



University of Idaho

Women's Center

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Composing A Life

by Susan Palmer

"I make no claim to neutrality. We learn most about the world when we try to change it." —Carol Andreas, 1994.

Last night, I rented the video of Oliver Stone's film *Nixon*. I had intended to view it at a genuine big-screen cinema when it was released, but the upsurge of the video industry allows movie-goers like me to procrastinate. Although Stone admits taking liberties with his film and occasionally relies on conjecture to fill in gaps about which we will otherwise never know, overall the film represents Nixon's history (particularly presidential) the way I recall it. I was raised in a political household. My earliest political memory is the 1960 presidential campaign featuring Richard M. Nixon and John F. Kennedy. At the age of 4, I experienced the birth of my political awakening.

In Stone's film, Kissinger and Nixon make repeated references to "taking care of Allende" in Chile. I remember that well, too—it was 1973, the same year I graduated from high school and enrolled in college. Allende, the democratically-elected president of Chile, was assassinated in the U.S.-backed coup that gave rise to General Pinochet's junta.

Dr. Carol Andreas, however, remembers it better. She was there, in Chile. Her experiences are chronicled in her 1976 book, *Nothing Is As It Should Be*. For over three decades, sociologist Carol Andreas has worked for social justice, and provided a progressive analysis of unequal power relations and class struggles. Palouse locals like Bob Greene and Janet Lecompte are familiar with Dr. Andreas's prolific writing about women in Latin America. She has lived in Equador, Chile, Peru, Pakistan, and a handful of the United States. She has authored four books and myriad journal articles. Her work primarily concerns labor issues, women and feminism, and the global economy.

For example, almost ninety years after the publication of Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle*, a classic novel about immigrants and slaughterhouse work in Chicago, Carol Andreas wrote *Meatpackers and Beef Barons*, to document labor conditions at the Monfort beef-packing plant in contemporary Greeley, Colorado. Once you've read them both you will be hard

pressed to believe that nearly a century separates these two books.

Now retired, Carol Andreas, 62, is starting a new chapter in the composition of her life. Its form? Torn paper collage. Retirement invited Andreas to take stock of and reduce her personal inventory, in addition to reestablishing a goal for herself. In March, in the midst of reviewing her diaries and writing memoirs, she visited an artist friend in Santa Fe where she was inspired to revisit her earlier passion for producing art. Using mostly magazine photos (expansive pictures on strong paper, like those found in art and architecture magazines), Andreas tears and glues until her artistic impression is realized. The color scheme emerges in the process. "Artistic impression takes precedence over accuracy," she cautions. The collages "create feeling more than images."

Andreas is a risk taker. Risktaking and politics are evident in the entirety of Andreas's personal and professional history. In a recent telephone interview, I tried to make sense of how the introspective collages fit into her activist biography thus far. Andreas explained that they provide "a tremendous relief from the pressures of the political world, though they are political expressions." She finds that her collage work offers endless possibilities and is unintimidating.

Accompanying the collages are "sidebars containing photographs (snapshots, not professional photos) and some poetry and other writing." One collage she describes depicts a window and plants in her former yellow kitchen in Minneapolis. After leaving Kansas, she found Minneapolis cold and her apartment "dumpy." The yellow kitchen was an effort to make a cheery place, despite the dreariness outside the window represented by the colorless newspaper print of the collage.

She adds that "each of the collages bears a title and some of these are provocative." While I was amused by the way she marveled about the mundane disclosure that she "found this glue stick at Kinko's that [allows pieces to] be moved around over several days," it revealed the importance of deliberation, process, and above all, tools.

She confesses that her only formal art training was in a 9th grade art education class. Her global travels, however, allowed

her to venture into various artistic endeavors, ranging from interior decorating in Kansas to rubbings on rice paper of old tombstones in Pakistan.

Recently she has been introduced to the work of Romare Bearden, a deceased black artist who worked with collage combined with painting, and other torn paper collage artists, including children. Hers is a work in progress, and there are still mountains to climb. The next mountain is working with two huge boxes of letters Andreas's mother wrote to her parents in the early to mid-90s, out of which a family portrait may emerge.

