

# MAMA ROVING BEAR REVIEWS

"...the heart of the Sirian dilemma (is)...WHO should use WHAT and HOW MUCH and WHEN and WHAT FOR? Above all what for!" Doris Lessing,

## THE SIRIAN EXPERIMENTS

In early April Doris Lessing made several speaking appearances in the Bay Area. I attended the first in Marin. The evening was evenly divided between her talk and questions from the audience. The first and last questions provided a curious framework and commentary of their own. The first question heard on the PA system concerned her sexual politics, a question that was at least 14 years old and has not worn well with age. The last was a man asking, "Miss Lessing, when you were in Africa did you enjoy hunting?" I began to understand why British writers visit California and return home to write wacky novels of surrealistic life in the Redwoods. The predictability and mediocrity of the questions were appalling, and more than one questioner was seen to slink back up the aisle after her responses, which some have told me they found harsh and arrogant. For instance, when Lessing had just given a long and thoughtful answer to an intelligent question concerning the genesis of her writing, the next person, who could not possibly have listened, rephrased, in her own way, the same question and met this response, "I have just spent the last several minutes describing the inception of two novels in detail and you ask me if I have flutterings in my mind." Is it harsh or arrogant not to tolerate mediocrity? Clearly, she was inviting dialogue and was not met.

In her speech Lessing addressed the much discussed 'break' between her 'realistic' novels and what she terms her 'Space Fiction', commenting that, "It is not so much the

## Operas a Hit!

April 27th and 28th were made milestone evenings at Mama Bears with the World Premiere performances of Maria Jutasi Coleman's operas: THREE SISTERS WHO ARE NOT SISTERS and LOOK AND LONG, the librettos from plays by Gertrude Stein. The operas are significant; the performances were magical, but it was something further that so moved us at MBS. It was a project we had encouraged and supported from its beginnings and the results gave us that rare feeling of being on the right track, we knew that aiding and abetting such creation is a part of what Mama Bears is all about.

The work inspired out first steps at stage lighting. Maureen and Kai, using the most impossibly primitive (cheap) equipment somehow made theater magic. Being inspired to push past previous limits and having it work left us all with the quality of excitement.

cont. on p 4



writer who is polarized as the reader" as her older readers can't read her new books and are quite bitter about it and feel betrayed, while the young readers can read only the new books. She remarked, "It is a pity it happened - this overemphasis on realism." And later added that as she was writing THE FOUR GATED CITY she thought "There go all my lovely fans and by the time I finished, all the ideas were in the newspapers."

In examining her work, it appears that there is no 'break', that the work is all of a piece. There is a constant evolving, vision shaping and reshaping. Increasingly she speaks out of the vortex of chaos and the chaos itself is the medium of the illuminating process. In MEMOIRS OF A SURVIVOR the narrator observes the world collapsing into chaos. One morning in her apartment a wall dissolves and she enters another world from which, eventually, comes healing and passage. In the course of her work Lessing has seen first through a glass darkly; the journey is familiar: the dark night of the soul. It is the soul of all living on this planet that now experiences this dark night. Lessing is witness. And the darkness gives way to her steady clear gaze. The gaze of seers and visionaries. In her talk the word is vehicle for the sacred, that which in each of us resonates to the deep spirit of all that lives, stone to star. "For every thing that lives is Holy", said Blake. The writer's task is to render the word from that place of deep recognition and to shape that word, the words, in such a way that we recognize, resonate

cont. on p 4

## A PROBLEM

Plexus is not listing any of Mama Bears events in its June calendar, owing to 'internal procedures that need correcting.' They have apologized and we know these things can happen.

Because we're a new business and everyone counts on the Plexus calendar for information about events, this could be a serious blow. It would help if you took copies of Mama Bears News&Notes to your friends & to public places, especially in early June, so women can know what events we are having this month.

For our part, we're mailing News&Notes first class so's it will reach you quicker than bulk mail would, but it's big bucks. Postage donations welcome.

