

The Grandma Reporter



Issue 4: Sex

What is the relationship
between eroticism and being
an older woman?

By April, Carolyn, Jacqui, Jean, Joanna, Moppy & Salty

Editor's Note



Welcome to the Sex issue of The Grandma Reporter! A long-held dream, it's built on the success of Issue 2: Intimacy (2019), made at the ever-supportive Community for Positive Aging (previously Hollywood Senior Center), where a swell of

on-the-ground desire to talk about sex emerged from the issue's community impact. Issue 2's launch and women-only discussion were packed with curious, eager seniors thirsty to examine the subject matter. A brief new group formed thereafter, where the ladies expressed curiosity about sex toy shops alongside fear of visiting one alone. Hence, the idea of visiting She Bop, Portland's education-focused sex toy shop was born — something we did in this edition, with a private tour (thanks, She Bop!). For many of the women, it was their first time in a sex toy shop, even handling vibrators.

What do older women have to say about the taboo subject of carnal desire, emotional need for physical intimacy, or more expansively, what feels alive and sensual as they age?



DESIGN NOTE

Independent print publications have long provided a platform for marginalized voices, creating space for perspectives that are too often overlooked in mainstream conversations. Drawing from that tradition, I wanted to contribute to this project in a way that would amplify the experiences, reflections, and insights of a group of these bold, thoughtful, and wise women.

Visually, I culled inspiration from feminist and queer zines, as well as my interactions with the project participants. It was important that the publication embody the values it champions: every typeface was designed by women or non-binary type designers; Christina Janus, Lorène Ceccon, Laurie Szujewska, and Sabrina Nacmias. This wouldn't be what it is without their beautiful work. It's been an honor!

ELIZABETH BROWN
Designer

This poignant, brazen, and life-affirming issue of The Grandma Reporter was made through a collaborative artistic process with six elder women aged 64 to 89, and features real life love stories, erotic tales, information on the importance of healthy vaginal pH, a classy and sensual photo shoot, and a series of powerful slogans on sex, eroticism, and the power of women. Poems and reflections on intimacy beyond sex offer a necessarily expanded vision of eroticism and aliveness.

As a younger woman, it has been a wonderful privilege convening with these brave, humorous elders. Their curiosity and will to live well have uplifted me in difficult moments, reminding me of a magical, primordial core that is my truth, no matter external circumstances. May their bold and tender perspectives radiate life force out into the world today. May you harvest something beautiful, true, and alive to age with.

With soft juiciness,

SALTY XI JIE NG

Editor and founder, The Grandma Reporter

The Grandma Reporter is a collaborative publication project about the inner worlds of senior women around the world. Founded in 2016, the project amplifies the voices and spirits of elder women who come together to dialogue, often about rarely spoken subjects, and channel expression through writing, collaborative image-making and more. Intimate creative processes unfold, eventually alchemised into a publication which is many things: documentation of an artistic process, a presentation of research, an educational document, a learning tool, a glimpse into private worlds, a dose of fantasy, and a piece of activism.

Special thanks: She Bop, Amber Kern-Johnson, Libby Landauer, Lisa Nims, Shawn Creeden, and Elizabeth Brown

thegrandmareporter.com IG: @thegrandmareporter

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Regional Arts &
Culture Council



The Community
for Positive Aging

IF YOU DON'T LIKE
EXERCISE, SEX IS A
FUN WORKOUT!

DID YOU KNOW
THAT SEX
BURNS
AS MANY
CALORIES
AS WALKING?