The UI Women's Center invites you to **view the debut exhibit, "Composing a Life," and join Dr. Carol Andreas for a special evening program, Tuesday, September 17, 7:00 p.m., in the Student Union Vandal Lounge.** With her collage exhibit as a backdrop, Dr. Andreas will weave her personal reflections and stories into her art work. Following her lecture she will entertain questions and welcomes your comments. **On Wednesday, September 18, 12:30 p.m., Carol Andreas will offer a torn paper collage workshop.** See the noon program listing in this newsletter for more information.

"My search for a reasonable connection with the world is not so much adventurism as it is a search for a home, for a space in which I can be honest, warm, useful, and fully alive."—Carol Andreas, 1976.

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Changes

by Lindy Wellyn

This was not the traditionally quiet summer usually experienced by the Women's Center. Instead, redecoration of the lounge and the arrival of teenagers from the Upward Bound program kept the old building humming. Dust flew as we reorganized and streamlined the room. In the midst of the mess, Carlton Floyd's poetry class decided that the charm of the Center overrode the confusion, and held the last four weeks of their class here. The noisy workshops, where young students read their work aloud to the applause and encouragement of their classmates, added cheer to the month of July.

There are several changes to the **Changes continued on next page →**

library/lounge at the Center, so come check them out. You will find a new and improved coffee and tea corner, though the popular fridge and microwave are still with us. A new Culligan water cooler provides tasty, clean cold and room temperature water and has already proved a big hit with the staff. The comfortable sofas and chairs remain, although a new carpet and plants are a spiffy addition.

Not all of the improvements are merely cosmetic. The resource corner has been updated with better access and expanded cataloging. Many of the periodicals are easier to reference since they have been bound. And the best news is that IDA, the library database system, can now be directly accessed from the Women's Center Library.

We look forward to seeing old friends and welcoming new ones in the coming months. Come in and let us know how you like the new image. As our Auntie Nuke notes on her screensaver banner, "If you want the times to change, you have to change with the times."

"NO REST FOR THE WICKED" by AUNTIE ESTABLISHMENT

Dear Sisters,

Both the dust in the air and my faithful editor tell me it's time to write my fall column. As always, it's not so much a question of finding subjects to pontificate on as it is of weeding through the plethora of opportunities one is offered by the contemplation of life, art, and presidential politics.

I've decided against discussing presidential politics. H. Ross Perot looks so much like my dear old granddaddy that I cannot possibly be objective. (Granddaddy has H. Ross's ears, but alas, not his way with a dollar bill; otherwise, there seems precious little difference between them. If Granddaddy gets lucky at bingo, I've got dibs on Lincoln's bedroom.) I have likewise decided to forego a discussion of art—you know that I always buy whatever will go with my sofa. That, of course, leaves me with the subject of life. Now, you might think that my subject is hopelessly broad, but what is life but a game? And what is a game but a chance to appear on the *Wheaties* box? I can see that you're way ahead of me—ladies, I'm going to pontificate on the Olympics, particularly on the so-called "feminization" of NBC's coverage.

Now, sisters, as near as I can tell, feminization à la NBC means synchronized swimming, gymnastics, and teams of young women waving ribbons and behaving inexplicably with large balls. It apparently does not mean broadcasting women's basketball, softball, or soccer at a reasonable hour. Now, my dears, I don't mean to cast vile aspersions on the sports that launched Esther Williams, Mary Lou Retton, and . . . countless young women who wave ribbons and behave inexplicably with large balls, but just how feminized is Olympic coverage that ignores three major competitive women's sports?

Sisters, I don't want NBC to feminize more of its sports coverage; I want NBC to cover more women's sports. I want to see Ruthie Bolton, Lisa Leslie, Dot Richardson, Mia Hamm, and Julie Foudy on my box of *Wheaties*. Until then, I'm sticking to *Captain Crunch*.

From the bleachers,
Auntie Establishment

SAVORY MOMENTS WITH AUNTIE PASTO

Greetings My Culinary Cousins,

Texan concoctions are featured in this issue. And Texas is far too big for just one recipe! First, the Aunt Farm Tuna Tasteoff took place last spring after the publication of the final issue of the Women's Center newsletter for the academic year. Although the distinguished panel of judges failed to select your own Auntie Pasto's recipe (or her competitor, Auntie Nuke's), I must reluctantly concede that the winning recipe was a hands-down favorite.

