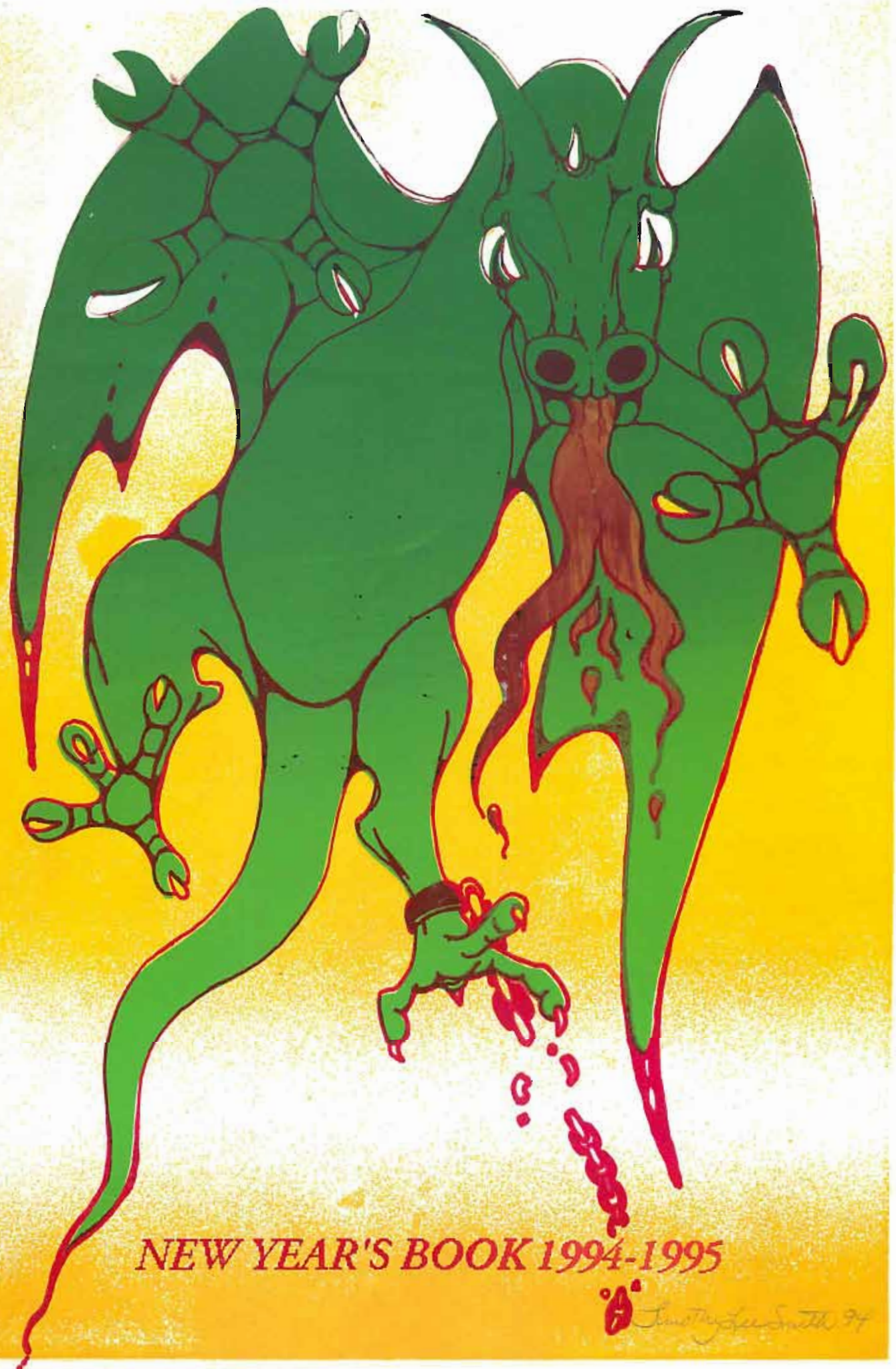
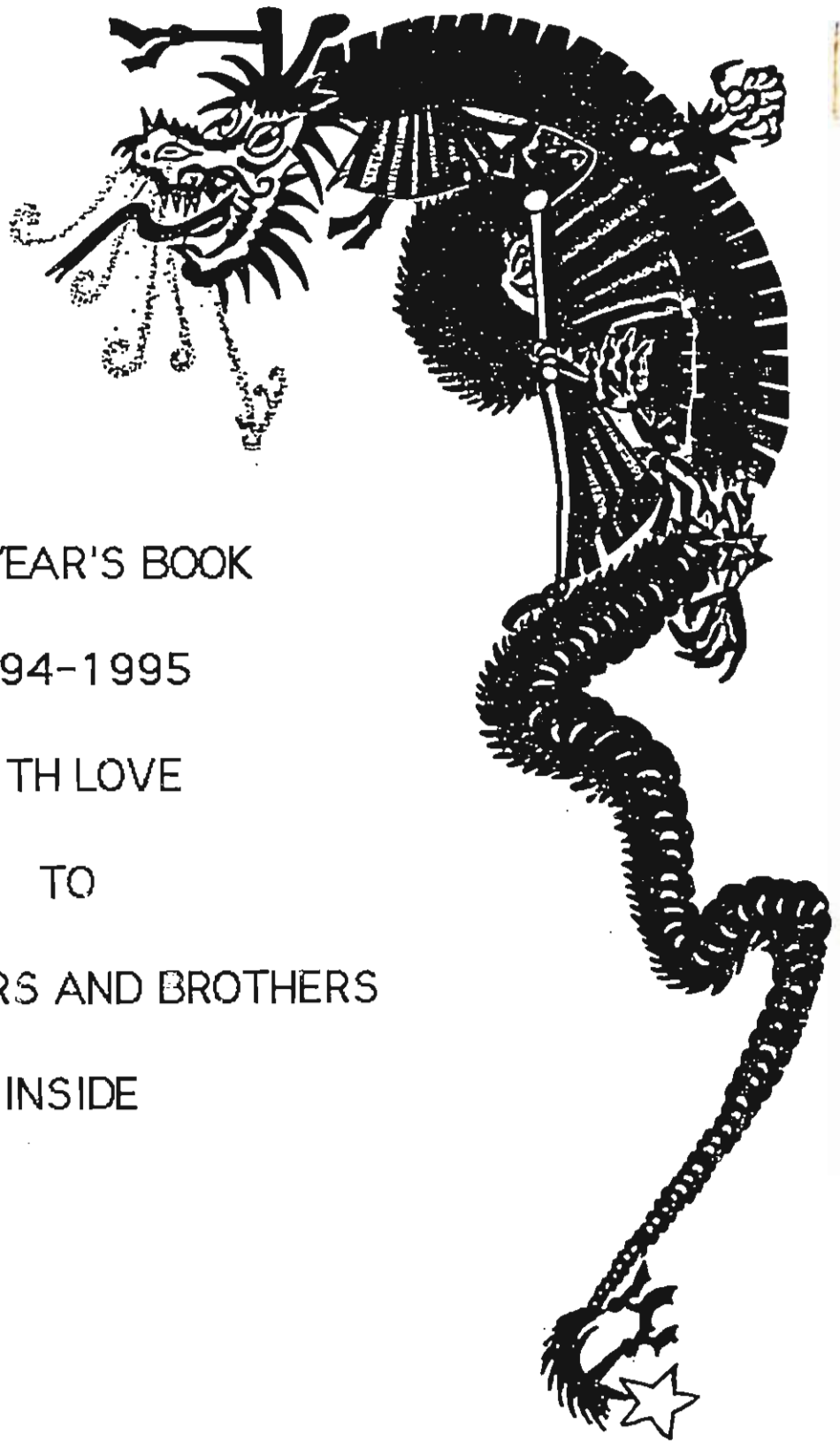


