

WOMANHOUSE

FEBRUARY 18 — APRIL 16, 2022

4859 FOUNTAIN AVE

LOS ANGELES, CA 90029



EXHIBITION TEXT

To celebrate the 50th anniversary and expand upon narratives surrounding the historic environmental art installation and performance space, we are pleased to present *WOMANHOUSE*. The exhibition will be on view at 4859 Fountain Avenue, February 18 - April 16, 2022. An opening reception will take place Friday, February 18 from 5-9pm, with performances at 7pm.

As the first female-centered art presentation of its kind, *Womanhouse* opened in January 1972 paving the way for new subject matter, new techniques, new ideas and a new way of looking at art. This exhibition examines the spirit of experimentation and collaboration that defined west coast Feminist Art and traces the period that immediately preceded and succeeded *Womanhouse* from 1970 to 1976. Tracing the narratives, origins, and legacy of this historic period through Fresno Feminist Art Program, *Womanhouse*, *Womanspace*, and *The Woman's Building* allows for a multi-faceted conversation about the energy and trajectories that this period of art history unleashed.

Instead of recreating historic installation works, which could serve to retrench what is already known, this exhibition looks at the larger practices of these artists –what was made before, during, and coming out of this experience. Taking a cue from the original *Womanhouse* invitation there will not be an artist list. Instead throughout the exhibition, we will

crowdsource the names of artists who were active during this period in order to produce a living archive and digital monument.

On view will be historic works alongside ephemera and photographs from the original *Womanhouse* installations that explore the roots of central core imagery, collaborative practices, and performance and costuming. The exhibition aims to situate *Womanhouse* within a larger conversation about this underhistoricized and productive experimental period of Southern California Feminist Art History.

Los Angeles Nomadic Division (LAND) will serve as a cultural partner, led by Laura Hyatt, Executive Director and Hugo Cervantes, Curatorial Associate, they organized a dynamic performance and events series that will include restaging of historic performances, consciousness-raising sessions, and film screenings. These performances and events will include participants from the original *Womanhouse* alongside emerging artists in order to reimagine and complicate ideas relevant to our contemporary moment.

This exhibition is organized by Stefano Di Paola and Anat Ebgi Gallery and planned in close collaboration with the many participating artists as well as the following galleries: Eric Firestone Gallery, Lyles & King, and Jessica Silverman.

EXHIBITION IMAGES