Befitting the spirit of the '96 Summer Olympics, the winning tuna recipe was submitted by Moscow's 1988 Olympic Gold Medalist, Andrea Lloyd, and her UI alumna sister, Lindy Wellyn, with the guidance and permission of their Aunt Merle of Fort Worth.

Merle's Tornado Tuna

from the kitchen of Merle Roden, Ft. Worth, Texas

- ◆ 2 12-ounce cans water-packed (dolphin-safe) chunk tuna
- ◆ 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- ◆ 1 tsp. curry powder
- ◆ 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- ◆ 1/2 cup finely chopped bread-and-butter pickles
- ◆ 1 small can crushed pineapple, drained
- ◆ 1 tablespoon chopped onion, soaked in juice from half lemon
- ◆ Salt and pepper to taste

Mix and serve.

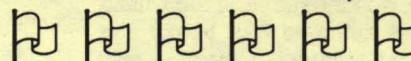
Our second Texan delight came from a reader who wrote, "It sounds terrible, tastes great." Go figure. You decide.

Holiday Picadillo

from the kitchen of Carole Cortez, Austin, Texas

- ◆ Sauté 1 medium chopped onion in olive oil.
- ◆ Add 2 chopped green peppers (or use red and yellow to make the dish very pretty).
- ◆ Add 1 1/2 to 2 pounds hamburger, brown.
- ◆ Grind up 2 tsp. cumin seed and 2 cloves of garlic, then add to above mixture.
- ◆ Chop up 3 tomatoes and add.
- ◆ Add 1 cup of raisins.
- ◆ Season with cracked pepper and small amount of salt (olives are salty).
- ◆ Let simmer for 1/2 hour.
- ◆ Add 1 bunch of chopped green onions.

Serve with warm flour tortillas and pinto beans.



Texas

(Six Flags Over Texas...get it?)

You can find Auntie Pasto's recipe box on the web. Surf to the UI Women's Center Home Page:

<http://www.uidaho.edu/~wcenter/>

To share your family recipes with Auntie Pasto, write to:
Auntie Pasto, c/o Women's Center, University of Idaho,
Moscow, Idaho 83844-1064.

September 1996 Noon Programs

Women's Center programs are open to all members of the community. We invite you to bring a friend, some lunch, and join us! Programs begin at 12:30 p.m. in the Women's Center Lounge unless indicated otherwise.

September 4

Wednesday

OPEN ADOPTION Open adoption offers birth parents the opportunity to make an adoption plan, and to choose and meet their child's adoptive parents. *Lois Melina*, best-selling co-author of *The Open Adoption Experience* and publisher of "Adopted Child", an international newsletter on adoption, will discuss reasons and readiness for open adoption. If you are interested in adoption from any angle—as a prospective birth parent, adoptive parent, or as an adopted child—you will want to take advantage of this opportunity to hear one of the nation's leading experts on open adoption.

September 11

Wednesday

LANDSCAPE OF THE HEART: WRITINGS ON DAUGHTERS AND JOURNEYS *Stephen Lyons* will read selections from his immensely sensitive collection of essays and poems published recently by Washington State University Press. Spanning the five years following his divorce, Lyons keenly observes his own relationship with his daughter with honesty and insight. He depicts a morphology of emotion and inescapable wisdom earned with age. In his preface, Lyons writes, "This book is not about divorce. Or blame...Nor is this book about the difference of gender. There are enough books already written that isolate the sexes from each other...I want this book to be a bridge from parents to children, fathers to mothers, and men to women." You will be moved by this reading.

September 17

Tuesday

COMPOSING A LIFE *Carol Andreas*, a retired sociologist and Latin American specialist, is now exploring torn paper collage to express her autobiography. The author of numerous books and articles on labor conditions, the global economy, and Latin American women, Dr. Andreas is taking a sabbatical from the pressures of the political world to reconnect through this art form with all the people she has known. (See the related feature article on page 1.)

7:00 p.m., Vandal Lounge, Student Union Building

September 18

Wednesday

TORN PAPER COLLAGE WORKSHOP with *Carol Andreas*, who describes this artistic form of expression as unintimidating with endless possibilities. Think of an image and the feeling it evokes, then collect approximately 50 pages of items that remind you of that image to accompany you to this workshop. Cardboard and glue will be provided, but please bring your own scissors.

