

CAA Panel Information with Presenter Bios for WCA Newsletter

Title: Activating Community through Collaboration

Panel chair: Dr. Rachel Epp Buller

Panel description:

“Sí, se puede.” “Wir schaffen das.” “We are the 99%.” Social and political movements across demographics frequently invoke the collective we, seeking to build solidarity through a language of shared identity and investment. More than just slogans, such language articulates a collective desire to make change, work together, and seek out community. The history of the Women’s Caucus for Art is bound up with the history of the US feminist art movement, in which activating community and creating spaces for collaboration pushed back against then-normative conceptions of an artist as solitary male genius. While much has been written about select feminist collaborations, such as Womanhouse, this panel highlights other artistic projects, both historical and contemporary, that have activated community through the shared labor of collaboration or collectivity. Presentations by artists and art historians address artist collectives, feminist collaborations, and a range of public participatory engagement seeking more just and equitable futures.

The WCA at CAA panel will take place during the College Art Association conference in New York, on Friday, February 14, 2025, 9:00-10:30am

Bios

Dr. Rachel Epp Buller (session chair) is a visual and sound artist, an art historian, an educator, and a mother of three nearly-grown children. Her books include *Reconciling Art and Mothering* (2012) and, with Charles Reeve, *Inappropriate Bodies: Art, Design, and Maternity* (2019). Her current research explores listening as an artistic method in contemporary art. She is a Professor of Visual Arts and Design at Bethel College (KS).

Emma Oslé is an advanced PhD Candidate in Art History at Rutgers University. A specialist in Latinx Art, her dissertation examines visual production surrounding motherhood, race, and feminism, and her writing has appeared in catalog publications, the *Woman’s Art Journal*, *Rutgers Art Review*, and in the NYU Latinx Project’s *Intervenxions*. Her presentation is on Madre Tierra Press, a Chicana collaboration.

Tatjana Schaefer is a PhD student at The Courtauld Institute of Art in London, researching U.S. feminist political agency reflected in various painting practices from the 1970s to the 1980s. Tatjana previously worked for five years as an assistant curator in the Department of Art of the Second Half of the 20th Century at Pinakothek der Moderne in Munich, Germany. She holds an M.A. from Goldsmiths, University of London. Her presentation is on the Heresies feminist collective.

Sarah Kanouse (she/her) is an interdisciplinary artist and critical writer examining the politics of landscape and space. Her solo and collaborative work has been presented through the Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Documenta 13, Museum of Contemporary Art-Chicago, The Cooper Union, The Smart Museum, and numerous academic institutions and artist-run spaces. Her presentation features a Native sound art collaboration.

Dr. Sheena Wilson is Professor of Media and Communications at the University of Alberta, Canada, co-founder of the international Petrocultures Research Group, and principal investigator of Just Powers, a multi-million dollar national research project on intersectionally feminist and decolonial energy transition and climate justice. Wilson's forthcoming monograph on deep energy literacy is called *New Logics for the Climate Crisis*. Her presentation will focus on walking as a way to activate community around issues of climate.