JUNE-JULY 1984 Vol 1, No 3 NEWS & NOTES

## WELCOME, VISITORS!

Mama Bears welcomes the June 24 Gay Day Paraders, and the woman's, lesbian, and gay Caucuses arriving here July 16 for the Democratic Convention...plus all you other souls who make your way to the Bay Area in the summer.

Mama Bears is in Oakland, in the East Bay, one of the largest, most active woman's communities you'll find. Mama Bears owners are among the Founding Mothers of this community, dating from 1969.

If you tire of the Parade and Convention hurley-burley and get a chance, come over and visit. For one thing, we love finding out how it is in other places, and telling how it is here. We're at Telegraph Avenue, at 66th St, 3 blocks from Ashby & Telegraph (a well-marked intersection on your map and easy to get to by car, Bart, or bus.) We're right across the street from The White Horse, well-known Berkeley gay men's bar.

We created Mama Bears only 6 months ago, and we think it's a kind of woman's socializing center whose time has come.

## MZ BRADLEY CLEARS AWAY THE MISTS OF AVALON

Mama Bears has yet another special treat in store for us. On June 2, Marion Zimmer Bradley will speak. Bradley is the author/creator of Darkover, a planet gazed by the Chieri and the Towers, which is the setting of a series of science fiction novels. Darkovans are women and men of psychic talent and fierce independence who are held in thrall by a pernicious heterosexual-patriarchalism. This heterosexist male-dominated culture is balanced (at a cost) by a society of women who are not wives and who sometimes are dykes, and by a special gene that makes certain Darkovans enormously psychic and in many ways mentally advanced far beyond technocratic cultures. Darkovans are distant descendants of earth, but they are also descendants of the Chieri, spirit-like native beings of the planet, and their struggles are internal and external. Not unlike the situation on earth at present for many peoples, Darkover's medieval life-style is complicated by the presence of the technologically advanced civilization of Terra. Terran civilization is bureaucratic, egalitarian and materialistic, in contrast to Darkover's aristocratic, hierarchical and psychic configuration. These complexities make Bradley's Darkovan plots almost as intricate as those enjoyed by citizens of the contemporary Women's Movement, especially in the Bay Area, which is where Bradley makes her home.

But Bradley is more than a sci-fi writer (she has a number of other science fiction novels to her credit). She is a metaphysician of no small ability and has written some occult/spiritual books that demonstrate her metaphysical competence even more clearly than the Darkover novels do. Two of these, WEB OF DARKNESS and WEB OF LIGHT are set in the mythic time of Atlantis (or so I take them to be) and provide aficionados of mystical pasts with a good (if somewhat too het-European) read. I did wish she was conversant with Mayan and Pueblo Indian civiliza-

tions, as some of us (beginning with one Agustus Le Plongeon) are certain that these peoples (among others in North America) are the descendants of Atlantis and direct heiress to its gynocentric traditions.

But by far her tour de force is the amazing MISTS OF AVALON, a giant volume that almost magically re-tells the Arthurian legends in a way that reconciles most of the anomalies of various versions of those tales. She does this by telling the story from the point of view of the famed and maligned witch, Morgan le Fey. As near as I can tell, Bradley doesn't miss a trick in the telling. So clear and intelligent is this book (I almost hesitate to call it a novel) that I hardly know whether to talk about her story telling prowess (which is mighty), her metaphysical competence (which is breathtaking), her anthropology (which is satisfying) or her sure grasp of political intrigues, the ways of the patriarchy, the story of colonization of tribal/mythic peoples which is, or should be, history. Taken all together, this is a work that is at once entertaining and intellectually gratifying, empowering and validating.

Bradley is clearly at home in the Celtic tradition of England's past and the MISTS OF AVALON will, I think, easily surpass both Thomas Malory's LE MORT D'ARTHUR and the movie version of CAMELOT as a definitive and popular text on the legendary King, his merlin-teacher, and his Camelot. Suffice it to say that if you haven't read this book, you'd better, for it is a solidly accurate and thoroughly enjoyable reconstruction of woman history in fiction-form that contains a lot of truth on a lot of levels. And in fiction, as in life, that's rare indeed.