R  
E  
A  
L  
D  
R  
A  
G  
O  
N  
P  
R  
I  
S  
I  
O  
N  
S  
E  
R  
I  
E  
S



NEW YEAR'S BOOK 1994-1995

*Justin Lee Smith '94*



NEW YEAR'S BOOK  
1994-1995  
WITH LOVE  
TO  
OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS  
INSIDE

"Those who fight injustice are people of true merit.  
When the prison doors are opened, the Real Dragon will fly out!"





"We will  
not surrender!"

On January 1, 1994 the Zapatista National Liberation Army declared war against the Mexican government and army, demanding land, justice and democracy for the indigenous people of Chiapas and for all the people of Mexico. Rooted in both the Mayan community and in the national history of Mexico, the EZLN stands against the continuing exploitation and grinding poverty forced on the poor by national and international economic interests. In spite of the government's efforts to discredit them, the EZLN has won broad support from both the Mexican people and the international community, and one year later, their daring occupations in Chiapas are still continuing.





*Liberation: Rising Up.*

My sister lives across a line  
I know she's there  
My heart lifts to hear her  
in brief encounters through the wall  
a whispering space  
for stolen words.  
She lives there through the glass  
I glimpse her days  
she glimpses mine  
but we can not meet.

Marilyn Buck

September 1988

## THE STATE OF A PRISONER'S SOUL

by To Huu: "These are thoughts..."

*How heavy it is, the solitude of a prisoner!  
Ear strained, heart boiling,  
I listen passionately to the noises of life  
which is flowing outside with an immense happiness!*

*Here -- twilight, pallid gleams of the evening  
slip furtively past the bars of the little window,  
here -- the coldness of four bare walls;  
here -- an alignment of planks on the ironwood floor.*

*Twittering of birds in the tide of a strong wind rising;  
swift rustling of night bats, their wings beating,  
tinkle of bells as a horse paws the ground by a well of cold water;  
far below on the road the clatter of passing clogs.*

