



**T
H
R
O
U
G
H

T
H
E

L
O
O
K
I
N
G

G
L
A
S
S**

Program of "Through the Looking Glass: A Gynergetic Experience," the first national women's spirituality conference, Boston, April 1976. Courtesy of Gloria Greenfield.

DESCRIPTIONS

AMAZONS: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE. *Will discuss the amazons as the last true stronghold of gynocracy in the ancient world. Will investigate the idea of the amazon throughout herstory, and the significance of this concept to woman now, and also as a dynamically futuristic concept. A space to share information.* (Whitney Laughlin)

THE BIRTH OF A MOTHER/DAUGHTER. *A slide-sound exploration of the relationship between a mother and daughter: the pain of the discovery of the myth of marriage and the joy of new found communion through the voice, drawings, and images of my thirteen year old daughter as I listen/record and see/photograph her/us.* (Rosemary Sullivan)

THE CARE AND FEEDING OF YOUR SATURN CYCLE. *Between the ages of 27 and 30, every woman experiences a major metamorphosis - the saturn cycle. She is forced to gather up all that has been experienced in that period, examine it all, throw out all of the extraneous bullshit, keep the knowledge, skills and substance that have been gleaned from the whole, focus it all in one's true inner self, assimilate it and then start forward on the next step of the journey. This workshop deals with creating a positive saturn cycle experience. It is open to women 27-30 and/or Leos. Women participating should bring, if possible, their birth charts.* (Amy Klainer)

THE COVENANT OF THE GODDESS. *The Covenant of the Goddess is a new "church" formed from a very old religion. Its primary goals are to obtain legal protection for our religion under the First Amendment and to build closer links of love and trust amongst Craft people everywhere. A sharing of the organization and its workings.* (Alison Harlow)

THE DANCE OF LIFE: MUSIC AND MOVEMENT. *"Women are singers of magic and bringers of life." This will be a discussion/exploration of the magick of women's music and movement: past, present, and future. Women such as Sophie Drinker and Pauline Oliveros will be discussed. Bring your voices, music-makers, and gynergy!* (Kay Gardner)

DAUGHTERS OF THE MOON: WORKSHOP IN FANTASY. *Ample time will be spent inducing the trance state (moving into another dimension), where we will experience two fantasies: MOON GROTTTO, creating a special place to meet a Moon Goddess, the source of wisdom and knowledge; and SCASMS, a fantasy affirming our feminine cyclic nature, and experiencing the seasons within.* (Diane Mariechild)

DISCUSSION GROUP FOR FEMINIST ASTROLOGERS. *A space to share and explore perspectives.* (Bobbi Lev)

DISCUSSION GROUP FOR FEMINIST PALMREADERS. *We will be sharing our experiences and ideas, using palmistry as both focusing and informational art.* (Sally Ann Drucker)

DISCUSSION GROUP FOR FEMINIST TAROTISTS. *In a workshop we will explore the origins of the tarot and its history, the symbolism of the tarot, historical, mystical, and psychological; the divinatory meanings of the cards from a feminist perspective; how the tarot can be used as a system of meditation to achieve higher states of self-awareness.* (Susan Rennie)

FEMINIST THEATRE AND MOVEMENT. *Begin...again...anew...exploring and supporting our womanenergies and ideas; utilizing our own life experiences and visions. Each woman will rediscover and celebrate herself, and herself with other women, using improvisation, movement, games, music and ritual as well as other forms of creative expression. (Rites of Women Theatre Troupe)*

GETTING WOMAN-HIGH: SINGING AND CHANTING IN AN ENERGY CIRCLE. *Use of chanting and singing within an energy circle, i.e. in psychic space, as a way of setting up good vibrations, invocations, and raising and focusing energy. It's fun - and very high-making. Singing well is not a requirement! (Kaye Otter, Merrilee Melvin)*

GODDESS TEMPLES - 40,000 B.C. to 1976. *Using slides, we will explore how the Goddess has been understood and worshipped throughout history in terms of the temples and earthworks that have been built to honor Her. Some examples covered are prehistoric caves, Stonehenge, the Acropolis, the sanctuary at Eleusis, Hindu temples, Pueblo kivas, and Gothic cathedrals. In these works, whole cultures have drawn together their highest resources to celebrate the Goddess, and through them we can see how she has evolved. (Mimi Lobell)*