- Paula Gunn Allen

MAMA BEARS IS GIVING 10% OFF  
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FRIDAY, JUNE 1

## ONE NIGHT SHOW OF ART BY WOMEN IN PRISON (CIW)

Presented by ROSI (Remember Our Sisters Inside). ROSI's purpose is to publish the artwork of sisters locked inside, away from society. This event is happening along with the regular Friday eve socializing scene. Members of ROSI will be there at about 7:30. Open till 11 pm.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

**AN EVENING WITH MARION ZIMMER BRADLEY** The Mists of Avalon, a significant & empowering addition to the unearthing of women's past, has just come out in paper. (See review elsewhere in this issue.) Tonight, on the eve of Ms. Bradley's birthday, we celebrate one of our foremost teacher-storytellers, one who is more than adept at her craft. Ms Bradley will read from her book and talk to us about it. 8pm, \$3

--and after the event--

Mama Bears stays open till 11 pm plus, for woman-only socializing & hangout.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

**ELAINE BLAKE DOES MINI-ASTROLOGY READINGS**...along with the Thursday night scene of women-only socializing & hanging out that goes on till 11 pm & later. From 7:30-ish on, Elaine will be sitting at a table, should you wish a reading.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

## SHELLEY SINGER READS FROM HER FORTH-COMING MYSTERY NOVEL.

Shelley Singer, author of THE DEMETER FLOWER, has been writing very satisfying mysteries set in the East Bay, and featuring private eye Jake Sampson and his neighbor, dyke carpenter Rosalie Vicente. Shelley will read from her new one, and talk about mysteries...out of the closet junk fans! 8 pm, women only, \$2

--and after the event--

regular Friday night socializing and hanging out resumes. Open till 11pm plus.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 9

## JUDY GRAHN READS FROM HER NOVEL IN PROGRESS

Judy has been crafting a complex novel for several years in between her other writings, and once in a great while she lets us peek at it...when she who writes, pieces of the atmosphere right themselves. 8 pm, women only, \$3

--and after the reading--

Mama Bears stays open till 11 pm plus, for woman-only socializing & hangout.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10--AFTERNOON

## OPENING &amp; RECEPTION: ART SHOW OF JERI ROBERTSON

Reception with Ms Robertson, and the opening of her show TRADITIONS will begin at 4 pm. The show will be on display through mid-July.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10--EVENING

## MARGO TUFO &amp; JENNY THORNTON SING &amp; PLAY --BLUES..50'S ROCK..POP

Jenny and Margo jammed at one of our open mikes, and were so great together they decided to team up. Accomplished musicians, they both sing, and accompany, Margo on guitar, and Jenny on keyboard. 7:30 pm, women only, \$4-6

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

## SANDY BOUCHER: THE LESBIAN IN WRITING

Sandy, whose most recent work is HEART WOMAN, is also noted for conducting writing workshops that provide a safe, nurturant atmosphere in which women can explore their own writings. Sandy has gone back over all her own writings and charted the development of the lesbian characters that appeared in each, even those she wrote while heterosexual. 8 pm, women only, \$2

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

**WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT GEMINI** Tonight Elaine Blake, astrologer, will discuss the Gemini personality, in Mama Bears upper level (\$2, starts at 7:30) while regular Thursday night socializing & hanging out goes on in the lower level, open till 11 pm plus, women only

**JUNE**

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

## PERSEPHONE'S GONE TO HELL: PERFORMANCE POETRY BY JENNIFER STONE

"For women," says Jennifer, "the road to Hell is full of hairpin turns, but it often leads straight back home."

Jennifer Stone is a teacher, mother, journalist, poet and actor. And she's got the gift of gab, and uses it to shrewdly pursue feminist politics with relish and wit. 8 pm, women only, \$2-5

--and after the event--  
beginning at about 9:30 pm, the regular Friday night socializing and hanging out goes on, till 11 pm plus.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16--AFTERNOON - 4-6 PM