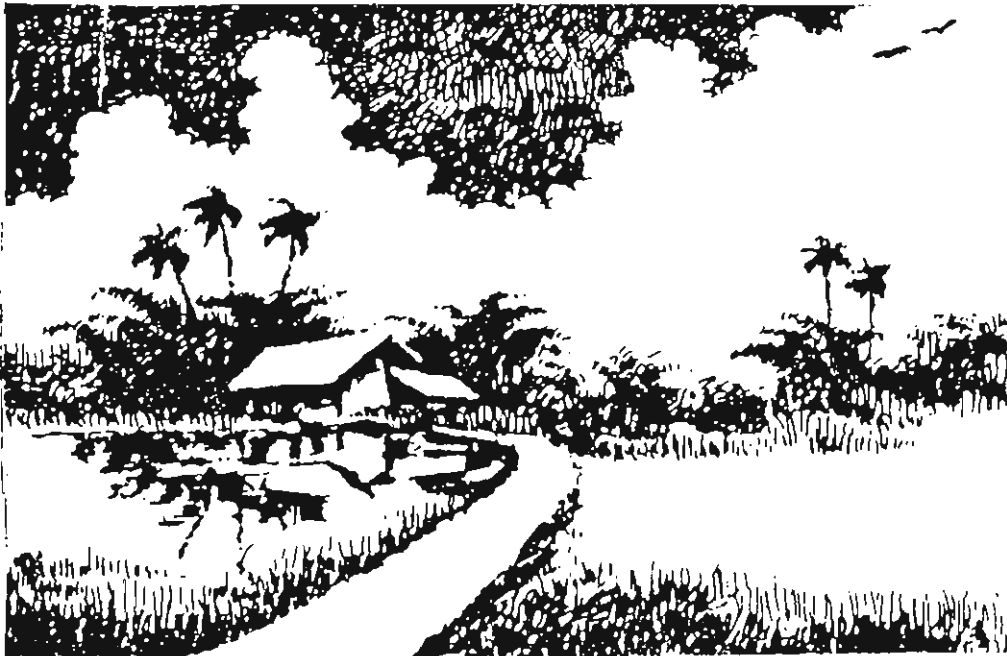
*Oh! today how the sap of life overflows in all these familiar noises.  
I hear the wind pouring through the boughs, through the tips of the leaves  
I hear the healthy vigor of a hundred species.  
Half dreaming I hear how all things outside  
murmur together gently in the vastness of space  
gorging themselves on the nectar of life drunk on flowers and fruits  
and with the fragrance of liberty which perfumes each one of a thousand days.*

*All these mirages of my innocent soul  
suddenly for a brief minute make me forget how sad life is  
there outside... how many imprisoned destinies  
are crushing in depths of fathomless despair.  
This evening in prison, bitterness in my heart,  
I am only one among suffering humanity,  
I am only a little bird, a young one,  
thrown into a tiny cage in the midst of a great cage.*

*Far off in the wind comes the sound of a horn.*

*Cell No. 1, Thua Thien Prison, 4/19/39*

*(To Huu was a poet, communist and prisoner in Vietnam during the years when it was still occupied by the French.)*



## PRESUMED DEAD, MISSING IN ACTION

In my village in Bed-Stuy,  
we rally strength against day  
and night stalkers. In every block  
like in Soweto, there are at least  
four or five of us, who fight with  
pens, paint, nimble fingers through  
hair, song and resistance fire.  
I look in any direction in my neighborhood,  
and know just like in Azania,  
there are not hottentots, but there  
are women who fight, raise homes  
from the ground, children and dreams.  
Late at night or early in the morning,  
on a lunch break they are writing, making song,  
painting, weaving new futures into the cloth.  
What was Bessie Head doing all those  
years? Why was Miriam singing so hard?  
All these women artists presumed dead,  
and missing in action, create in places  
where light may not be visible  
but sight is never lost.  
In my village like so many others.  
no patrilineal  
anything can undo this truth.



- Jacqueline Joan Johnson  
New York City, New York

Remembrance  
and observation  
are my teachers.

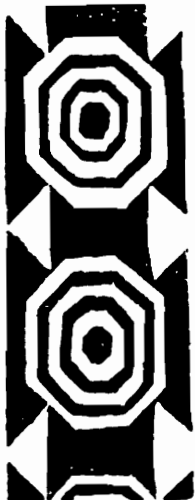
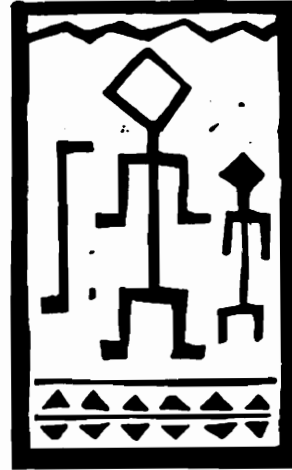
Not always  
are they kind,  
in the lessons they assign.

But I realize  
that the silent studies  
from the long recall of memory;  
from the confines of a prison cell  
are brail learning's  
in the inhumanities!!

When I close my eyes to recall  
I find,  
Time  
has assaulted,  
recollection.

When I open them I perceive.  
violence  
that time will never erase.

**TWO POEMS**  
**Scott Seelye, 1994**



Helmeted hatred  
measures me,  
with an oak-yard-stick.