JACQUI
JACKSON

AGE 80

CIRCULATION
KEEPS YOU VIBRANT
AND ALIVE

A Collective Altar

Dedicated to Sex and the Erotic

ALTAR ITEMS

(CLOCKWISE FROM TOP CENTER)

Goddess candle The Goddess symbolises my connection to the universe and our life force. We're all connected. The world would be a more peaceful place if we made love and not war. - April

Geranium and bluebells My late husband Allan loved flowers, they were a symbol of our love. He always brought me flowers. - Joanna [see page 18 for article]

Flicker vibrator My little vibrator I call Honey because I know she's always there. When something turns me on while reading, watching TV, or recalling a memory, I know she's all I need. With 15 different motions, she gives me mostly extremely pleasurable and usually intense orgasms. - Anonymous

Magazine collage Made to consider becoming involved with a younger man. - Jean [see page 6 for article]

Cervical dearmoring crystal wand the slow, tender, emotional practice of using this wand to release tension and trauma held in vaginal walls and the cervix leads to more freedom, pleasure, and cervical orgasms! -Salty

Branch photo I was walking down the street minding my own business and BAM! There was a piece of wood that looked like a man lying down with an erect penis. - Carolyn [see page 12 for article]

Kroger's lubricating jelly Memento of a partner - Jean [see page 6 for more]

Vaginal suppository I swear by this amazing practice to maintain a healthy vaginal microbiome and prevent UTIs. - Jacqui [see page 9 for article]

Chalice with water To our collective juiciness! - Salty

Goddess pendant I use it as a tool to help loosen knots on a tied up plastic bag. On the back is inscribed: POWER is the ABILITY to never have to please ANYONE but YOURSELF. - Carolyn [see page 16-17 for article]

OPENING TO LIFE

APRIL BURRIS

goddess sries in her chalice of moon and stars
sees cycles of life
in the mysterious depths
a time of shifting potentials
that, like older women, will ripen into something beautiful
when you look from the inside out

morning, noon, and night; each beautiful in their own way
mother, maiden, crone, the seasons of life each bring potential
fecund, fertile, decay is needed to nourish new life
growing old; a beginning not an end

all day it's touch and go; sadness, stress
hum drum, joy, or peaceful moments
erotic moments pop up if we look for them
sweet tastes of life, ripe raspberries
luscious strawberries drip with possibility
flowers open to life, bees and hummingbirds plumb their juicy chasms

our experience flowers in an ever-changing landscape
drink the draughts of life in every stage



Love in the Time of Covid—Herald and Mod

ALL WORDS BY JEAN BRIESENICK

Our meeting felt auspicious for several reasons. It happened on leap year day, Saturday February 29, 2020, right before Covid was declared a global pandemic. I went to Starbucks for my usual breakfast. It was full and I was kindly invited to sit with a family. I had a nice chat with the grandfather, who reminded me of my own dad.. Perhaps ten minutes later, my “adoptive family” left.

“You’re so friendly. If you want to sit with me, you can,” said the intense young man whose presence I had felt. Until he spoke, I hadn’t looked his way. Had I ever been much of a risk taker? Rarely, but with the looming uncertainty of a worldwide epidemic, why not? So I sat across from the man, who told me he was 40, but looked much younger. I was 71. He wore a T-shirt, torn jeans, had Nordic gold hair, probing blue eyes, charming smile, casual demeanour. He initiated a conversation that bounced between topics. Had I ever seen Harold and Maude, he asked? I reminisced about the film first issued when I was in college, which blew me away. 80-year-old Maude taught depressed teenage neighbor Harold how to enjoy life. Where was my companion going with this topic? Intrigued but cautious when he asked me to be his friend and do fun activities with him, I agreed but declined to share my last name or phone number.

Within weeks, life as we knew it became UNCERTAIN. Classes and programs? Cancelled. Libraries and schools? Closed. Human contact? Only online. Masking up? Mandatory. Having studied plagues of medieval times, I worried about OUR future. Two Sundays passed before I encountered Herald again. He admitted he had been back to Starbucks twice looking for me; I had done the same. He hugged me, told me I was so sweet and funny, claimed he loved me. O-kay... Not a trusting person around men, I was surprised I enjoyed his hugs, found them comforting.

Spring began on March 19th that year. I called friends to stay connected, made Easter cards, felt excited about the shake up of old patterns. Meanwhile, I called Herald at the number he gave me during our last meetup. “I’m glad you called because I was moping in the bathtub.” Let the fantasies begin! Herald is 6 foot 4 inches of masculine beauty. Lean, lanky, hairy, and intelligent.