## REGISTRATION FOR PAULA GUNN ALLEN'S CLASS: COMPARING SPIRITUALITIES

Ms Allen's class is an intensive delving into varieties of spirituality and what they have in common. Ms Allen, the author of SHADOW COUNTRY and WOMAN IN THE SHADOWS, is at a point in her life where she is ready to transmit what she has learned, and we have come to the point where we are ready to hear it. 8 sessions. 7-10 pm, June 18, 20, 25, 27, and July 2, 4, 9, 11. \$140-150 Ms Allen will register students today from 4 to 6 pm. If you cannot attend at that time, call Mama Bears.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16--EVENING

## BARBARA STACK ON FIDDLE &amp; KATE MURPHY ON GUITAR, MANDOLIN, VOCALS

These 2 irrepressible multi-stylists romp their way through the decades of American popular dance music, with side trips to Ireland's magic shores, toe-tapping Appalachia, & lands where gypsies roamed. 8pm, women only, \$3-5

--and after the show--  
Mama Bears stays open till 11 pm plus, for woman-only socializing & hangout.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

Open till 11 pm for women's socializing and hanging out.

**Mama Bears**

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Open till 11 pm for women's socializing and hanging out.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

## LOVING HER: MOTHERTONGUE READERS

A revised version of the Mother Tongue favorite about the many aspects of love between women. This is a benefit for the East Bay Pirates, a woman's wheelchair basketball team. 8 pm, women only, \$3-10 WA, Sign, for childcare call 655-3525.

--and after the show--  
Mama Bears stays open till 11 pm plus, for woman-only socializing & hangout.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24--AFTERNOON

## WOMEN'S PICKIN' &amp; SINGIN' JAM--COUNTRY-WESTERN, BLUEGRASS

This month the Women's Pickin' & Singin' Jammers are doing it at Mama Bears, and we're delighted! \$4-7 pm, \$2 donation.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24--EVENING

Because it's Gay Day, Mama Bears will stay open till 11 pm tonight, for women's socializing.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Open till 11 pm for woman-only socializing and hanging out.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Open till 11 pm for woman-only socializing and hanging out.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

## NEW FACES OF 84...

Featuring Margot Kimble and Florence, singers. They appeared at an open mike here, and we liked their drive and enthusiasm. They're taking the plunge in this showcase presentation, which we may do regularly, to feature up-and-coming talent. 8 pm, women only, \$2-4

--and after the show--  
Mama Bears stays open till 11 pm plus, for woman-only socializing & hangout.

WANT TO PLACE AN AD IN MAMA BEARS NEWS & NOTES? NOW BEING MAILED OUT TO OVER ONE THOUSAND WOMEN IN THE BAY AREA....WITH A TOTAL CIRCULATION OF OVER TWO THOUSAND, AND GROWING.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE: JULY 15.

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# Calendar

# JULY

## THURSDAY, JULY 5

Open till 11 pm for woman-only socializing. ELAINE BLAKE, astrologer, will be on hand (from 7:30 pm on) to do mini-readings on request.

## FRIDAY, JULY 6

### JUDY GRAHN & ELOISE KLEIN HEALY: POETRY READING

Judy Grahn's powerful poetry has been a major influence on a whole generation of women...and her readings are special. Eloise Klein Healy, visiting here from L.A., is the author of 3 poetry books, BUILDING SOME CHANGES, A PACKET BEATING LIKE A HEART, and ORDINARY WISDOM. Mama Bear's is pleased to be able to present this fine poet to the Bay Area. 7:30 pm, women only, \$3.

--and after the reading-- which ends about 9:30 pm, Mama Bears stays open till 11 pm plus, for women's socializing and hanging out.

## SATURDAY, JULY 7

### TINA & KORE--FIN & FLAME

Tina's and Kore's voices blended so hauntingly when they sang at an open mike here, we wanted more. Lots of wonderful folk ballads. 8pm, women only, \$2.44

--and after the show--

Mama Bears stays open till 11 pm plus, for woman-only socializing & hangout.

