

NANCY BUCHANAN  
CONSUMPTION



**CJG** CHARLIE JAMES GALLERY  
CHINATOWN, LOS ANGELES

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# NANCY BUCHANAN

## CONSUMPTION

Charlie James Gallery is delighted to present *Consumption*, our first solo show with Los Angeles-based artist Nancy Buchanan.

Intending to focus on painting at UC Irvine, Nancy Buchanan's (b. 1946, Boston, MA) conceptual bent started when she was a student of Robert Irwin. Absorbing his lesson that art is an experience rather than an object, she extended her production to unusual materials (shredded newspaper, human hair) and methods of presentation. Buchanan works across drawing, performance, video, collage, mixed media work and installation. As she embraces the notion that art should evidence the time of its making, Buchanan's pieces often address social and political issues.

"Consumption" was the 19th-century name for tuberculosis, from the Latin root *con* (completely) plus *sumere* (to take up from under), a disease Buchanan suffered from as a young child. The term's modern definitions include "the using up of a resource," "the ingesting of something," and "the purchase and use of goods and services by the public," among others. For Buchanan, the term "Consumption," with its dated and contemporary definitions serves to organize a portrait of the contemporary moment drawn from four different bodies of work by the artist. The collage series *It's About Time* collage series consists of densely interwoven luxury wristwatch advertisements - furious meditations on American obsession with time, branding, and status, with nods to both Marclay and the shiny object fixation occupying today's higher reaches of the art market. This series works in partnership with Buchanan's other recent body of work in the show titled *50 Shades of Cake*, a photo-based series which combines attraction and repulsion in the sumptuous display of grayish-hued cakes and pastries. These two contemporary series are supported by earlier works from Buchanan's career that build in historical perspective - works from the *After California* series and two of Buchanan's miniatures with video. *After California* is a series of classic 20th-century California landscape images that Buchanan has updated by incorporating the suburbs now adorning their open spaces. Since 1988,

Buchanan has collaborated with Carolyn Potter to make miniatures incorporating video. In *American Dream #6*, their very first piece together, every surface is littered with home improvement brochures while on the small TV Joe McCarthy is shouting, and bundled newspapers trace the history of atomic weapons. Another miniature - *Use Value* celebrates the local economies of garage sales.

Buchanan will donate 50% of the proceeds of her sales from the *50 Shades of Cake* series to the LAMP organization (begun in 1985 as Los Angeles Men's Place) that assists homeless people in and around Skid Row.

Beginning with her participation as a founding member of F Space Gallery in Costa Mesa, Nancy Buchanan has been involved in numerous artists' groups including The Los Angeles Woman's Building and Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE); she has also acted as curator for several exhibitions and projects. Her work has been seen domestically and internationally and she is the recipient of four National Endowment for the Arts Individual Artist grants, a COLA grant, and a Rockefeller Fellowship in New Media, which enabled her to complete *Developing: The Idea of Home*, an interactive CD-ROM, in 1999. Her work has been shown in exhibitions at MOMA, MOCA, the Centre Pompidou, the Getty Research Institute, and was included in four of the Getty-sponsored Pacific Standard Time exhibitions; in 2013 she had a solo screening of her videotapes at REDCAT. Recently, she organized a durational performance at UC Irvine's xMPL Theater as the second event in *The Art of Performance*; also, her videos were included in *Agitprop* at the Brooklyn Museum; *RE-ACTION*, a traveling exhibition originating in Spain; and *Jonny* at Insitu, Berlin. From 1988-2012, she taught in the Film/School at CalArts; she worked with community activist Michael Zinzun on his cable access show *Message to the Grassroots* for ten years and as a member of Zinzun's LA 435 Committee, she traveled to Namibia to produce a documentary about that country's transition to independence from the Republic of South Africa. Buchanan lives and works in Los Angeles.

