

*Donna Sheehan*



*'S That You, O Liberty?*

*Photographer: Paul Reffell*



*Love Field, Marin County, California,*

*November 12, 2002*

*Photographer: Art Rogers*



*Drake's Beach, Marin County, California*

*December 29, 2002*

*Photographer: Jan Watson*

Artist Donna Sheehan's extraordinary vision in creating **Baring Witness** has earned her a place in the history of the global peace movement. For this tremendous achievement, and for her passion and commitment to bringing about a healthier and more peaceful world, the MHF honors Donna with the **2004 Award for Vision and Achievement (AVA)**.

The inspiration for **Baring Witness** came to Donna in a dream where she saw people creating shapes with their bodies. With her partner, Paul Reffell, Donna planted this dream seed and created a profound and moving force for peace that took root from Australia to Alaska. The first **Baring Witness** action took place in November 2002 in Pt. Reyes Station, California. Forty-five women lay down naked in the rain and formed themselves into the word PEACE. That brave and simple action inspired thousands of desperate, extraordinary, ordinary people to commit similar protests for non-violence, using the power and vulnerability of the human form.

In addition to her galvanizing work for peace with **Baring Witness**, Donna is an artist, writer, and community and environmental activist. Until the mid-1990's, her artwork centered on paintings, monotypes, etchings, and photographs, much of which has been shown throughout the western US. In 1994, Donna began doing creative collaboration and public installation art with Paul Reffell.

In a lifetime of varied experiences, Donna has been a teacher, counselor, travel agent, professional cyclist, commercial fisherwoman and tour guide. While working her way around the world in her twenties, she even worked for US Counter-Intelligence in Tokyo and Berlin.

Donna has been a founder of numerous organizations, including: Mow & Sow, the ORLO Foundation (synthesizing the arts and environmental activism), Point Reyes Fine Arts Community Gallery, Community Radio Station KWMR, *Beyond Artifice* symposia on art and the environment, and *Redefining Seduction* workshops. As an outgrowth of these workshops, Donna and Paul wrote the soon-to-be-released book, "Redefining Seduction: Women Initiating Courtship and Partnership."