## SUNDAY, JULY 8

### JENNY THORNTON SINGS & PLAYS KEYBOARD

Jenny, who has a delightful voice, and a large, fun repertoire of pop songs, works dinner clubs, but her heart's into making music for women. And with women, so Jenny invites other musicians to jam after intermission. 7:30pm, women only, \$3

## TUESDAY, JULY 10

### MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC PAIN: A SEMINAR

Shirley Kelly, R.P.T., will conduct this seminar, which is an introduction to and a definition of chronic pain. She will include a lecture and experiential tech-

niques: pain grid, relaxation, T.E.N.S. units, medication control, biofeedback, and exercises. Call Mama Bears for advance reservations or questions. 7-9:30 pm, women only, \$5-10

## THURSDAY, JULY 12

### WHAT EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE SIGN CANCER

This month's sign is cancer, so tonight we hear about cancer personalities. The talk & discussion will take place on the upper level (7:30 pm, \$2), while regular Thursday night socializing and hanging out goes on in the rest of Mama Bears, till 11 pm plus. women only

## FRIDAY, JULY 13

A SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT--ARE YOU READY? Well, we weren't either until the gang at Mama Bears dreamed it up. To enter, call here and get your name on the list. Each player will pay \$2, which goes to the winner. Spectators and all others enter free, and Mama Bears regular Friday night socializing & hanging out goes on till 11 pm plus, women only

## SATURDAY, JULY 14--MORNING

### THE SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT PLAYOFF

How the woman's movement has survived without scrabble tournaments all this time we'll never know. Our contestants spelled themselves into stupors last night, and today the winners play off. 11:30 am

## SATURDAY, JULY 14--AFTERNOON

### REGISTRATION FOR LESBIAN WRITING WORKSHOP GIVEN BY JUDY GRAHN

This is an intensive workshop for lesbian writers with works in progress. Says Judy: "We will discuss some well-known works to see how far they got, and then proceed from there with our own work." 8 sessions: 7-10pm, July 22, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 31, and August 1 \$150. women only. If you cannot be here today, call Mama Bears:

**CLASSIFIED AD RATES: 10 WORDS PER DOLLAR. ALL KINDS OK; PERSONALS, EVENTS, SERVICES, ETC. DROP AD & MONEY OFF AT MAMA BEARS (OPEN EVERY DAY). PLEASE DON'T TRY TO DO IT BY PHONE.**

**DISPLAY AD RATES: \$4.00 PER COLUMN INCH. CONTACT MAMA BEARS FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

## SATURDAY, JULY 14--EVENING

### LINDA MOAKES, HUMORIST

Linda is a humorist we've been hearing raves about, and one thing we like at Mama Bears is laughs. What could be funnier than our own crazy community. The dialog goes on. Linda might bring a friend and get into double trouble. 7:30 pm, women only, \$2-4

--and after the show--

Mama Bears stays open till 11 pm plus, for woman-only socializing & hangout.

## SUNDAY, JULY 15

### OPEN MIKE MUSIC & HUMOR

Come on out and play! There's lots of talent out there, and we enjoy giving a chance to display it. Call here to get on the list...perhaps a jam session will follow, who knows? 7:30 till 10 pm or later, women only

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

### OPEN MIKE WRITING--POETRY, PROSE, NONFICTION, HUMOR

We invite our poets, prose writers with works in progress, & humorists trying out new material to share your work with us, 7:30 pm, women only

## THURSDAY, JULY 19

Open till 11 pm for women only socializing and hanging out.

## FRIDAY, JULY 20

### LINNEA DUE READS FROM HER FORTHCOMING NOVEL--GIVE ME TIME

Lin, author of HIGH & OUTSIDE, is a gripping writer; her new book GIVE ME TIME is about 6 women, 3 gay, 3 straight during the years 1968 to 1980. What an interesting time period for many of us. 7:30, women only, \$2

--and after the reading--

which ends 9-9:30, regular Friday night socializing and hanging out goes on till 11 pm or later.

## SATURDAY, JULY 21

### FRIENDS OF ANEMONE--HUMOR

Friends of Anemone is a lesbian comedy team which one viewer describes as "...brilliant hodge-podge of puns, social satire, wild wit, and just plain goofiness!" The dialog goes on. 8 pm, women only, \$3-5

--and after the show--

we stay open till 11 pm or later.

## THURSDAY, JULY 26

Open till 11 pm for women-only socializing and hanging out.

## FRIDAY, JULY 27

Open till 11 pm for woman-only socializing and hanging out.