We picnicked in the park, discovered a mutual love for dogs, held hands when crossing a busy street. Next, Governor Brown mandated lock down from March 23 to 28th 2020, to be enforced with misdemeanor sentencing. Meanwhile, I felt unrestful, had a dull headache, raw sore throat, slept fitfully. My primary doctor advised me to get Covid-tested at Urgent Care. Herald showed up at my apartment lobby as planned, anticipating our bike ride. I held my sign up to the window: “getting tested for Covid at Kaiser”. We exchanged a heated look of longing and fear, pressing hands to the glass barrier. Five days of wondering and worrying in isolation later, I tested negative.

We met up again at Our Park, and exchanged a hug to die for instead of a hug to die from. I swear we were enrobed in pink and blue sparkles. He said, “I love you, Jean. I said it first.”

JEAN’S ALTAR OBJECTS (PREVIOUS PAGE)

Kroger’s lubricating jelly A cheap Fred Meyer product readily available. The price and accessibility of the product was right. Not in a locked cabinet, no clerk needed to access. When I bought it, She Bop did not yet exist - the safe and healthy shop to educate consumers on practical matters like vaginal pH protection. Though the partner I loved has since departed, I kept the lube we used as a placeholder, a memento of our time together, forgetting it was there for months at a time. A photo of the lubricant is featured on our group altar. Like the partner, the lube is now gone.

Magazine collage I made five years ago as I considered becoming involved with a younger man. Two advertisements inquire, “Who said gray hair can’t be sexy?” Two photos of trails are shown. One is captioned: “Something to consider as the path changes”. The other shows two hikers: one a gray-haired woman contemplating the man in the background. She is prominent, front lit. He is back lit, sized smaller. **A hazy sky poses the question—is it sunset or sunrise?**

Another ad compares two possible dates side by side. One is overweight, appears unfit, wears unkempt clothes, one shoe is untied, his beard is untrimmed. He brings a bucket of chicken and a 6-pack. The other contender is trim, well-groomed, offers a bouquet and a bottle of wine. **Which is the door not taken?**

The central, most prominent image on the collage features a serene woman wearing white, meditating. Adjacent to her, a smiling, relaxed woman below a heading declaring “Sex for One”. Cartoon stars and fireworks frame the shot. Below on the right, travel images suggest future possibilities: a passport and train station. **Ticket, or tickets, please?**



REASONS

THERE ARE NO REASONS NOT TO MASTURBATE.

IT IMPROVES YOUR MOOD.

IT HELPS YOU
TO GET
HEALTHIER.

NOT TO

IT BURNS CALORIES.

MASTURBATION PUTS A YOUTHFUL
SMILE ON YOUR FACE.

MASTUR- BATE

JACQUI JACKSON, 80

Attention!

BY JACQUI JACKSON

Whether or not you have sex, it's important to care for your vaginal pH. A healthy vaginal microbiome keeps UTIs at bay. UTIs can happen without sex.

Not one doctor has told me about vaginal pH, and I've been to lots of them. I wish someone had shared this with me many years ago. I used to have painful UTIs. Back then, they blamed sex. My mother had a UTI that landed her in hospital, and she wasn't having sex. In 2019, I was part of The Grandma Reporter - Issue 2: Intimacy project at Hollywood Senior Center (CfPA's former name). Salty invited Jessica Daniel, a Physician Assistant Student from OHSU to talk to us. This young woman's passion was senior women's sexual health, and she shared vaginal pH information with us that no one had ever heard about before. I was amazed and the very same day I bought the Good Clean Love vaginal homeopathic suppository. It's easy to use and I do it once a month to keep my vagina healthy. There are healthy germs in those suppositories, and they maintain my vaginal health through old age. It has been seven years and I have had no UTIs. I love spreading the word and letting other women know about this amazing and simple practice.