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*50 Shades of Cake #6*  
Archival pigment print  
23.5 x 35.5 in paper  
25.25 x 37.25 in framed  
Edition of 3  
2014

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*50 Shades of Cake #5*  
Archival pigment print  
23.5 x 35.5 in paper  
25.25 x 37.25 in framed  
Edition of 3  
2014

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*50 Shades of Cake #7*  
Archival pigment print  
23.5 x 35.5 in paper  
25.25 x 37.25 in framed  
Edition of 3  
2014

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*50 Shades of Cake #4*  
Archival pigment print  
23.5 x 35.5 in paper  
25.25 x 37.25 in framed  
Edition of 3  
2014

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*50 Shades of Cake #11*  
Archival pigment print  
23.5 x 35.5 in paper  
25.25 x 37.25 in framed  
Edition of 3  
2013



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*50 Shades of Cake #3*  
Archival pigment print  
23.5 x 35.5 in paper  
25.25 x 37.25 in framed  
Edition of 3  
2013



*50 Shades - Cupcakes*  
Screen print on mylar,  
aluminum or paper  
Edition of 20  
17 x 20 in paper  
19.25 x 22.25 in framed  
2013

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*Buying Time*  
Collage on archival board,  
conservation glass  
22.5 x 31 in paper  
25 x 33.25 in framed  
2016

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*Good Times*  
Collage on mylar paper on  
board, conservation glass  
19.5 x 28.5 in paper  
22 x 31 in framed  
2015

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*Saving Time*  
Collage on gold mylar  
conservation glass  
19.5 x 27.5 in paper  
22 x 30 in framed  
2017

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*Time Standing Still*  
Collage on paper  
conservation glass  
28 x 32 in paper  
30.25 x 34.25 in framed  
2014

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*Good Timing*  
Mixed media collage on  
board, conservation glass  
20 x 28.5 in paper  
22.5 x 30.5 in framed  
2015



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*Time to Reflect*  
Paper collage on silver  
mylar, conservation glass  
27.5 x 19.75 in paper  
29.75 x 22 in framed  
2014

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*Use Value*  
(collaboration with  
*Carolyn Potter*)  
M/m sculpture  
with video  
26.5 x 22.5 x 20.5 in  
2002

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*American Dream #6*  
(collaboration with  
Carolyn Potter)  
M/m sculpture  
with video  
20 x 18 x 17 in  
1988  
\$15,000

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*After California*  
(William Wendt)  
Unique archival print on  
canvas  
24 x 30.5 in paper  
30 x 36.5 in framed  
1999-2017

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*After California*  
(Evan Braun)  
Unique archival print on  
canvas  
24.5 x 30.75 inches in  
paper  
29 x 37 in framed  
1999-2017



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*After California*  
(Edgar Payne)  
Unique archival print on  
canvas  
18.5 x 21.5 in paper  
28 x 30 in framed  
1999-2017

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*Do Not Touch #1*  
Miniature books & texts,  
gold spray paint on  
marbled paper in wooden  
box  
21.25 x 17.25 x 4 in  
2013

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*Do Not Touch #2*  
Pencil drawings, scratch-  
board drawings, acrylic,  
magnets on metal  
12 x 12 x .5 in  
2014

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From Dreams



*From Dreams #13*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.75 x 16.75 in framed  
1976



*From Dreams #16*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.75 x 16.75 in framed  
1976

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From Dreams



*From Dreams #26*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.75 x 16.75 in framed  
1976



*From Dreams #7*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.75 x 16.75 in framed  
1974

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From Dreams



*From Dreams #18*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.75 x 16.75 in framed  
1976



*From Dreams #19*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.75 x 16.75 in framed  
1976

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From Dreams/  
Hard into Soft



*From Dreams #8*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.75 x 16.75 in framed  
1975



*Hard into Soft #11*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.5 x 16.5 in framed  
1972