## SATURDAY, JULY 28

### DID YOU COME OR DID YOU FAKE IT?

### -MOTHERTONGUE READERS THEATRE

A look at all the stuff about our sexuality...whether straight, lesbian, or celibate. 8 pm, women only, \$3

--and after the show--

we stay open till 11 pm plus, for women socializing and hanging out.

## AUGUST 5...Gala giant party celebrating publication of ANOTHER MOTHERTONGUE, Judy Grahn's lesbian and gay history...

AUGUST 11...Registration for Drawing class (2 Dimensional) by Carol Lee Sanchez...more about these in next issue of News & Notes.

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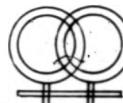
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# the Bernstein schlep

or, my year at the Concord Pavillion

Well, Leonard B and I go back a long way. Even if he doesn't know it I do. You see, in the manner of all gays, I have a friend... My friend, 'Judy' went to school with Mr. B and she often referred to him in conversation as 'Lenny' and it always shocked me, and I always said, "do you mean Leonard Bernstein the great composer, conductor and generally famous person?", and she always said "Yah." Well, it was stunning and I felt in a sort of way that I knew the Maestro too. I read all the books on 'Lenny' and when he said in an interview that he got a lot of ideas just lying around and that no one should mistake an artist's lying around for just anybody's lying around, I knew what a great man he was. I lie around a lot and obviously I am creating and don't even know it. So, 'Lenny' got me off the hook.

No need to sit at the machine every day and have nothing happen, one could lie on the couch and watch Perry Mason (I also have a friend who knows Raymond Burr) and whether I knew it or not things would stir in the old head and I might just come up with a WEST SIDE STORY or ON THE TOWN, just lying there on the blue couch I got it at St. Vincent Appalled (I say 'Appalled' because I think St. Vincent would be). I got that bit of wit just lying around, so you see what it will do for you.

Hearing other wonderful, delicious

shakings of the Gay grape vine about Mr. B, concerning other than 'artistic' lying around, intrigued me even more.

Well, so I decided that I had to go to the Concord Pavillion to see my friend 'Lenny' conduct. You would not believe it. We drove to Concord, about an hour from where we live, and got lost so it took two hours. About ten thousand cars were lined up for stickers and directions (parking \$3, on top of the \$17.50 for the show). We got parked, then had to wait for the van that takes all us old, disabled types to the top of this MOUNTAIN. By the time the van gets there it's freezing. I am exhausted. I need to lie down for some creative thinking and am beginning to miss Perry Mason and my St. Vincent Appalled couch. But, there he is! The great man! He is wonderful and kisses everybody a lot and it gets colder and colder in the outdoor theater. An old lady sitting next to me leans over and says, "don't you wish you were in your bed? My grandchildren want I should have culture, but it may kill me." You bet lady, you bet.

At the end of the concert we need to sit out there and wait for the van, which has to take the people who arrived in buses first. More waiting, more freezing, and we get lost four times coming home. But I have seen 'Lenny' and I have paid my debt to creative lying around.

- Pat Bond

## CONT'D--Boxing Bear Review

to the truth in the fiction. The Story. Tell me a story. After I grew up, after years and years of study, I finally realized that P.L.Travers' MARY POPPINS was a secret occult teaching. I read it over and over as a child. A lovely and delicious story. In this most troubled and chaotic century Lessing reaches out for vision. And how to tell it?

A story. She has written, "I am convinced that we all stand at an open door and that a new man is about to be born." Words from 1974, and time now to hear them. There is something stirring in the air. Have you not felt it?

That evening, sitting, listening to the questions and answers, a question framed in my mind:

"Miss Lessing, perhaps I have a question, perhaps not. The composer Karlheinz Stockhausen has stated that he originates from Sirius, and that through his music he brings Sirian principles to Earth. W. I. Thompson, in his 1979 writings, named the two of you as 'spiritual visionaries'; Stockhausen's composition SIRIUS was published in 1980 as was your THE SIRIAN EXPERIMENTS, a thing of beauty and a revelation. In its introduction you write, "It seems to me that ideas must flow through humanity like tides. Where do they come from?" Synchronicity? And are you, do you think you are, have you thought about it, from Sirius, or any other planet? Are we all spending a passage, passages, on the Earth, in our journeys through time and galaxies? Is this place indeed, as it's been called, Earth-School? Can you answer, you do write, after all, Space Fiction?"