THE GREAT GODDESS AND HER SACRED ANIMALS. *A pictorial representation through ancient and primitive works of art, of the curiously unified and psychologically relevant symbolism of the feminine deity and Her sacred animals worshipped by prehistoric and primitive peoples throughout the world. (Buffie Johnson and Tracy Boyd)*

HEALING OURSELVES: GETTING CLOSER TO THE GROUND. *There are many alternatives to white-man's (patent) medicine. This workshop will explore some of them. I can share knowledge and experience about psychic healing, herbal remedies, fasting and food therapy, body therapy, alpha meditation, massage and the psychological approach. Please come and share what you know. (Sunny Bat-or)*

HEALING RITUALS USING MASSAGE, BIOENERGETICS AND OUR PSYCHIC EMOTIONAL SELVES - OR, BODY WORKSHOP FOR WITCHES. *We will acknowledge and work out emotional-physical pain through the use of bioenergetic exercises. We will then take that energy and transform it into more positive manifestations, and finally posit our perfect selves through light trance work. (Debby Rose)*

I CHING TIME MACHINE and I CHING MEDITATIONS - A LECTURE IN TWO PARTS.

Part one - TIME MACHINE. My alphabet for interpreting the I CHING as computer TIME MACHINE, with a brief description of what the I CHING is and how it functions. Will show slides of my first abstract interpretation of the I CHING trigrams in symbols.

Part two - MEDITATIONS. Incorporates readings and slides of Hexagrams 1-8 (56 drawings) with a discussion of the archetypal meanings of the masculine and feminine in the I CHING. How the I CHING relates to me as a 20th century feminist artist, and returning the I CHING to women - from whence it came. (Adele Aldridge)

I DREAM IN FEMALE 2: METAPHORS OF POWER. *A discussion, from the feminist/spiritual perspective, of the problems of power: what it means in a masculinist world; what it could mean to women; its source and its uses. (Barbara Starrett)*

INTO THE SILENT LAND: WOMEN'S HIDDEN HISTORY. *An exploration of woman's historical roots: the hidden and changed facts that will lead to woman's present and future dignity, inspiration, and sense of self. Slide/voice-over tape presentation, with discussion, questioning, and perhaps even arguments to follow.* (Morgan McFarland)

MATRIARCHIES AND MOTHER GODS OF THE INDIANS OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA. *An investigation of the matriarchal systems in the Americas, past and present, with a discussion of several female deities and their importance to Indian mythologies.* (Whitney Laughlin)

MENSTRUATION AS A SPIRITUAL RESOURCE - A GIFT TO MYSELF. *A journal-sharing of an experience of great richness during a menstrual period with implications for personal growth and the future of women's culture.* (Ruth Mountaingrove)

MENTAL INSTITUTIONS: THE CONTINUED TORTURE OF DEVIANT WOMEN. *This lecture will include a detailed history of the transition from witch hunts and tortures to institutionalizing women. An emphasis will be placed on devices used to "control" women as mental patients during the last two centuries.* (Mary Raffini)

MOON JAM. *Musical expressions with roots in spiritual work done in a coven. We will bring drums, flutes, and wails; we would like you to bring your voices and "instruments" - including spoons and sticks!* (Debbie Rose and friends)

MYTHS AND DREAMS OF WOMEN. *What are the patterns behind our myths, especially the ancient Goddess myths? What are the patterns behind our lives and dreams? What are the myths behind the women's movement? What are the politics behind our dreams? We will be looking at the intersection points between myths, dreams, politics, and daily living to try to get a sense of how these different perspectives interrelate. Bring your myths and dreams.* (Lyndy Pye)

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A GODDESS. *A 30 minute slide-sound exploration of the earliest (10,000 - 1500B.C.) images of women found in Mediterranean culture. The exploration will include an historical look at the development of feminine stereotypes, the distortion of female archetypes, and the effect of these ancient images on women today. This presentation will be followed by discussion and sharing of new myths for creating a new reality.* (Rosemary Rainbow)

ONE ASPECT OF RECLAIMING WOMEN'S HISTORY: BELLY-DANCING AS THE DANCE OF CHILD-BIRTH. *Belly dancing has been done for thousands of years as a natural child-birth preparation, and is also a depiction through ritual-dance of the actual labor and delivery process. The patriarchy has overlaid its own meaning on this dance. In this workshop we seek to return belly dancing to its origin as a celebration by and for women. We combine a brief lecture on the history and use of the dance, a demonstration of the way its movements are derived from childbirth, an actual dance performance, and a brief group participation in some of the movements.* (Barbara Brandt and Gigi Devitt)

