



Women's Caucus for Art National Conference
"Digging Deeper to Build New Paradigms"
Boston Sheraton, February 20-21, 2006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Creating Paradise" Panel Discussion Showcases
Artists in Film, Literature and Visual Arts

(Brookline, MA: January 30, 2006) Successful women in four different creative fields will discuss the artist's individual quest toward a utopia, or "paradise," through work and creativity at a Panel Discussion at the Brookline Arts Center on Sunday, February 19, 2006 from 3 to 4 p.m. The "Creating Paradise" Panel Discussion is free and open to the public.

The wide-ranging panel discussion will be moderated by Brookline painter **Manika Srivastav**, whose one-woman exhibition *Creating Paradise* is on view in the Brookline Arts Center gallery from February 1 to 29. In addition to being an artist, Srivastav is a physicist, and a mother of three. Her work has been exhibited in India, Egypt, Hong Kong, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Artist **Clara Wainwright**, documentary filmmaker **Ann Carol Grossman**, and author **Jessica Keener** will begin the discussion of the creative process and the roles that the artist's vocation plays in their lives.

Recipient of the 2001 Commonwealth Award from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, **Clara Wainwright** is a well-known quilt maker and organizer of community celebrations. She has been inspiring such important cultural programs as First Night since the 1960's. Freelance writer **Jessica Brilliant Keener** is the author, with William Rosenberg, of *Time to Make the Donuts*. Most recently, she has published an article in the January 2006 issue of *O, The Oprah Magazine*. Documentary filmmaker **Ann Carol Grossman** has directed a number of films, including *Heading for Shore*, an examination of the ecology of America's coasts, which won an award at the Columbus International Film Festival.

Organized by the Brookline Arts Center, the "Creating Paradise" Panel Discussion and Exhibition are presented in collaboration with the Boston chapter of the Women's Caucus for Art, which is hosting the organization's national conference in Boston from February 19 through 21. More information on the conference may be found at www.wcaboston.org. The Brookline Arts Center frequently hosts free discussions where professional artists and art lovers can meet and share ideas within the creative setting of the arts center studios.

"Between the beauty of our Victorian architecture on one hand, and the very practical space of our studios (where students' works in progress can often be seen hanging up to dry) this is a fun and creative space that encourages friendly interaction and creative thought," says Brookline Arts Center Executive Director Susan Navarre. "I cannot wait to see the fresh ideas that these talented artists will inspire at the panel discussion and in the reception afterward."

For more information, call 617-566-5715 or <http://www.brooklineartscenter.com/>
 The Brookline Arts Center is located at 86 Monmouth Street in Brookline.

"Creating Paradise" February 1 - 29, 2006 Show Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am- 4:30pm Admission FREE!

Special Event: Panel Discussion

Sunday, February 19, 2006, 3:00 p.m. Free Admission

Followed by a reception from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Be inspired by four accomplished artists Clara Wainwright, Manika Srivastav, Ann Carol Grossman and Jessica Brilliant Keener as they examine the search for fulfillment through artistic expression. Followed by a free reception, featuring food donated by Women's Caucus for Art and beverages donated by Starbuck's Coffee and Tea of Brookline.

Brookline Art Center

Interviews available:

Manika Srivastav

Ann Carol Grossman

Susan Navarre

Photographs available

About the BAC: The non-profit Brookline Arts Center began 42 years ago in the basement of a Brookline home and in 1968 moved to its present home, a former firehouse. The Gallery was opened in 2002, and presents exhibitions and educational events each month. It is handicapped accessible. The programs of the Brookline Arts Center are sponsored in part by the Brookline Commission for the Arts and the Brookline Community Foundation. The Brookline Arts Center is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

About the Conference:

Women's Caucus for Art - Boston Chapter announces that the National Conference for the Women's Caucus for Art, "Digging Deeper to Build New Paradigms" will run from February 20-21, 2006 at the Sheraton Boston in conjunction with the College Art Association National Conference. (Visit www.wcaboston.org for in depth information). The Keynote Speaker is noted artist, writer, and activist Coco Fusco from Columbia University. This conference returns to Boston for the first time in a decade and features over 70 academic panelists including local notables: writer and critic Christine Temin; the editor of *Art New England* Barbara O'Brien; curator and director of the Mills Gallery of the Boston Center for the Arts Laura Donaldson; historian Patricia Hill (BU); and artists Judy Haberl (Mass Art), Ellen Driscoll (RISD) and Mags Harries (SMFA). The conference will conclude with an award ceremony to honor the National Lifetime Achievement Award winners Eleanor Antin, Marisol Escobar, Elinor Gadon (Brandeis), and Yayoi Kusama.