12:30 p.m., Vandal Lounge, Student Union Building

Limited to 12 participants. Pre-register at 885-6616.

September 24

Tuesday

WOMEN AND RETIREMENT: GETTING YOUR FINANCIAL HOUSE IN ORDER The Department of Labor has specifically targeted women in their Retirement Savings Education Campaign, since statistics demonstrate that "women are particularly at risk of finding themselves financially unprepared for retirement." (Olena Berg, Assistant Secretary for Pension and Welfare Benefits, October 24, 1995.) *Robert Linderman*, financial consultant with Mutual Securities, Inc., will discuss setting retirement goals, financial strategies for funding your retirement, and special retirement issues for women.

September 25

Wednesday

FOLKLORE AND RELIGION *Melynda Huskey* returns by popular demand! If you attended her presentations last year, we know you will be back. If you haven't heard her before, don't miss her this time! Huskey examines personal religious narratives and testimonies, religious legends, the use of traditional religious materials in new religious movements, regional prayer and sermon styles. Guaranteed to be multi-denominational, Huskey will discuss the creative community dimension of religion, as opposed to theology. Look for Part II, *Family Folklore*, scheduled for the following Wednesday, October 2.

Thank you to the following friends of the Women's Center who generously supported the sponsorship of the Woman's Saddle, and helped bring home the complete Spalding-Allen Collection to the Nez Perce Tribe!

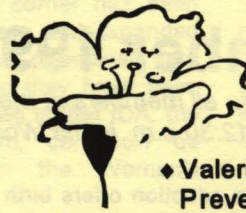
Julie M. Abercrombie	Gail DeSantis	Kathy and Pete	Liz Khosravi	Judith Nielsen	Dorothy Schell
Jill and Don Anderson	LaRae Donnellan	Haworth	Janet Lecompte	Jennifer O'Laughlin	Pat Scott
Susan Armitage	Mary Du Pree	Patricia Heekin	Jeanne Leffingwell	Pauli Owens	Jama Sebald
Louise Barber	Martha Einerson	Walter Hesford	Margaret Littlejohn	Susan Palmer	Donna Smith
Richard Beck	Jo Ellen Force	Fran Hirschi	Suzanne Loker	Joy Passanante	Molly Stock
Richard Beebe	Sally Fredericks	Jo Hockenull	Evelyn McGraw	Kathryn Pitman	Noel Sturgeon
Tom Bitterwolf	Susan Gelletly	Cottie Hood	Mary McReynolds	Alice Pope Barbut	Betsy Thomas
Lois Blackburn	Sallie Gordon	Carolyn Hook	Barbara Meldrum	Diane Prorak	Ann Vail
Jan Brown	Lynne Haagenen	Tom Hudson	Elinor Michel	Louise Regelin	Mary Voxman
Karen Cloud	Donna Hanson	Virginia Junk	Isabel Miller	Diane Sands	Priscilla Wegars
Jackie Coan	Therese Harris	Kay Keskinen	Lynda Mineur	W.O. Sarai-Clark	Gleanne Wray
Patti Crow		Margarita Kethler	Christine Moffit	John Sawyer	

THE WOMEN'S CENTER NEWSLETTER is published six times during the academic year. It includes announcements and information about the many services and programs offered by the Center to the University and regional communities. There are also items of general interest about women's and men's issues. If you have announcements or information to include in subsequent issues, please let us know. Suggestions for changes, improvements, or additional items are always welcome. Disability access is on the north end of the building through the TAAC. A taped copy of the newsletter is available on request for the visually impaired.



WOMEN'S CENTER STAFF:

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OFFICE HOURS:	8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Monday-Friday



- ◆ Valerie Russo, Sexual Assault Prevention Program Advisor, University of Idaho Women's Center, will accompany a UI student to the Oprah Winfrey Show in Chicago for a featured discussion of date rape. The show is currently scheduled to air in early September. Check your local listings.
- ◆ Rosh Hashanah begins at sundown, September 13.
- ◆ Yom Kippur begins at sundown, September 22.
- ◆ NORTHWEST COALITION AGAINST MALICIOUS HARASSMENT, 10th Annual Conference, October 18-20, 1996, Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington. For conference registration information, contact: 509-328-4220, ext. 2105.

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