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Hard into Soft



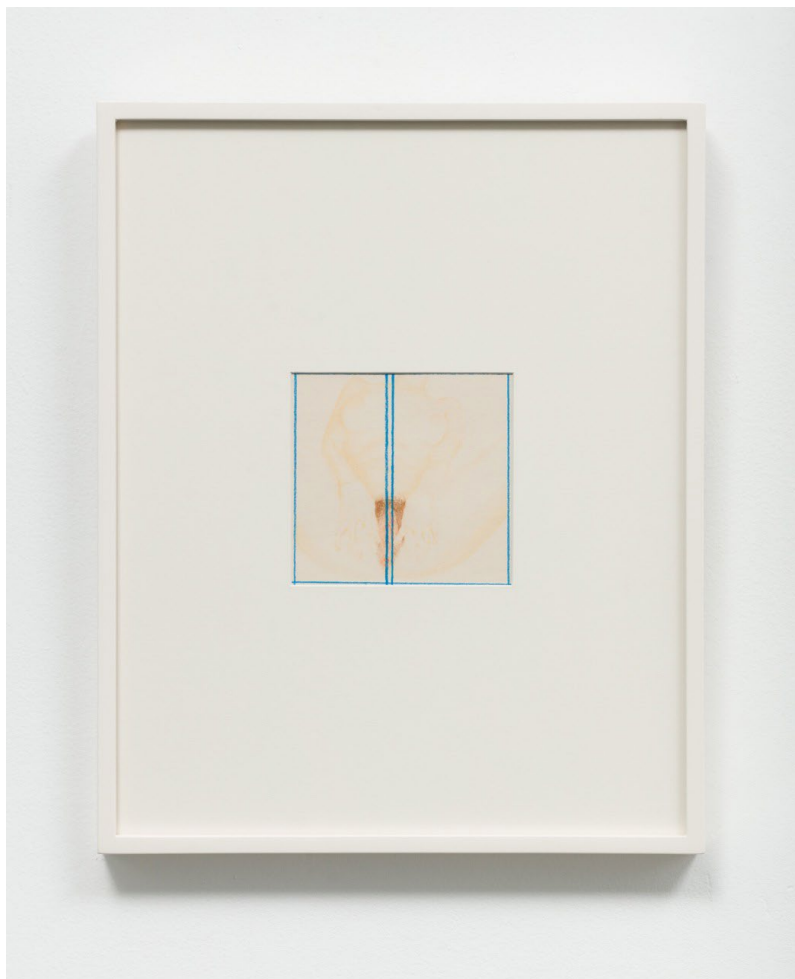
*Hard into Soft #1*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.5 x 16.5 in framed  
1971



*Hard into Soft #2*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.5 x 16.5 in framed  
1971

NANCY BUCHANAN  
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Hard into Soft



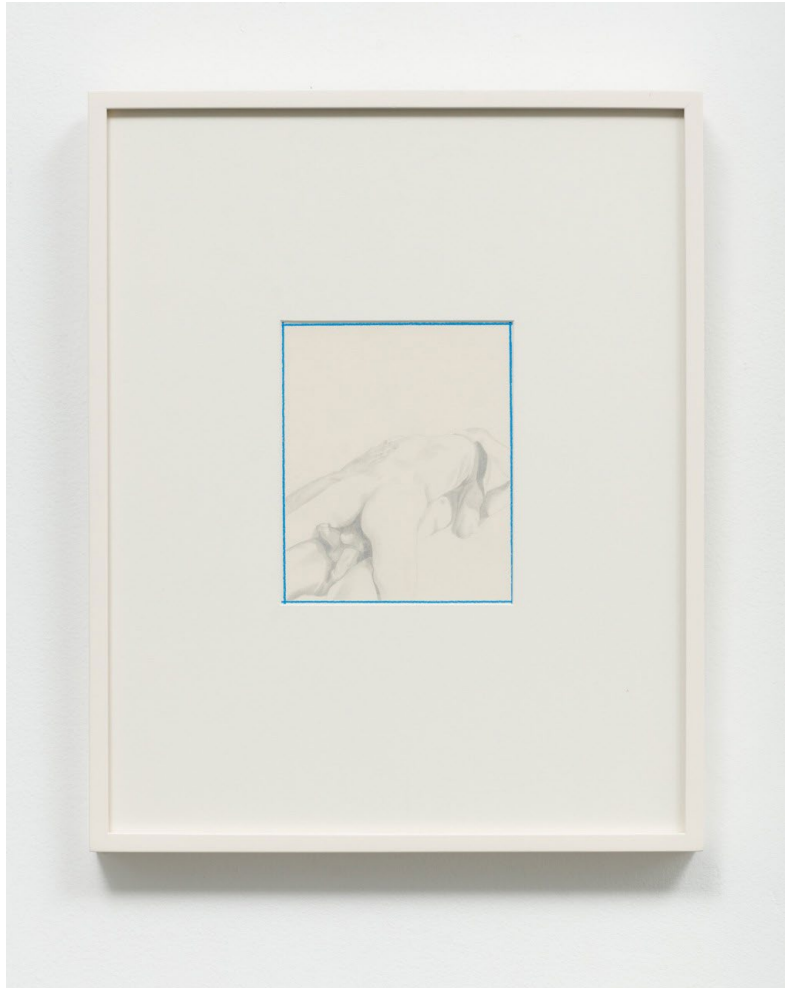
*Hard into Soft #11*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.5 x 16.5 in framed  
1972