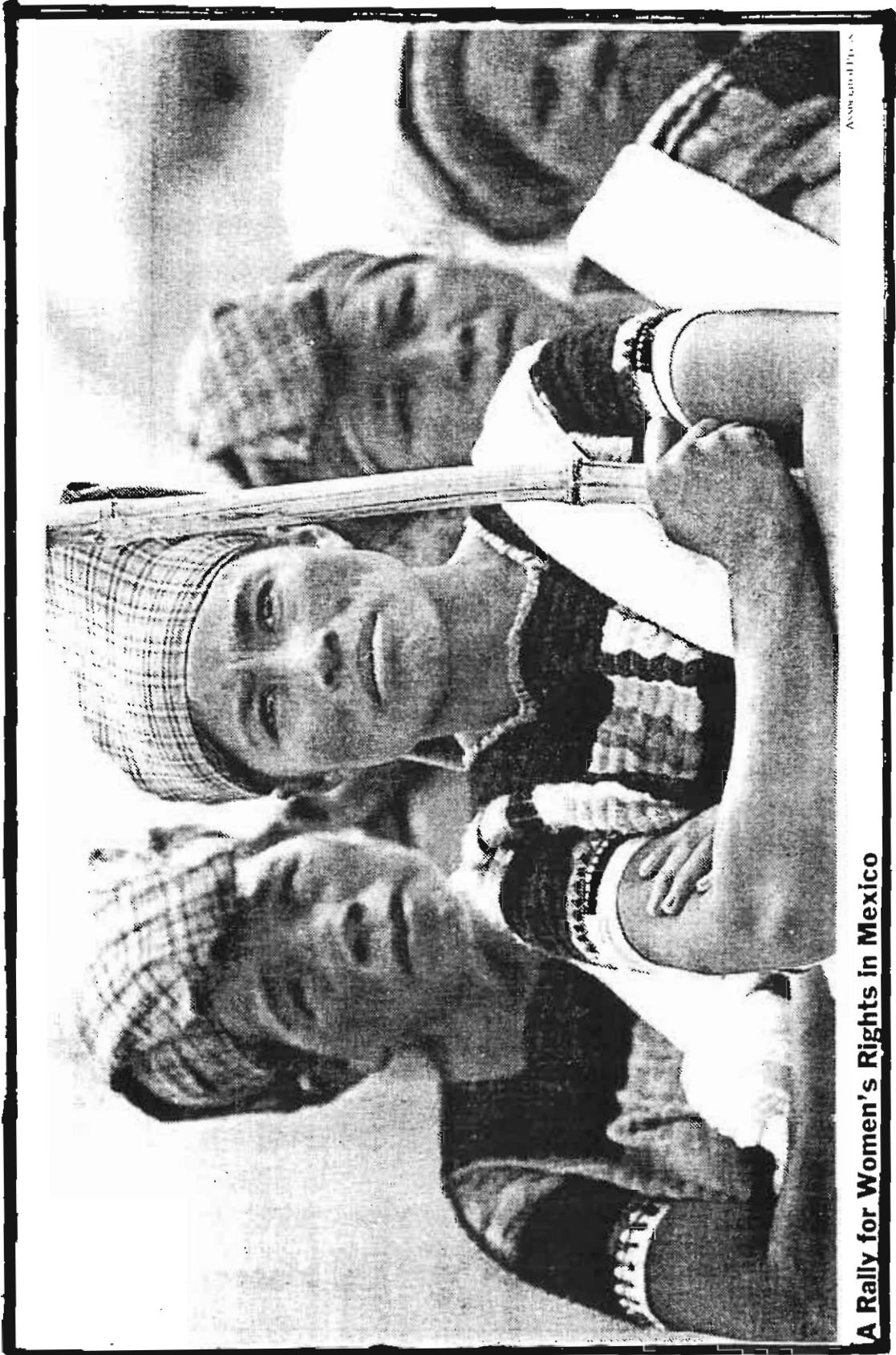
Through mace  
induced tears,  
I witness justice, take another beating.

A blood-stained cell,  
the concrete alter  
upon which you, sacrifice humanity.

And I endure  
this ancient ritual,  
in the name of, RESISTANCE.

And ignorance  
is free  
to call me crazy.

But this lacerated smile  
And spirit-lit eyes  
state, that I will stand, AGAIN....



A Rally for Women's Rights in Mexico

Associated Press



(in "honor" of the 25th anniversary of the first moon landing.)

**THE EARTH IS A SATELLITE OF THE MOON**

by Leonel Rugama

Apollo 2 cost more than Apollo 1  
Apollo 1 cost plenty.

Apollo 3 cost more than Apollo 2  
Apollo 2 cost more than Apollo 1  
Apollo 1 cost plenty.

Apollo 4 cost more than Apollo 3  
Apollo 3 cost more than Apollo 2  
Apollo 2 cost more than Apollo 1  
Apollo 1 cost plenty.

Apollo 8 cost a fortune, but no one minded  
because the astronauts were Protestant  
they read the Bible from the moon  
astounding and delighting every Christian  
and on their return Pope Paul the VI gave them his blessing.

Apollo 9 cost more than all these put together  
including Apollo 1 which cost plenty.

The great-grandparents of the people of Acahualinca were less  
hungry than the grandparents.

The great-grandparents died of hunger.

The grandparents of the people of Acahualinca were less  
hungry than the parents.

The grandparents died of hunger.

The parents of the people of Acahualinca were less  
hungry than the children of the people there.

The parents died of hunger.

The people of Acahualinca are less hungry than the children  
of the people there.

The children of the people of Acahualinca, because of hunger  
are not born

they hunger to be born, only to die of hunger.

Blessed are the poor for they shall inherit the moon.

(Leonel Rugama was a revolutionary and poet who was killed in his early 20's in the early  
years of the Nicaraguan Revolution.)



Nicaraguan women and a poem by Rugama.