OUR STEPS ARE LIGHT: MUSICAL REFLECTIONS (A PERFORMANCE). *"Curiouser and curiouser" - A personal telling, through poetry and music, of my trip into the Looking Glass. How I came to go there and how, learning of the many paths to my soul, I continue to visit Wonderland, the world of Dream/Reality. Sharing and listening to each other through our tellings to become, All of us, One in strength and understanding.* (Kay Gardner)

PAGAN PERSPECTIVES: THE RELEVANCE OF THE PAGAN RESURGENCE. *A lecture presented jointly by Margot and Alison, to share some of their experiences with various Pagan groups, and to offer some suggestions as to the value and meaning of the Pagan resurgence for women today. (Margot Adler, Alison Harlow)*

PERSONIFICATION OF THE CORN MOTHER: A BLESSING (A PERFORMANCE). *A ceremonial piece in which I will take on the costume and persona of Chicomecoatl - "Seven Maize Ears" and Xilonen "Young Maize Mother" (both early Mexican Corn Goddesses). I will do a blessing rite to sacralize the building in which the conference takes place and initiate the conference participants. The rite is based in ancient tradition of the priestesses of the corn mothers and contemporary fiesta practices, with inclusion of my own additions. (Kay Turner)*

POETRY READING. *Readings of my own poetical works. (Barbara A. Holland)*

POLITICS OF SPIRITUALITY AND HERSTORY OF GODDESS WORSHIP. *Slide show presentation of images of the Goddess and discussion of Goddess cults around the world, our matriarchal Hera-tage and how it has been used politically to oppress us. (Z Budapest)*

PROCESSIONS, PROFESSIONS, POSSESSIONS: THE BREAKTHROUGH FROM PHALLOCRACY TO FEMINIST TIME-SPACE. *The purpose of this lecture/workshop is to explore ways of entering new cognitive, symbolic and semantic space as women struggle to unmask the deceptions of patriarchal institutions while discovering and creating our own reality. (Mary Daly)*

THE RAGING SPIRIT - THE BUDDHA AND THE TEMPLE GUARD ARE ONE. *She who would sit in her temple and pray or move freely and creatively must be able to defend her space and sometimes get mad as hell. We'll use bioenergetics, meditation, aikido, belly dance, etc., to become aware of and release anger, fear and other frustrations in a totally responsible and grounded manner and build a current of high energy. This will be an active workshop: dress comfortably and be prepared to let go! (Pat McHenry)*

RECLAIMING WOMAN TIME - THE LUNAR CALENDAR AS SYMBOL AND AFFIRMATION. *Affirmation/Exploration of the Goddess in Her many guises. Using lunar awareness and woman-cycles to re-create personal time and space. Sharing alpha/trance, ideas, and resources toward a lunar revolution. (Nancy Passmore/Carmen Strickler)*

RITE OF PASSAGE (A PERFORMANCE). *Matriarchy: a celebration in movement and song; patriarchy: an enactment of violence against women; present: challenging the old and offering the new. (Rites of Women Theatre Troupe)*

A RITUAL DECLARING AND AFFIRMING OUR BIRTH. *A beautiful offering to the gathering, including music, poetry, ritual, declarations, and surprises! An her-storical event. (Jerriann Hilderley, Morgan McFarland, Kay Gardner, Z Budapest, Pomegranate Grove, and friends)*

SENSORY AWARENESS AND SELF-MASSAGE. *A gentle exercise in "letting-go" of tensions. (Mary Jane Samuel, Anna Annunziata)*

THE SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE "WOMAN-IDENTIFIED-WOMAN" --WITH READING FROM MY BOOKLET, "ASK NO MAN PARDON". *Exploring with participating women in informal workshop into the real meaning of "virgin" --independence of the male...reclaiming our own wholeness...finding the yin-yang or male-female integration within ourself...transformation of body pregnancy to soul pregnancy, of physical nurturing to spiritual nurturing. (Elsa Gidlow)*

SPIRITUALITY AND POLITICS. *The implications of spiritual beliefs for feminist politics. How we relate to our power; issues around violence; cycles of creating and ending; our collective vision. (Dorothy Riddle)*

