



2009 Lifetime Achievement Awards

By Janice Nesser, National President Elect, Women's Caucus for Art

The **Women's Caucus for Art** is proud to announce the recipients for the 30th annual Lifetime Achievement Awards: Maren Hassinger, Ester Hernandez, Joyce Kozloff, Margo Machida, and Ruth Weisberg. The Lifetime Achievement Awards were first presented in 1979 in President Jimmy Carter's Oval Office to Isabel Bishop, Selma Burke, Alice Neel, Louise Nevelson, and Georgia O'Keeffe. Past honorees have represented a full range of distinguished achievement in the visual arts from artists to art historian to museum professionals.

This year's honorees represent a wide range of involvement and activism in the arts.

Maren Hassinger is Director of the Rinehart School of Graduate Sculpture at Maryland Institute, College of Art in Baltimore, Maryland. Hassinger is a visual artist who works in a wide range of media including public art and performance art. Her art is central to the history of contemporary African-American art and feminist art. She is the recipient of many grants, including the Joan Mitchell Foundation in 1996; Anonymous Was a Woman Grant in 1997, and the Pollock-Krasner Foundation in 2007.

Ester Hernandez is a San Francisco visual artist who was a pioneer in the Chicana/Chicano civil rights art movement and is a strong political activist. In the 1970s,

she was involved with *Las Mujeres Muralistas*, an influential San Francisco Mission district Latina women's mural group. Her artwork was recently featured in the inaugural opening of the Museo Alameda del Smithsonian in San Antonio, Texas.

Joyce Kozloff is one of the founding members of the Pattern and Decoration Movement of the 1970s and was central in the feminist art movement. She executes her work in many media, including public art. She has been the recipient of many grants and residencies, including the Jules Guerin Fellowship, Rome Prize American Academy in Rome, Italy.

Margo Machida is a renowned authority on contemporary Asian American art and visual culture. She is an associate professor at The University of Connecticut, Storrs, and has published extensively on Asian American art. She received a major grant in 2004 from the Rockefeller Foundation for a Symposium on Contemporary Asian American Art, Creativity and Culture Division (2003-2005). Machida's co-edited, *Fresh Talk/Daring Gazes: Conversations on Asian American Art* (University of California Press, 2003), won the 2005 Association for Asian American Studies Cultural Studies Book Award.

Ruth Weisberg is a renowned visual artist whose work is in the collections of major museums in the US and Europe, including including the Getty Center; Los Angeles County Museum of Art; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Jewish Museum, New York; Art Institute of Chicago; Harvard University; Biblioteca Nazionale d'Italia (Rome); and Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris. She has served as the Dean of Fine Arts at the University of Southern California since 1995. Weisberg was the President of the College Art Association 1990-92. She is the recipient of many awards including the CAA

Distinguished Teaching of Art Award (1999) and The Golda Meir award from the Women's Division of State of Israel Bonds Event, Los Angeles (2005).

WCA will honor the recipients during our annual conference, held in conjunction with the College Art Association conference, in February 2009 in Los Angeles. The awards ceremony and dinner honoring the recipients will take place at the Wilshire Grand Hotel, 930 Wilshire Boulevard in Los Angeles, California, on Saturday, February 28 6:30pm. The Life Time Achievement Dinner and Awards Ceremony is a great opportunity for WCA members to come together in celebration and, as one strong cohesive voice, honor those who have made the path for us easier. Their activism, their voice and their beliefs have created the foundation, upon which, we as women artists build the future.

Please join us in Los Angeles for this celebration of art, women and activism. Dinner tickets are \$90 (if purchased by December 31, 2008, and \$105 in Jan 2009) and include reserved seating for the ceremony. Tickets can be purchase on our website, www.nationalwca.org .

In addition, table sponsorships are available. Please contact Marilyn Hayes, President of WCA, for more information about sponsorships, advertisements, or notices at president@nationalwca.org