photograph: Margaret Randall

## QUOTES OF MOVE'S REVERED FOUNDER, JOHN AFRICA!

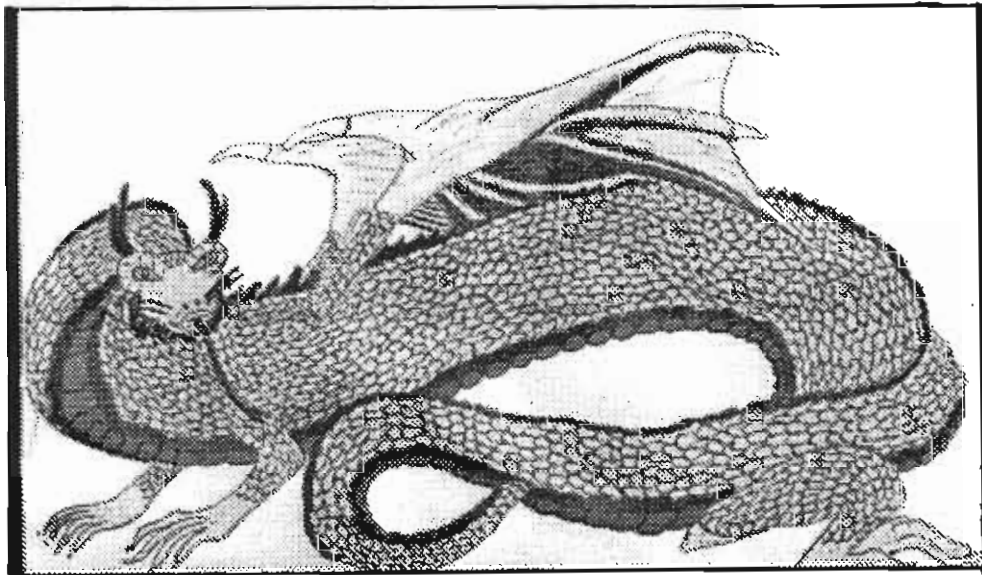
"Revolution is not a word but an application, it is not war but peace, it does not weaken it strengthens. Revolution does not cause separation it generates togetherness."

"Solidarity ain't a word, solidarity is a principle that exists despite words and will exist when words have ceased."

"When oppression oppresses people to revolt, the way of true revolution is to press on with examples of revolution so that when a people rebel they will not be discouraged by seeing no way out except to go back to the very adversary they're rebelling against."

"If we expect to accomplish the defeat of oppression, we are going to have to understand the power of assertion."

"A strategic revolutionary is the pivotal point in a restrained society that pivots the restrained in the way of revolution by informing the restrained of the power of Freedom through examples of freedom against examples of slavery."



*original art by Herbert Africa*



TAMARA - 2004 - Journal  
[illegible handwritten text]

## SAVE THE BLACK PANTHER

My heart flashes its fangs  
at the beasts  
who want to kill  
our best.

My heart aches with hate  
contemplating  
their false consciousness.

To kill Mumia  
would be genocide,  
because his words  
SAVE our lives.

To forsake him  
is psychotic.

To support him  
post-mortem  
would be stupid.

Our informed public people  
who ignore him  
are cowards.

Disgrace them.

The rule of  
the international  
imperial  
pig/demon/dog  
dooms all,  
destroys,  
disintegrates,  
deteriorates,  
is anti-everything  
beautiful, valuable and righteous,  
like the brother.

Death to the order.

Save the Black Panther.

Abdul Haqq, 1994.



## A GIFT AND A CLASS IN POLITICS.

A piece of the moon...

But in fact it's not one

but two pieces:

The piece of the dark side of the moon  
and the piece of the brilliant side of the moon.

And here, what you have to understand  
is that the piece of the moon that shines  
shines because there is the dark side

It is the dark side of the moon  
that makes possible the shining side  
of the moon. So with us,

if we're chosen to be the dark side of the moon  
we're not less for it

but it's because we're ready

to be the dark side

so that all might see the moon

(and, in the end

the dark side is worth more  
because it shines for other skies  
and because, to be able to see it  
you have to learn to fly very high).

And so it is

few are ready

to suffer so others might not suffer

and to die

so that others might live

and that's how it is

given that boots and moon and etcetera

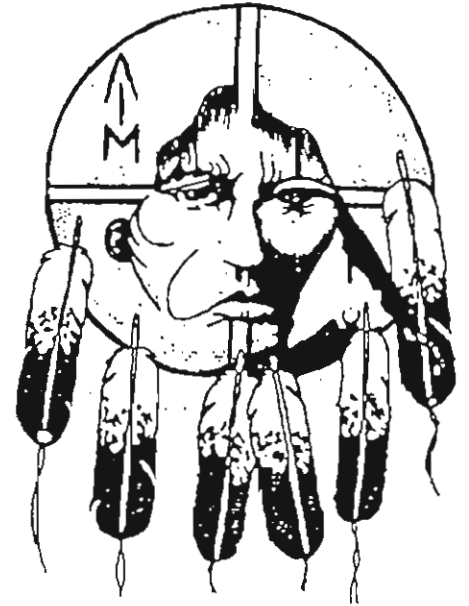
and period.

Okay, eternal moles, we'll see you again under the earth...

Signature of Subcomandante Marcos







## IN THE DISTANCE

In the distance on the cloud  
A lone warrior rides, searching  
For those who are lost.

In the minds of our children, the  
Echoes of our traditional songs  
Sing silently as the drum beat of  
Our Nation's beat strong within our hearts.

For many moons this lone warrior's  
Spirit touches and nourishes  
The young in their dreams of what  
Has been lost, guiding them back to  
The way of life.

Once awoken, the young ones seek out  
The old ones, asking endless questions  
For everything they know.

In the distance you can see this lone warrior  
Sitting upon his majestic war horse, smiling with  
His long braided hair and eagle feather in the wind  
Listening to the young, singing loud with pride of  
The traditional songs with the spirit of CRAZY HORSE.

AHO! MITAKUYE-OYASIN,  
George Still Day 1994

REMEMBERING A 15 YEAR OLD PALESTINIAN WOMAN IN PRISON,

CHAINED TO THE BED SPRINGS.

