, the Woman's Building provided a space and a symbol for education, exhibition, performance, community and political action for the feminist art movement in Los Angeles and around the world. Since the site closed, many of its artists have continued to promote its values and processes in their art, teaching and organizing work. A core group has also worked for decades to preserve the Woman's Building history through archives, audio and video oral histories, books, and in a 2011 exhibition at Otis College of Art and Design that was part of the Getty's Pacific Standard Time initiative.

The artist Lauren Bon and the Metabolic Studio have been working out of a warehouse across the street from the historic Woman's Building on North Spring Street. Lauren Bon invited the Woman's Building to return to Spring St, within Metabolic Studio from November 2016-April 2017, in order to continue the long-term task of preserving and re-animating the Woman's Building's critical role in the development of feminist culture and expression. LA-based author and poet Terry Wolverton, a member of the Woman's Building board noted that when Metabolic Studio approached them with the opportunity, "We saw the chance to track the legacy of our movement in the artists of today." The artists awarded fellowships from Metabolic Studio have been encouraged to review archival materials and become familiar with the history of the Woman's Building, and craft their response.

The public program schedule, as well as images and descriptions of the artists' projects will be available in the coming weeks.

* Founded by artist Judy Chicago, graphic designer Sheila de Bretteville and art historian Arlene Raven, the Woman's Building in Los Angeles was named after another structure built in 1893 by architect Sophia Hayden for the Columbian Exposition in Chicago. That building, which was demolished after the exposition, exhibited art and cultural works by women and included a mural by Mary Cassatt.

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