STARTING COVENS, GROUPS AND CIRCLES. *Three of us will share our perspectives and answer questions about how we began, what we have done, the structures we have evolved, new groups we have helped start, and the ways in which we are growing. We will facilitate an open-ended discussion, including 1)how do we find each other, 2)what do you do when you start, 3) structure or structurelessness, 4) leadership or collectivity, and 5) what is our purpose. We would also like to facilitate women finding each other and making contacts at the gathering. After the discussion we will do a spontaneous ritual to focus energy on all of us finding the groups and processes we need and want. (Ursa Maior Coven: Barbry, Hallie, Margaret)*

VISUAL ARTISTS WORKING WITH GODDESS IMAGERY. *Building a community that can understand and interpret visual symbolic communications involves collectively delving into our visual past on both the known and unconscious levels. We then return with a fusion - a layering/melting of our past icons with the life-giving powers of our present consciousness. My own searches, as a visual artist working directly with the images of the Goddess as the source, will be shared through a slide presentation of ancient Goddess images, and my own present work with the Goddess. Other journeywomen who wish to share slides of their visual imagery are welcomed and encouraged to bring their slides for inclusion. (Mary Beth Edelson)*

WOMONRITUAL (A PERFORMANCE). *Echoing of the past--pain ritual--purgation--re-birth--nurturing/shelter--the cycle is completed--celebration. (Rites of Women Theatre Troupe)*

WORKSHOP FOR CHILDREN: A MATRIARCHAL STORYHOUR: NYMPHTIME. *A telling of the illustrated story (with slides) of a young girl in Crete, Selene-the Most Famous Bull-Leaper on Earth- by Z Budapest and Carol Clement, soon to be released by Diana Press. To be held in child-care. (Carol Clement, Jenny Gardner)*

YOU ARE THE BELOVED. *Woman: what She is, where She has been, and where She is going. Lecture followed by audience participation. (Mello Rye)*

TOPICAL ROOMS

CONTACT ROOM (#709). *Place to find rides/riders/old pals/new sisters/messages.*

GALACTIC GOODIES (#311). *Where the food's at. Come and get it!*

HEALING ROOM (#707). *Place for women who want to give/receive healing.*

HERB EXCHANGE (#708). *A space for women to get together and share herbal brews, lore and use.*

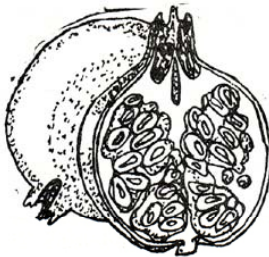
LOOKING GLASS (first floor lounge). Outstanding art exhibits, including photographs by Mara and Ruth Mountaingrove, drawings by Carol Clement, water colors by Harriet Arnoldi, prints by Mary Beth Edelson. Open Saturday and Sunday, 10a.m. to 5p.m.

MEDITATION ROOM (#412). A quiet space to come and center yourself. No noise, please!

MINSTREL ROOM (#711). Space to share and raise energy through music. Open continually except from noon to 2p.m. on Sunday, when there will be a workshop in this room.

MUSE'S BROOMSTOP (#710). A space for women to come together and share the magical form of our poetry.

PAGAN'S MARKET (#715 & #717). A place to spend your money. Posters, books, buttons, calendars, pamphlets, and more! Saturday and Sunday, 10a.m. to 5p.m.



We are entering pioneer territory, and our modes of travel vary according to our individual experiences. THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS is a crossroad--a meeting.

Pomegranate Productions, the project name for an all-woman's Dianic Grove, offers this gathering as a labor of womanlove. And hope. It is our hope that the magick of our efforts will produce an environment conducive to creating and sharing.

Women collectivizing as strong individuals are blessed with strong collective realizations/realities. This cross-coastal gathering is for all self-loving women in process.

Carol Cain
Gloria Z. Greenfield
Pat McGloin
Marianne Rubenstein

SPECIAL THANKS AND HUGS TO: Mary Raffini, Suzanne Black and Thursday, who are responsible for locating and securing the gathering site, arranging childcare services, and arranging musical events, respectively.

PLATINUM MOON CROWNS TO: Valerie Hall, Linda S. Stephenson, and Andrea Weiss for their never-ending energies and wonderful friendships (they didn't get much sleep these past thirteen nights).

CONTRIBUTORS: Suzanne Black, Bread and Roses, Barbara Fioramonti, Marga Gomez, Pomegranate Grove, Mary Raffini, Adrienne Rich, Thursday and Andrea Weiss.