And I thought, oh dear, I cannot drag myself to the microphone in front of 1000 people and initiate this dialogue. I need a table, something to drink, a smoky atmosphere, and a long evening.

- Joanna Griffin

## CONT'D--Operas a Hit!

And the operas are significant! The music is innovative, and yet, days later we found ourselves singing lines from them to each other. In her 'Composer's Notes', Coleman gives us insight into the process of creating music of such unusual character:

I wrote the music down in an unconventional way... stayed away from the traditional time measurements, e.g., 3/4 or 4/4 time. Instead, I put bars only where Stein put commas or periods... the music follows the beat of her written word... much like a steady heartbeat that increases or decreases in speed, creating different tempos... I wrote both male and female roles for women's voices only.

THE GERTRUDE STEIN OPERA COMPANY is also making opera accessible to general audiences by divesting opera of its grandiose and highly technical qualities, and by connecting it to our present lives.

## EVENTS

JULY 22--PACIFIC CENTER--1st ANNUAL FUNDRAISING MARATHON. Berkeley to Point Richmond for lunch, and return. For information, call The Pacific Center, 841-6224.

June Millington & Band will be at Bay Brick Inn, 1190 Folsom, SF, Monday, June 18, at 9 pm. \$3.50 at door. 431-8334.

WOMEN'S SALON--"remembering who we are" for feminist action. Each Sunday 12 noon to 2 pm a Salon is convened in which all gathered women intellectually share via a chosen feminist article. SF location, \$5 per session. Not a support group, nor therapy. A treat for womanmind. For information call McB Maher, 751-5273.

## SERVICES

Shirley Kelly, Registered Physical Therapist. Pain Management Specialist and Consultant. Individuals by appointment. (415) 937-4995.

### ACUPRESSURE by ALI HAMMER

Jin Shin Acupressure works on a deep level to balance the body's energy. My work is relaxing and invigorating while it relieves the many conditions caused by tension and stress. Certified. Sliding scale. (Discount with series of sessions. 654-8765.

TIME OUT. Take it for yourself--massage personalized just for you. A dynamic blend of Esalen, Swedish, Shiatsu, energy work, breath work and visualization. Sliding scale. Kam McCallum, 233-0337.

ASTROLOGY READINGS: Empower yourself! Examine your life themes, relationships, career options, what's happening now--you have choices! Full 1-1/2 hour reading with astrologer Elaine Blake, sliding scale, \$35-60. 536-4399 Oakland. Call for an appointment! P.S. Come to Mama Bears to learn all about Geminis June 14, all about Cancers July 12. (see Calendar)

MARION SORENSEN, MA--CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY 525-7154. I am a 57 year old lesbian from a working class family. Work with women, individuals and couples, of all ages and lifestyles. I am warm and supportive in assisting you to find your own "song" and sing it. Sliding scale.

HOMEOPATHY HEALS, naturally and safely. Consultations for all needs: all acute and chronic illness; inherited health weaknesses; harmful effects of vaccinations, allergies, infections, addictions; emotional distress; injury; post-surgical. Trained overseas, 8 years experience, medical degree (non-practicing). Lessons available. I'm a lesbian, I treat women only. Homeopathy can help where other healing methods haven't. If you've tried it before and it hasn't helped, I may be able to restore your confidence in it. Rose, 482-0636.

ADOPTION SUPPORT GROUPS for all members of the adoption triad: birth parents, adoptive parents, and adoptees. Pre-adoptive parents welcome also. Post Adoption Center for Education and Research (PACE) provides free monthly support groups. Call 444-3018 for details, location.

VOICE CLASSES for singers and speakers with MARIA JUTAS COLEMAN, M.A., director of the Gertrude Stein Opera Company. I am creating my techniques from European, classical, Reichian body awareness, improvisational and shamanic spiritual elements. For individual or group work call 841-8259.