SHE HAD REFUSED TO STOP SINGING

Singing songs  
chained  
for singing  
clear melodic minor notes  
welling from sweet young throats  
and mouths which have tasted the tightness of screaming silences

And still songs soar

Songs sung sweetly  
soaring skyward  
Reeling remembering revealing  
souls and spirits

Women singing songs

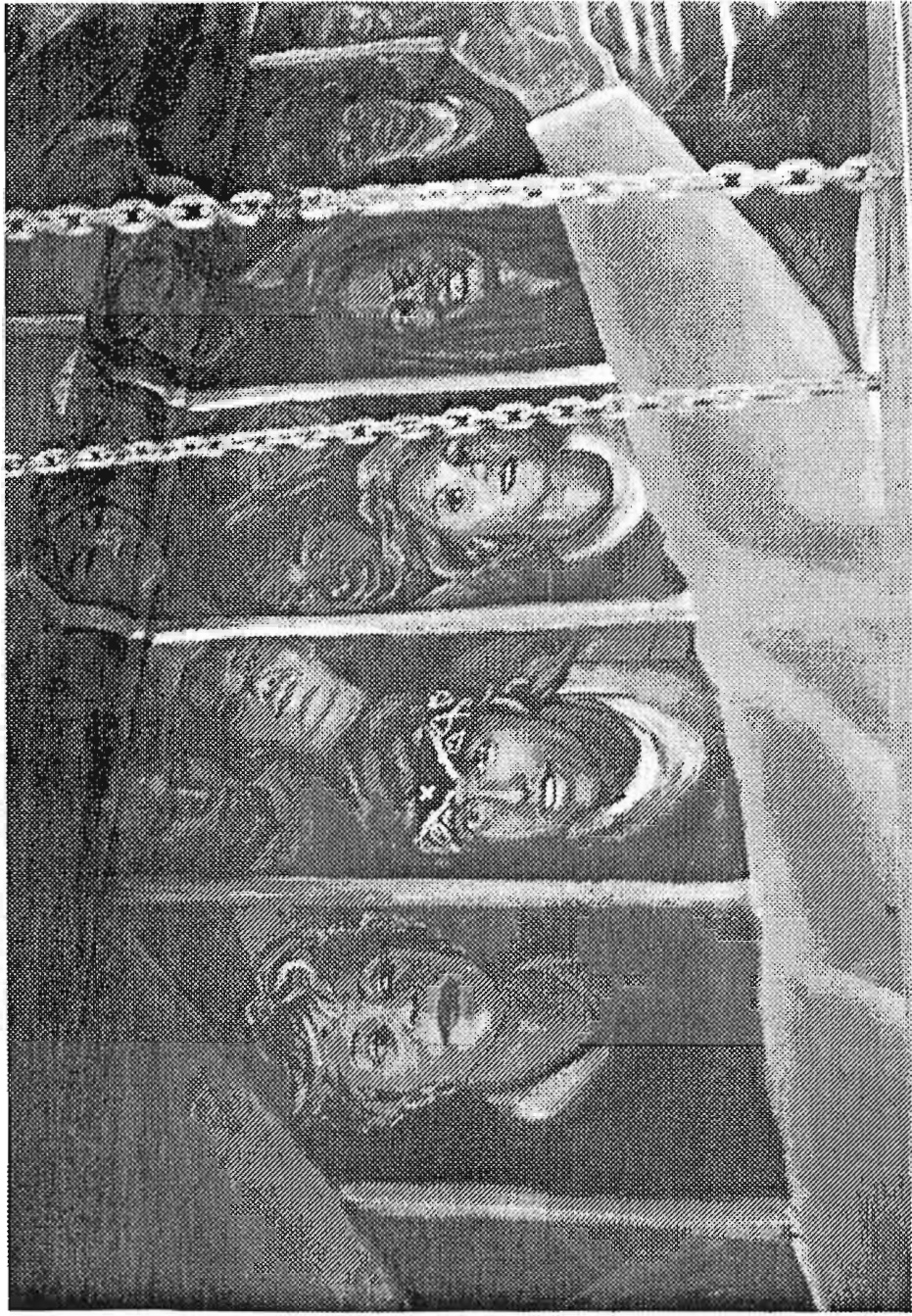
lullabys lovesongs  
and blues songs  
chanting cantillating songs  
of living life  
and dying death

Searching out sounds not yet noted  
on bars  
not yet ordered on scales  
Exploring the breadth of hell  
Seeking the expanses of the universe  
and freedom

Marilyn Buck

Summer 1988





# MAESTRAPEACE

Mural by: Juana Alicia, Miranda Bergman,  
Edythe Boone, Susan Kalk Cervantes,  
Meera Desai, Yvonne Littleton and Irene Perez  
© 1994 world rights reserved

**I Must Become a Menace  
to My Enemies**  
*Dedicated to the Poet Agostinho Neto,  
President of The People's Republic of Angola: 1976*

I

I will no longer lightly walk behind  
a one of you who fear me:

Be afraid.

I plan to give you reasons for your jumpy fits  
and facial tics

I will not walk politely on the pavements  
anymore  
and this is dedicated in particular  
to those who hear my footsteps  
or the insubstantial rattling of my grocery  
cart  
then turn around  
see me  
and hurry on  
away from this impressive terror I must be:  
I plan to blossom bloody on an afternoon  
surrounded by my comrades singing  
terrible revenge in merciless  
accelerating  
rhythms  
But  
I have watched a blind man studying his face.

I have set the table in the evening and sat down  
to eat the news  
Regularly  
I have gone to sleep.  
There is no one to forgive me.  
The dead do not give a damn.  
I live like a lover  
who drops her dime into the phone  
just as the subway shakes into the station  
wasting her message  
cancelling the question of her call:

fulminating or forgetful but late  
and always after the fact that could save or  
condemn me

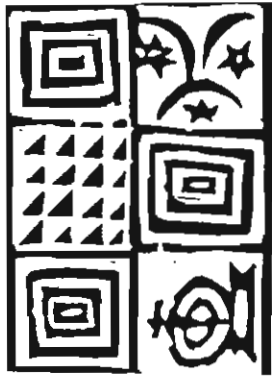
I must become the action of my fate.