*Hard into Soft #9*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.5 x 16.5 in framed  
1972

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Hard into Soft



*Hard into Soft #7 (For Gene)*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.5 x 16.5 in framed  
1972



*Hard into Soft #6*  
Pencil pastel on paper,  
conservation glass  
20.5 x 16.5 in framed  
1972

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## CONSUMPTION

### SELECTED EXHIBITIONS/VIDEO SCREENINGS/MEDIA PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 *Consumption*, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*Hard into Soft*, Rogers, Cypress Park, CA  
*On Board: Emeritus Leaders of the Foundation for Art Resources*, Cerritos College, CA
- 2016 *Signal to Code: 50 Years of Media Art in the Rose Golden Archive*, Hirshland Exhibition Gallery, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
*Re-Action: Geneology and CounterCanon*, Casal Solleric, Palma de Mallorca, Spain  
*Agitprop!* Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY  
*Social Constructs*, San Joaquin Delta College, Stockton, CA
- 2015 *Jonny*, Insitu, Berlin, Germany  
*A Performative Trigger: Radicals of Irvine*, University Art Gallery, UC Irvine  
*The Experimental Television Center: A History, Etc . . .* 205 Hudson St. Gallery, Hunter College, New York, NY  
*XX Redux*, Guggenheim Gallery, Chapman University, Orange, CA  
*PROTEST*, Femlink TV <<http://www.femlink.org/>> Mamia Brétéché Gallery, Paris, France
- 2014 *50 Shades of Cake*, Future Studio, Los Angeles, CA  
*RISE: Love, Revolution & The Black Panther Party*; LA Art Share, Los Angeles, CA  
*State of Mind: New California Art circa 1970*; Smart Museum of Art, Chicago, IL  
*RE-ACTION: GENEALOGY AND COUNTERCANON*, Barjola Museum, Gijón; Oviedo University, Sala Laudeo
- 2013 *Influx: Art at LAX*, Los Angeles International Airport, Terminal One  
*re.act.feminism 2-A performing archive*; Akademie der Künste, Berlin, Germany  
*Nancy Buchanan: Lines of Enquiry*, REDCAT, Los Angeles, CA
- 2012-13 *re.act.feminism 2*; Galerija Miroslav Kraljevic, Zagreb, Croatia; Museet for Samtidskunst, Roskilde, Denmark; Tallinna Kunstihoone, Tallinn, Estonia; Fundació Antoni Tàpies, Barcelona, Spain;
- 2012 *State of Mind: New California Art Circa 1970*, Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA; Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada, (catalogue)  
*LA RAW: Abject Expressionism in Los Angeles, 1945-1980*, Pasadena Museum of California Art (catalogue)  
*Artists' Film Club: Work from the Experimental TV Center Archive*; ICA, London, UK
- 2011 *Under the Big Black Sun: California Art 1974-1981*; Geffen Contemporary at MOCA, Los Angeles, CA (catalogue)  
*Best Kept Secret: UCI and the Development of Contemporary Art in Southern California*; Laguna Beach Museum of Art, Laguna Beach, CA (catalogue)  
*Video Weeks*, Galerie Waldburger, Brussels, Belgium  
*Sympathetic Magic*, Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA
- 2010 *Linguistic Turn*; Cardwell Jimmerson Contemporary Art, Culver City, CA  
*Bourgeois Problems*; Francois Ghebaly Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*Videoarte en Los Angeles (1970-1984)*; Reina Sofia Museum, Madrid, Spain
- 2009 *Post-War Festival 2009*; The Red Jail, Sulaymaniyah, Iraq  
*SWAN Day Berlin*; Berlin, Germany  
*re.act.feminism*; Akademie der Künste, Berlin; International Festival of Contemporary Art City of Women, Ljubljana, Slovenia; Kunsthaus Erfurt  
*At the Brewery Project*; Armory Center for the Arts, Pasadena, CA
- 2008 *Heartland Film II*, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, Netherlands  
*California Video*, Getty Institute, Los Angeles, CA (catalogue)  
*Artrole Presentations*: Hull, UK, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, UK; Trade Fair, Erbil, Iraq
- 2006 *Los Angeles 1955-1985*, Pompidou Centre, Paris, France (catalogue)
- 2004 *Shutters*, UB Art Gallery, SUNY Buffalo

