

For immediate release

Contact: Lauren Katzowitz Shenfield
Philanthropy Advisors, LLC
awaw@philanthropyadvisorsny.org
212-517-8108

Anonymous Was A Woman Awards **Ten Women Artists Receive \$25,000 Grants**

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Anonymous Was A Woman announced today the ten artists selected to receive the Foundation's fifteenth annual awards. The "no strings" grant of \$25,000 enables women, over 45 years of age and at a critical juncture in their lives or careers, to continue to grow and pursue their work.

Lauren Katzowitz Shenfield, administrator of the program, explained, "Anonymous Was A Woman Awards are synonymous with important recognition in artists' personal and artistic development. The financial gift helps artists buy time, space, materials, and equipment, often at early stages of a new project, and, sometimes, recover from traumatic life events. In itself, the Award helps artists feel recognized and honored by other distinguished women who seek no credit for the role they play."

The name of the grant program, Anonymous Was A Woman, refers to a line in Virginia Woolf's *A Room of One's Own*. As the name implies, the nominators and those associated with the program are unnamed.

To date, 151 women have received the award. Each year, an outstanding group of distinguished women – art historians, curators, writers and previous winners – serve as nominators.

"It was an honor to be nominated and even more so to receive the Award, to be part of such an impressive list," one winner said on learning the news. Those struggling economically were especially grateful. "It means so much to me right now," commented another winner, her voice shaking. "It has been a very rough year." For others, the Award is a sign of encouragement. "The life of the artist is lonely," one winner mused. "It is great to have affirmation of my work and feel part of a community. We are all little bubbles. This donor, this anonymous person, is a woman who understands."

Anonymous Was A Woman, a program of FJC-A Foundation of Philanthropic Funds, is administered by Philanthropy Advisors, LLC, a comprehensive consulting and management organization for private philanthropy.



Anonymous Was A Woman

2010 Award Recipients

Maureen Connor
Installation/Video

Samm Kunce
Conceptual Artist

Louise Lawler
Artist

Elizabeth LeCompte
Theater/Media Artist

Suzanne McClelland
Visual Artist/Painter

Joyce Pensato
Painter

Laura Poitras
Documentary Filmmaker

Victoria Sambunaris
Photographer

Arlene Shechet
Sculptor

Eve Sussman
Artist/Film-Video