II

How many of my brothers and my sisters  
will they kill  
before I teach myself  
retaliation?  
Shall we pick a number?  
South Africa for instance:  
do we agree that more than ten thousand  
in less than a year but that less than  
five thousand slaughtered in more than six  
months will

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH ME?





I must become a menace to my enemies.

III

And if I  
if I ever let you slide  
who should be extirpated from my universe  
who should be cauterized from earth  
completely  
(lawandorder jerkoffs of the first the  
terrorist degree)  
then let my body fail my soul  
in its bedevilled lecheries

And if I  
if I ever let love go  
because the hatred and the whisperings  
become a phantom dictate I o-  
bey in lieu of impulse and realities  
(the blossoming flamingos of my  
wild mimosa trees)  
then let love freeze me  
out.

I must become  
I must become a menace to my enemies.



*JUNE JORDAN*



# IN SPITE OF INNOCENCE



## DEATH ROW SPEAK-OUT AND ART SHOW

The California Prisoners' Association is sponsoring a "Death Row Speak-Out and Art Show" on Thursday, May 12, at the La Pena Cultural Center in Berkeley. The event will feature a panel discussion with several prisoners from the state's death row, including Willie Sutton, who was recently executed. The show will also display art created by prisoners. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (510) 841-2547.



**WILLIE SUTTON**  
Sutton, who was recently executed, is one of the prisoners who will be speaking at the event.



**JOHN BROWN**  
Brown is another prisoner who will be speaking at the event.



**JOHN BROWN**  
Brown is another prisoner who will be speaking at the event.

**THURSDAY, MAY 12**  
**LA PENA CULTURAL CENTER**  
**3105 Shattuck Ave. in Berkeley**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**OPENING ART RECEPTION FROM 6:30 - 7:30!**  
**\$3 - \$10 Donation requested (No one turned away)**  
For more information call (510) 841-2547

# 1994 a year in the streets

## THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IS KILLING PRISONERS

STAND UP AGAINST THE VIOLENCE OF THE PRISON SYSTEM

## DEMONSTRATE

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1994  
in San Francisco for PRISONERS' JUSTICE DAY



**CORRECTIONS**  
Public Safety Public Service

**NOT!**

**4:30 pm: Rally and Picket**  
at the Old State Building - Golden Gate & Larkin, S.F.  
followed by: **March to New State Bldg.**  
speakers, theater, music...

- WE DEMAND:**
1. STOP THE SHOOTING OF PRISONERS; HOLD GUARDS ACCOUNTABLE FOR ALL CASES OF HARASSMENT, DEPRIVATION AND MISTREATMENT
  2. U.S. states prison guards shoot and kill far more prisoners than do guards in all other U.S. states combined.
  3. QUALITY MEDICAL CARE FOR PRISONERS
  4. The SHU's increase violence in the system and drive prisoners to insanity and suicide.
  5. CONDUCT OPEN PUBLIC INQUIRIES INTO ALL DEATHS INSIDE PRISONS
  6. ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY

## RUN AGAINST RACISM RUN FOR FREEDOM



### FREE MUMBA ABU JAMAL

Mumba Jamal is a human rights activist and former president of the Black Liberation Movement. He was arrested in 1968 and held in prison for 10 years. He was released in 1978 but was re-arrested in 1982 for being a member of the Black Liberation Movement. He was held in prison for 10 years and was released in 1992. He is currently in prison for being a member of the Black Liberation Movement.

The U.S. government refuses to release him because of the more than 200 political prisoners in the world. In order to secure the release of political prisoners, we must release Mumba Jamal. We must release all political prisoners. We must release all political prisoners. We must release all political prisoners.



**5K WALK**  
**5 & 10K**  
**RUN & ROLL**  
Saturday, June 11, 1994  
8:30am - Lake Merritt, Oakland  
(near Parkville & Hollave Streets)

**About the Walk, Run, Roll**  
Walk Begins 8:45am  
5K & 10K Runs & Roll Begins 9:00am  
Pre-Registration \$2 by June 4, 1994. Pick up 10 minutes at race.  
Race Day Registration: 5k - 6:00am, 10k - 7:00am.  
Prizes awarded for highest places achieved.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Waiver** (must be signed)  
I hereby agree to the acceptance of my entry, liability and release of the organizers of this event. I understand that the organizers are not responsible for any injury or damage to my person or property which may occur as a result of my participation in this event. I understand that the organizers are not responsible for any injury or damage to my person or property which may occur as a result of my participation in this event. I understand that the organizers are not responsible for any injury or damage to my person or property which may occur as a result of my participation in this event.

## Florence Federal AD-Max and Colorado State Prison are Control Unit Prisons

**CONTROL UNIT:** "No single aspect identifies a control unit; rather, it is a combination of physical conditions, the policies which determine who is sent there, how long they stay there and the overall purpose of the unit that constitute a definition." \* from Committee to End the Marion Lockdown

Control unit is the term used in reference to prisons which are in permanent administrative lockdown. They are designed specifically for this type of incarceration. Colorado will soon be the home of two of these facilities joining 35 other states. The Colorado State Prison near Canon City has just been completed and the Florence Control Unit is scheduled to open in the Spring of 1994. Soon 550 men in Florence and 504 in Canon City will be in permanent isolation. These prisons are modeled after Marion Federal Prison in IL, the only US prison to be condemned by Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International for violating nearly every rule in the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. Currently there is a rapid proliferation of control units, both state and federal, in this country.

