

Traces

An Exhibition Featuring Artwork by
Women's Eco Artists Dialog
The Village Theatre Art Gallery
January 14-March 12, 2021



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1). *Calling All Carbon Home to the Soil (where it used to be)*

Long ago, earth's soil was full of carbon. Then humans invented the plow, and millennia of plowing and leaving soil bare between crops released soil carbon into the atmosphere. Oceans valiantly absorbed excess CO₂, to their own acidifying detriment. Enter amazing women scientists Dr. Elaine Ingham and Dr. Christine Jones, focusing on the infinitesimally small and invisible. They teach us how and why we must restore microbial life to the soil. They coach farmers worldwide to revive their soil's microbiology, while kicking the \$\$\$ habit of agrichemical and synthetic fertilizer use. Plants benefit—their lazy addiction to “fast food” NPK fertilizers thwarted, they must once again go to work pushing exudates through their roots to barter with microbes, who bring the **full spectrum** of nutrition to them to trade. (Soil Economy= “Carbonomics”) Keeping diverse plants in the ground year-round becomes critical, so microbes are continually fed. Cascading results: healthier soil> healthier plants> resistance to pests> more nutrient dense foods> healthier people> resistance to disease!

Healthy soil has Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi which “manufacture” Glomalin (discovered in 1996 by Dr. Sara F. Wright). One third of the world's soil carbon is sequestered in **Glomalin**, in a very stable form. AND Glomalin structures the soil so more water can be

absorbed and held, and ultimately infiltrate deeply to recharge aquifers. (Thus, less irrigation needed).

THIS IS HOW WE CALL CARBON BACK INTO THE SOIL—by embracing truly regenerative agriculture that supports Nature’s microbial “technology” for effortless abundance. Keeping plants growing year-round also means continuous transpiration› more clouds› more rain› cooling the climate!

Women scientists are showing the way!

2). *Tearing at the Veil that Shrouds Woman’s Rage*

After World War II women were shooed out of the workplace back into their homes. They were Admonished to be perfect little wives, mothers, and homemakers, ever sweet and accommodating. The isolation and marginalization of that sentence quietly drove many women crazy.

in the 1960’s women rose up and busted out of that straight jacket, tearing off the veil of prescribed niceness and constraint to reveal their rage at being sidelined. They made demands for Women’s Liberation! The sexual politics embedded in the home, workplace, and in the exploitation of our “mother” earth, were carefully examined.

The “Me Too” movement amplified these stubbornly persistent issues with a flood of personal stories from women who were tired of being violated in every realm of their lives.

This piece is about women stepping out from behind the pretense of polite to express their outrage and “put their foot down” to abuse of any kind, whether of women, children, other races, other species, ecosystems, or of life itself.

It hints at the fierce Wrathful Dakinis / Fearsome Protectresses that I love so much in Tibetan Buddhist art.

We all need these women’s voices to be heard!

-Christina Berteau