Akademie der Künste, Berlin, Germany

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- 2002 *Art/Women/California 1950-2000: Parallels and Intersections*. San Jose Museum of Art, San Jose (catalogue)
- 2000 *Video Time*; Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
*Made in California: Art, Image, and Identity, 1900-2000*; Los Angeles County Museum of Art  
*6th Triennial of Art & Ecology: American Dreams*; Umethnostna Galerija, Maribor, Slovenia (catalogue)  
*COLA (City of Los Angeles artists' grants)*; UCLA Hammer Museum, Westwood, CA (catalogue)
- 1998 *LA Stories: Engaging the City*, Montgomery Gallery, Pomona College, Claremont, CA (catalogue)  
*Free Speech TV*, national cable television program
- 1997 *Zones of Disturbance*; Steirischer Herbst, Graz, Austria  
*Interpenetrations*, Northern Illinois Gallery, Chicago in conjunction with ISEA
- 1995 *Media Culpa*; Bucharest, Romania
- 1994 *Ars Electronica*, Linz, Austria; Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA (catalogue)  
*Photography and the Photographic: Theories, Practices, Histories*, California Museum of Photography, Riverside, CA
- 1992 *Talking Back: Video Viewpoints: Nancy Buchanan*, Museum of Modern Art, New York  
*Committed Visions*, Museum of Modern Art, New York  
*The Invention of Childhood*, John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI
- 1991 *S&L: Transactions in the Post-Industrial Era*, Walter/McBean Gallery, San Francisco Art Institute (catalogue)  
*Nancy Buchanan: A Video Retrospective*, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions  
*The 90's, Program # 216*, various PBS stations, including KCET, Los Angeles
- 1990 *Fifth Annual Australian Video Festival*, Australian Centre for Photography, Paddington, Australia
- 1989 *Video Drive-In: Portuguese-American Meetings on Contemporary Art*, Gulkenkian Foundation, Lisbon (catalogue)  
*New Television*; WNET (New York), WETA (Washington), WGBH (Boston), KCET (Los Angeles) Video Galleriet, Huset Kobenhaun, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*Making their Mark: Women Artists Move into the Mainstream 1970-1985*; Cincinnati Art Museum; travel to Denver Art Museum, New Orleans Museum of Art, Pennsylvania Academy of Art (catalogue)
- 1988 *1950s/1980s: Return of Style, Return of Content* (solo exhibit); Walther/McBean Gallery, San Francisco Art Institute (artist's book)
- 1987 *Surveillance*, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (catalogue)
- 1985 *Video from Vancouver to San Diego*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
*The Art of Memory/The Loss of History*, The New Museum, New York, NY (catalogue)  
*Family as Subject Matter in Contemporary Art*, Washington Project for the Arts, Wash, D. C.
- 1984 *Revising Romance*, ICA, Boston, MA; tour arranged by American Federation of the Arts, New York  
*Stories of Her Own--Experimental Narrative by Women*, Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN  
*Women and the Media: New Video*, Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH
- 1983 *Art & Social Change: U.S.A.*, Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH (catalogue)  
*1984: A Preview*, Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, New York, NY
- 1982 *The War Show*, State University of New York, Stony Brook  
*Of No Particular Theme*, Baxter Art Gallery, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA  
*War Games*, Ronald Feldman Fine Arts, New York, NY  
*Lately in L.A.: Video*, The Kitchen, New York, NY; Washington Project for the Arts, Washington, D.C.;
- Change in Southern Africa: Video Documentaries, Gallery Theatre, Barnsdall Park, Los Angeles, CA

