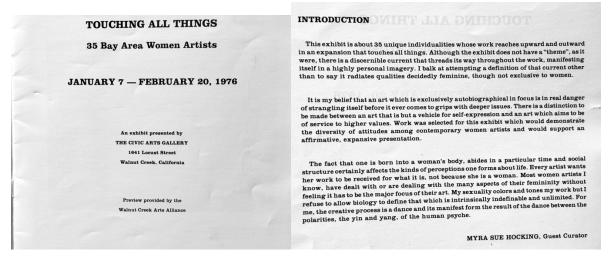
I have most recently been reading and reflecting on the trajectory of my art from my early days as a child to my current age of 82. This reflection has been intensified currently, by the book *The Story of Art – without men, by Katy Hessel.* It is a very special look at the evolution and change in the currents of history as uniquely reflected and expressed by women artists.

I contributed to the early stages of the feminist movement by curating a special exhibit devoted to the work of emerging and little-known women artists whose studios I visited in preparation for the exhibit to be held in 1977

It was the first exhibit of art by women artists in the Bay Area and followed on the tails of a major exhibit in Los Angeles- The History of Art by Women Artists 1550-1950. I only came to know of this LA exhibit shortly before the opening of our exhibit in Walnut Creek, which was held at the Bedford Gallery ,previously named Civic Arts Gallery of Walnut Creek. The title of the exhibit was *Touching All Things*, and I present here visual mementoes and commentary about that exhibit:





## WHAT'S NEW

## A selective guide to current Northern California events of interest.

## Not for Women Only

The great Dr. Johnson once compared a woman's preaching to a dog's dancing—"It is not done well; but you are surprised to find it done at all." Were he alive today, what comparison could express his astonishment at what women have now achieved in that most sacred of all provinces of male genius: art.

have now achieved in that most sacred of all provinces of male genius: art.

This year a number of California galleries and museums are featuring women's work. The diversity of women's experiences and their various modes of expression is the theme of a new show of painting and sculpture opening at the Walnut Creek Civic Arts Gallery. "Touching All Things," conceived and organized by Myra Sue Hocking, will include works she describes as "personal and autobiographical" by 35 Bay Area women artists. Many of the women teach in the area, some already have well-established reputations both hev. and in New York.

At least half the women know each other and each other's work and have worked together in two ongoing conscious-ness-raising groups in San Francisco and the East Bay for the past six years.

Among the artists featured will be painter Judith Linares, who last year was awarded the San Francisco Art Institute's Adeline Kent Award; sculptor Ursula Schneider, who is affiliated with the Quay-Braunstein Gallery and recently had a one-woman show in New York; and painter Phyllis Ideal, who is affiliated with Grapestakes Gallery in S.F. and had a show last year at the De Young Museum.

"Touching All Things" will run from January 7 through February 20 at the Walnut Creek Civic Arts Gallery, 1641 Locust Street, San Francisco. The exhibit will be open from noon to 5 P.M., Tuesday through Saturday. For more information call 935-3300.