### Control Unit Conditions Include:

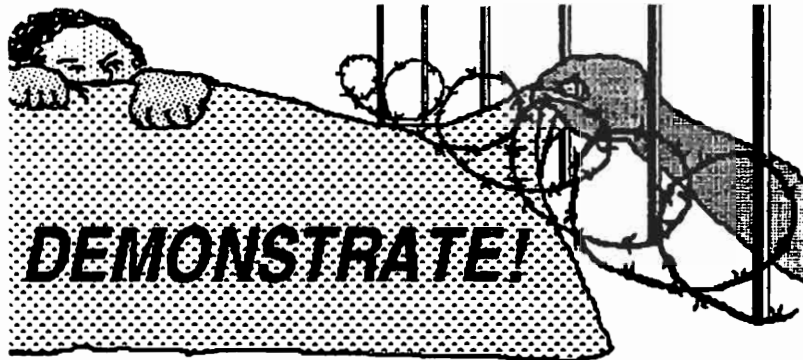
- 22.5 hours a day or more locked in single cell.
- No congregating dining, exercise or religious services.
- No work opportunities.
- Very limited phone calls and visitation. No physical contact upon visitation.
- Limited education allowed only through correspondence courses, closed circuit t.v. and instructive tapes.
- No rules govern administrative transfer; thus there is no written procedure for transfer to or from control units. No due process.

.....  
 For further information or to get involved in the Colorado resistance to control unit prisons, contact Abolish Control U: the Rocky Mountain Peace Center 303-444-698 PO Box 1156 Boulder, CO 80306. Subscribe to **SHUT THEM DOWN**, the bimonthly resistance to control unit prisons. Send your name **Shut Them Down** at the above address. Checks Rocky Mountain Peace Center.

*Among the demonstrations this past spring were two to protest the opening of Soledad II and the Florence control unit. At left is a leaflet from the Coalition Against Control Unit Torture in Colorado.*

## Support Women Prisoners at Chowchilla

Stop the Medical Neglect and Abuse of Prisoners with HIV/AIDS!



**Saturday, Jan. 29, 1:30 p.m.  
 Chowchilla Women's Prison**

### JOIN THE FIGHT INSIDE AND OUTSIDE TO DEMAND:

- Quality health care for all women prisoners
- Hire an HIV/AIDS specialist
- High nutritional diets and vitamins for HIV+ prisoners
- Support peer education efforts
- Compassionate release for all terminally ill prisoners - Free Betty Ross

**CARPools TO CHOWCHILLA (near Fresno):**  
 SF: Leave Safeway Parking Lot (Church and Market) at 8:00 a.m.  
 East Bay: Leave MacArthur BART station at 8:30 a.m.

For rides and more information, call (510) 530-6214 or (415) 861-4058.

Sponsored by the Coalition to Support Women Prisoners at Chowchilla

Note: Many other events happened this past year and there just wasn't space to mention all of them. There were actions around women in prison, control units, medical neglect, shootings, the death penalty and a range of other issues.

## FREEDOM BOUND (The Boat People)

Freedom here I come  
Raise your lamp beside the golden door  
Welcome my hopes and my dreams ashore  
It's for you that I forsake my home  
Freedom O Freedom  
Since I have never seen you before  
I don't really know what to look for  
But ready or not here I come

I set my sail across the dawn  
To take me away from my fears  
I turn my face towards the morning sun  
So the sunshine can dry up tears  
There'll be nothing to hold me down  
In my traveling freedom bound  
I'll cross the borders of many nations  
And burn holes in the four horizons

Freedom O Freedom  
We're so thirsty for you where I'm from  
That someday I'll take you by the hands  
And invite you to dwell in my land

But everybody agrees, it seems  
To keep me away from their doors  
And when I manage to make it ashore  
I have no time to unpack my dreams

I worked the cane fields and I swear  
I have found no sugar there  
Although I came begging for liberty  
I am jailed in the Land of the Free

Freedom O Freedom  
Now I know I can't call you my own  
Till the day I build you with many hands  
With the color and shape of my land

Jean-Claude Martineau



Since Jean-Bertrand Aristide's return this fall, the popular movement in Haiti has called for the total disarmament of FRAPH (the paramilitary instrument of Haiti's ruling elite) and for establishment of a Truth Commission to investigate the legacy of terror committed by the Haitian military.

What would it mean to live  
in a city whose people were changing  
each other's despair into hope?  
You yourself must change it.  
What would it feel like to know  
your country was changing?  
You yourself must change it.  
Though your life felt arduous  
new and unmapped and strange  
what would it mean to stand  
on the first page  
of the end of despair?

— Adrienne Rich

# CELEBRATE

ORLANDO GONZÁLES-CLAUDIO

ROBERTO JOSE-MALDONADO

HILTON D. FERNANDEZ

JOSEPH MC COLLIGAN

JOHN DEAR

RICK SPRINGER

NORMAN  
RAMIREZ TALANERA

CONSUELLA DOTSON AFRICA JIM SMITH

PETER MCGUIRE

PHIL BERRIGAN

CARLOS PEREZ AFRICA

R.A.F. FREEDOM FIGHTER IRMGARD "GABI" MÖLLER

# THEIR RELEASE!!