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- and Beyond Baroque Gallery, Venice, CA  
*Long Beach Video*, The American Center, Paris, France
- 1981 *California Performance: Now and Then*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL
- 1980 *Documentary Evidence*, Franklin Furnace, New York, NY  
*The Art of the Woman's Building*, Artemisia Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*Audio Works*, Sixto Notes, Milan, Italy
- 1979 *Videotapes by Women*, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia; travel in Australia and New Zealand  
*Projects: Video XXIX*, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
*L.A. Videotapes*, Lauriergracht 96, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 1976 *Aber, Buchanan, Holste*, Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA (catalogue)  
*XX Group*, California State University, San Bernardino
- 1975 *The Irvine Milieu*, La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, La Jolla, CA (catalogue)
- 1974 *Barbara Smith, Nancy Buchanan*, Grandview Gallery, The Woman's Building, Los Angeles, CA
- 1972 *The New Art in Orange County*, Newport Harbor Art Museum, Newport Beach, CA; and F Space Gallery, Santa Ana, CA (catalogue)
- 1992 Travel Grant, Arts International; for Women's Delegation to Vietnam
- 1991 Interschool Faculty Project Grant (with Art Historian Sanda Agalidi), California Institute of the Arts
- 1989 National Endowment for the Arts, Individual Artist's Fellowship  
Video Open Channels Grant, Long Beach Museum of Art
- 1987 Western States Regional Media Arts Fellowship  
Open Channels Production Grant, Long Beach Museum of Art
- 1986-88 California Arts Council, Artists-in-Communities Grant: Residency at Pasadena Community Access Corporation to teach video art to community groups
- 1983 National Endowment for the Arts, Artist's Fellowship  
Video Research Grant, Graduate School, University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Residency, Experimental Television Center, Owego, NY
- 1980 National Endowment for the Arts, Artist's Fellowship  
Performance
- 1978 National Endowment for the Arts, Artist's Fellowship,  
New Genres

### SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

- 2005 Program for Media Artists, NY, Technical Assistance Grant for website
- 1999 COLA (City of Los Angeles) Individual Artist's Grant
- 1997 Art Matters, Inc., New Media Fellowship
- 1996 Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship, Multimedia
- 1995 Residency in Electronic Media, Banff Art Centre, Banff, Alberta, Canada

### WORKS IN ARCHIVES/PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH  
California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA  
Experimental Television Center, Owego, NY  
Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles, CA  
Jill Krauss, New York, NY  
Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA  
Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA  
Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY  
New Museum, New York, NY  
OVNI Archives, Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona, Spain  
Museum, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France  
San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art, La Jolla, CA  
Security Pacific Collection, Los Angeles, CA