

SHE-DEN:

Women in Today's World

By Ariana Meyers / VOICE

AN INTERSECTIONAL MULTI-MEDIA GROUP EXHIBITION SURROUNDING THEMES OF WOMEN IN CONTEMPORARY

ART AND CULTURE, UCSB Womanhouse Collective's *SHE-DEN*, will be on view at the Red Barn Project Space at UCSB from March 5th to 16th, with a reception on Friday, March 9th from 5 to 8pm.

The UCSB Womanhouse Collective, which takes its name from Judy Chicago and Miriam Schapiro's *Womanhouse*, founded in 1972, aims to create a platform for women to express their experience in a still male-dominated society. "We decided to create a collective during one of the meetings to organize the feminist show when we realized that as women artists, we needed to have a space to share, feel understood, and become organized," said Maiza Hixson, one of the featured artists. "We did not presume to represent the views or goals of the entire art department and so we formed a collective."

A playful take on the "Man Cave", and an allusion to the mythical Eden, *SHE-DEN* represents art by women from many different backgrounds, highlighting the importance of intersectionality in feminism. "Feminism cannot be relevant without being as inclusive as possible," commented Hixson. "The critique of 'white feminism' being exclusive and omitting women of color informs our express desire to acknowledge that feminism is irrelevant without women of color, women from

diverse socio-economic backgrounds, women from urban and rural locales, and women who represent international and intergenerational perspectives."

A response to today's political and social reality, *SHE-DEN* tackles topics such as micro-aggressions and the role of women in society. "As a Collective," said Hixson, "We wish to reverse this reality and instead support each other, create visibility for our art, provide encouragement, and affirm the struggles of women trying to survive within this social and political climate that does not celebrate our creative and intellectual contributions and achievements nearly enough."

SHE-DEN provides women the opportunity to tell their stories and have their voices be heard. "The exhibition is a perfect moment for women to be presently inspired by art, harness their own power, and imagine a better world than the one we inherited," shared Hixson.

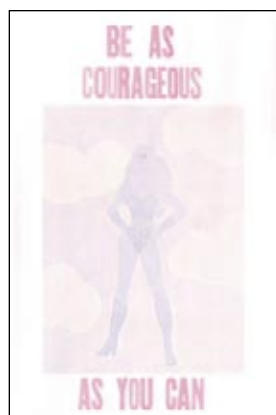
Participating artists include: Emily Baker, Rose Briccetti, Yumiko Glover, Taylor Graham-Howard, Maiza Hixson, Lucy Holtsnider, Bonnie Huang, Madeleine Eve Ignon, Daria Noor Izad, Jennifer Lugris, Kayla Mattes, Alexandra McCray, Elisa Ortega Montilla, Janette Sanchez, Toni Scott, and Echo Theohar.



We Will Fight For Planned Parenthood by Lucy Holtsnider



Real Lonely Doll by Maiza Hixson



Be As Courageous As You Can by Alexandra McCray



Grenadine (Punica Granatum and Geopolitics) by Rose Briccetti