



From 1971: Eight Artists Reply: Why Have There Been No Great Women Artists?

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Moving Out, Moving Up. *By Marjorie Strider*

A Woman's History as Artist and Being Great

Out from underneath to the outside...from being thought odd to being realized...**from being an object to being a being**...from great effort forced out to breaking out with ease... **from not participating in political tactics to doing it with great work** ...from not sensitizing the public with cries of male chauvinism to blasting the public with terrific sculpture...out from subservience to serving and being served...from being whistled at on the street to doing the whistling yourself...out from society's disapproval to your own approval is all that matters...out from need of escorts to going anywhere...out from sex as a barter system to sex as pure enjoyment...out from being unable to support yourself to teaching other artists...going out with society as it becomes more free into women being a part of that freedom...out from feeling maligned by society's restrictions to feeling joy at being able to break barriers...out from being one of a few into being the best of many... **to break through being a woman with the only proof that you are equal—great work, great intellect** ...from being set free by certain aspects of women's liberation to disagreeing with most tactics being used...out from under being a woman into pride at being a woman... **out from under "I thought a man did it" to it doesn't make any difference who did it... from being dainty and delicate to being what you are...** from difficulties with society's disapproval with the way you live your life to realizing it extends over into being an artist...from realizing that some men are oppressed to realizing it's all becoming easier...from ignoring the facts so that you can do your work to being able to admit them and still come through...from being small to being large and always moving only out and up...the motion being one huge expansion.

Notes from Discussion: