

A sense of a revitalized lesbian feminism is apparent in the work of Santa Cruz-based Angela Dawn (b. 1971) who spent much of 1996 and 1997 traveling around the U.S., photographing and interviewing lesbian artists and photographers. She writes, "I photograph lesbians as a way of celebrating our pride in loving women, documenting our stories and experiences, and showing the beauty in our differences." (Artist's Statement)

Fig. 38: Valerie Taylor, Tucson, Arizona,
July 1997, © Angela Dawn.

Trista Sordillo (b. 1970), now living in the Northeastern U.S., made a series of photographs in the early 1990s which are strongly rooted in place, almost viscerally evoking the Pacific West Coast, images in which casually dressed women seem to hang out in front of the camera. The images are not pretentious, but they are filled with portent. These women are doers, active, something is about to happen, not passive, not stultified. They radiate qualities which ripple throughout the history of West Coast photography, qualities which Sordillo refers to as "vulnerability and spontaneity." (Artist's Statement)

Fig. 39: *untitled*, © Trista Sordillo.

Books and Archives

And of the present and future? I look to the women's bookstores for the strongest examples of lesbian photography, from ephemera like flyers and posters, to note cards, calendars and books, but notice also how times have changed and how often a lesbian photographic presence appears where twenty or more years ago it would have been absent. The history of lesbian photography is also constantly being rewritten as closeted photographers die, freeing historians to write more truthfully and without fear of legal reprisals.

Because there have been a series of waves of women/lesbians taking photographs, many more have been left out than it would have been possible to include. Over the past twenty years, however, independent and institutionally-affiliated archives have been established in the U.S. and abroad. These collections cherish the work of local, regional, national and international photo image makers and are filling the gaping holes in the history of lesbian art and aesthetics.

Internet Resources

Lesbian Herstory Archives (located in Brooklyn):

<http://www.datalounge.com/lha>
POB 1258
NYC, 10116, USA
718/768-3953

June L. Mazer Lesbian Collection (West Hollywood, California):

<http://www.lesbian.org/mazer/>
626 N. Robertson Blvd.
W. Hollywood, CA 90069, USA
310/659-2478

Gerber/Hart Gay and Lesbian Library & Archives (Chicago)

<http://www.gerberhart.org/>
3352 N Pauline
Chicago, IL 60657, USA
312/883-3003

The Lesbian History Project

Includes: The Lesbians of Color Web page and The Southern California Lesbian History Web page:
<http://www-lib.usc.edu/~retter/main.html>
LLC/ONE/IGLA
Box 69679
West Hollywood, CAUSA
310/854-0271

QAR: Queer Arts Resource: <http://www.queer-arts.org>

PopcornQ for lesbian, gay, and queer film information: <http://www.planetout.com/popcornq/>

Gay & Lesbian Archives & Libraries worldwide:

<http://www.outline.com/saa/archives.hp.html>

Leaving Silence: Queer Asian and Pacific Islander Oral History Exhibit:

Exhibit Touring Services, Eastern Washington U.
<http://www.visual.arts.ewu.edu/ets/301sum.html>

The Women In Photography Archive, Arcata, California: photohst@northcoast.com

Feminist Bookstore News: <http://www.FemBookNet.com> has a catalog and a continually updated list of women's bookstores on their website or, for a list of women's bookstores, send \$1 U.S. and a stamped, self-addressed envelop to:

Feminist Bookstore News
POB 882554
San Francisco CA 94188

Susie Bright/*Nothing But the Girl*:

<http://www.susiebright.com/nbtg.html>

Press Gang Publishers, Vancouver, B.C., Canada:

<http://www.pressgang.bc.ca/>

Amazon.com booksellers: <http://www.amazon.com>

Web Sites by lesbian artists

Tee A. Corinne:

<http://www.netdreams.com/registry/corinne/>

Angela Dawn: <http://queerarts.com/adawn/>

Shari Caroline Diamond: <http://www.thing.net/~shari>

Marita L. Gootee:

<http://www2.msstate.edu/~gootee/index.html>

Della Grace: <http://www.clubland.org/Hermaphrodyke/>

Marcelina Martin:

<http://www.geocities.com/westhollywood/village/4373>

Ruth Mountaingrove:

<http://www.humnat.org/art/palace/ruthm.html>

Susan Ressler: <http://dynamo.ecn.purdue.edu/~artemis>

Glenda Savage

<http://www.mindspring.com/~honorine/Folio.html>

Jean Sirius: <http://www.bayscenes.com/ac/sirius/>

Barbara Hammer's site.

<http://www.echonyc.com/~lesbians>