↑
It's easy to insert this vaginally
and release the suppository.
Protect your pH balance and
stay healthy in old age.

Keep

fucking

and

sucking



BY YOURSELF

A Funny Story



BY ANONYMOUS

One afternoon two friends and I were bemoaning our sex lives or lack thereof. I knew of a female-run sex toy shop and suggested to them that we check it out.

I had been taking real chances to get laid. Especially after a few drinks or a little weed. I once picked up a guy driving next to me and took him home. Another man that I met in a bar went into a tirade about how much he hated his mother for picking up guys and bringing them home. I felt sure that he was going to hurt me.

So at the store the woman explained various products. All of us picked what I now know is called a rabbit vibrator. The shaft had little balls inside that vibrated in different directions that hit the g-spot. And it had a clitoral stimulator as part of the design.

We had intended to go out for dinner but as we stood in the parking lot, almost simultaneously said, "Maybe we just go home." Back at my home, I set the scene with some music and low lights, even putting on a sexy negligee.

Oh Lord—what a pleasure that thing was. It hit all the right places and I rolled around my bed shouting with pleasure. At one point I rolled off the bed to the floor where I could see everything in my mirror closet doors.

There were so many climaxes. After the final one I began to laugh and laugh and laugh. What a relief to know I never had to take a chance or settle just to be satisfied.

It was a great laugh!





A couple years ago, I was walking down the street minding my own business and BAM! There was a piece of wood that looked like a man lying down with an erect penis. It was in a yard in my neighborhood. I told my neighbor about it, and she'd never noticed it.



Deadwood dick...he died of HARD failure

Eroticism

BY CAROLYN BROWN

Since this project began, I have been spotting erotic things in nature, sometimes on walks. I laugh and say to myself, "Gee, wonder if anybody else sees it like that. We've got all this sexual stuff right in front of us and nobody notices but me." Here, I am sharing my collection with you. Enjoy!

In

Nature



Woops!!!
wrong hole



Erotica before the recycling phase. It will end up cum post.

Vaginas are everywhere. Some are hidden and some are not.



Please do not cut the grass without permission!!!

Eroticism Beyond Sex

ALL WORDS BY APRIL BURRIS

People can still be erotic, sensual human beings and not want a romantic or sexual relationship. They might be only aromantic, only asexual, or both. Our society tends to focus only on romance and sex as the path to happiness. Asexual people, about 1% of the adult population, still are erotic human beings. They still want a connection with others; pleasure and a relationship just don't look like what we've been told it should, but that's okay.

Not only does a single-minded quest for sex, romance, and marriage not always work out, it doesn't always last, either. For a relationship to be lasting and lead to happiness, it's helpful for the people involved to explore each others' feelings and emotions, not just proceed down the well-worn path leading to sex and marriage. Intimacy is exploring each others' emotions and needs; for instance a need for touch can sometimes be fulfilled by holding hands and taking a long walk to somewhere meaningful for both of you.

Eroticism is so much more than the sexual. In Plato's Symposium, he said, "Eros surfaces as a love for the good, desire for immortality." Likewise, **Audre Lorde, in *Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power*, defines eroticism as "a sharing of joy, whether physical, emotional, psychic, or intellectual."** These definitions are about the energy of connection, creative fulfillment and self-expression. Other forms of self-expression could include art, writing, sensual movements, salsa dancing, soaking up the sun, swimming, or savoring a sinful dessert. These intimate, erotic, or sensual actions could lead to sex or just be enjoyed for their own sake.

Intimate interactions like cuddling and talking can help people pinpoint their real desires and get to know and appreciate others more fully. Knowing each other well and exploring emotions is helpful in any type of relationship. An example of a different kind of relationship to fulfill needs for structure and companionship that lasted for a lifetime, yet was not romantic, were Boston marriages - a long-term, cohabitating relationship between two unmarried women who were financially independent of men. They are not common now, but were in the 19th century. Boston marriages were true partnerships that were meant to last a lifetime. They also would have provided care in old age, which could be a problem if you did not want a romantic relationship and did not have a family to care for you. In conclusion, learning and exploring different forms of eroticism can help us live our lives more openly, freely, and fully.