Naomi Friedman, Plumbing Contractor. State Contractors Lic #369184: New, remodel, repair, and solar installations. Telephone (415) 482-5183.

PROFESSIONAL MOUCHECLEANING. Reliable meticulous, fast, and experienced. Excellent references. Call Pati 644-0230 (days).

Women's Writing Group--6 week class. Focus: poetry--saying what you mean, working through blocks, healing self. Wendy 654-8540. \$5/class. Must preregister. Starts July 3. (date in Plexus ad incorrect)

### EMPLOYMENT

DAYCARE, PARTTIME. Flexible scheduling. \$3.50/hour. Ages 2 and up. Colleen, 848-8071. Licensed. Russell St near Telegraph, Berk.

## PERSONAL

Experienced, back-packing traveling companion(s) sought for Peru in October. Debbie, 524-0988.

### BOOKS & CARDS FOR SALE

THE SENSUAL GIFT: for yourself and other special women. A treasured set of 6 assorted beautifully illustrated postcards! These sensual, romantic and art-nouveau high quality line drawings of women on oversize, linen postcards are a unique find. Created by Julie Ball, TELEWOMAN cover artist & book illustrator. Satisfaction guaranteed. Send \$3.50 per set (postpaid) to Julie Ball, 15907 Windsor Dr, San Leandro CA. 94578. (See display ad.)

NEW LESBIAN WRITING, An Anthology of Poetry and Prose. \$7.95 plus .63 postage. Subco, Box 10233, Eugene, OR 97440. Poetry: Martha Courtot, Marilyn Hacker, Karen Brodine, M.S. Andrews, Esther Hawk, Ida VSW Red, Judy Schavrien, Pamela Gray, Susan Yarbrough, Janine Canan, Pat Kuras, Doris Davenport, Sheila Shook, Audrey Ewart, Jacqueline Lapidus, Suniti Namjoshi, Prose: Linda Jean Brown, Beth Brant, Paula Gunn Allen, Henry Handel Richardson, Renée Vivien, Janice Dabney, Caroline Overman, Canyon Sam, Jane Rule, S Diane Bogus, Pam Annas, Elsa Gidlow, Monika Kehoe, Mary Meigs, Barbara Deming. Editor: Margaret Cruikshank (fat Bibliography, Lesbian Lit: 1980-1983)

WOMAN TAKEN: A sensitive collection of poems dealing with Lesbian and Feminist love, sacrifice, loss and relationship-related goals written by local, loving artist. (15 years invested in this first, signed edition.) This chapbook also contains soft line drawings by Telewoman artist Julie Ball. All warm and wonderful women can relate! Send \$6.00 postpaid to Linda Zeiser, 15907 Windsor Dr, San Leandro CA 94578. (See display ad.)

### AUTOS

1972 Super beetle body/parts, mechanical parts not good--2 new tires, make offer. Kam McCallum, 233-0337.

Did you know that in Japan most autos are junked by the time they're 5 years old because of govt regulations? Low mileage engines are removed from these cars and shipped to the U.S. Phoenix Auto will install a guaranteed used engine from Japan in your Toyota for \$600, including labor and parts. (Not all engine models are available.) phone 533-3356.

Pat's VW and Pam's Auto Repair have now combined to form Phoenix Auto. Specializing in Toyota and VW repair and parts. 4200A East 14th St, Oak, (behind Burger King) 533-3356

### SPARE ROOM?

Why not rent a room to someone who is not usually there? Lesbian, gay man and 1-1/2 year old live in Fresno and like to visit the Bay Area when possible, a couple of weekends a month, holidays. We'd also love to meet other parents or child-oriented gay people in the area. Please write to Boxholder, POB 16314, Fresno, CA 93755-6314.

### HOUSING TO RENT

SUMMER SUBLET-1 or 2 persons. Cottage in North Oakland/Emeryville from June 25-Sept 15. Take care of 2 cats & feed 3 chickens. Garden, quiet, close to public transportation. \$225 per month includes utilities. Phone ELIZABETH-653-0142(eve) or LIN, 655-9215(day).