Sources: *Naked at Our Age* by Joan Price; *Ace: What Asexuality Reveals About Desire, Society & the Meaning of Sex* by Angela Chen; *Symposium* by Plato; *Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power* by Audre Lorde

POTENTIAL EROTIC MOMENTS

meditating on our connection to the Universe, the Goddess, the people
make love not war; we cum in peace

interrupting a dull day; by the bus stop
a tree with a mossy triangle extending
from her roots and up to the crotch
where this tree branches out
all around the rich velvety moss
ferns adorn her in a fringe

take time to peer all the way down
into the richly painted whorls inside
a flower, guarded by the sticky
stamen heavy with pollen for the bees

savor the deep, dark, intense flavor
of pure dark chocolate and the pleasure it brings



PAIRINGS

all mixed up together; plant sex and olive oil
spices and red peppers with tender velvety flesh
all dressed in transparent, spicy flavors that
Mother Nature gives us to eat of
with a healthy side of greens
to nourish the soul

Eroticism 🦋❤️🦋 is so much more than the *sexual*. ✨
Eroticism is *soaking* up the 🌞 sun, *savoring* a sinful dessert, 🍰 *sensual* movements, + and salsa dancing. 💕



APRIL BURRIS, 64

Goddess Comes Full Circle



PHOTOS BY SALTY XI JIE NG

The Goddess is empowerment.

It's how you view yourself from within. You can be a powerhouse. I'm 81 and still masturbate regularly. It's empowering and helps me release stress. Since being in this project, I'm curious to experience more sexual pleasure. Hence, I've gone to physical therapy to learn pelvic exercises, which is something I never thought I'd ever do. I love learning new things. As older women, having a sexual practice keeps us interacting with life and ourselves. Physically, mentally, and emotionally, it triggers everything in a positive way. I enjoy treating myself well. I am a Goddess. - CAROLYN BROWN



IF THE WORLD
WERE ENDING
TOMORROW,
I WOULD WANT TO
HAVE
SEX.
LET'S GO OUT WITH A
BANG!

CAROLYN BROWN, 81

Cinderella Moments

BY JEAN BRIESENICK

I was raised in the 50's, the hey day of Disney Princesses, magic spells, happily ever after. We grew up believing our prince would come, until the reality check of puberty struck. Surrey a princess didn't have to deal with training bras, pimples and periods, college entrance exams, four years of hitting the books, finding a real job.

My first real job was at a residential treatment facility for neglected and abused children. I was invited to join the team by the lead worker, as no one objected to me as a co-worker! (faint praise) I developed feelings for our leader: he was kind, good with kids, a skilled worker, and easy on the eyes! Plus he had a deep, sexy voice and the "cutest ass in Christendom", my quote. Alas, he was married and had a daughter. He confided to a colleague that he was on the verge of divorce until his wife got pregnant again. They reconciled

and moved back to the Gorge to give their girls a small town childhood like they enjoyed. He and I stayed friends, wrote letters. I secretly hoped we'd get together if/when they divorced. They did; we did!

34 years later I got the request to meet him at the Clackamas Town Center optometrist. Wait...what? I called him back, after pondering the invite. "Is this a date? Are you asking me out?" "Yes," he replied, chuckling at my naivete. My mom had an explanation for how I felt in that moment: "Oh joy, be unconfined!" Our second date was way more exciting than a trip to the optometrist. We each took a break from care-giving (he of his mum, me of my brother) to play at Cannon Beach. I can still picture him smiling, sitting up in bed, bare-chested, covers below his waist, saying, "Do you want to make love?" The invitation I'd waited for. That's how WE began.

I called him back, after pondering the invite.

"Is this a date? Are you asking me out?"

"Yes," he replied, chuckling at my naivete

About us and Reflections

*AND A SONG THAT MAKES US FEEL EROTIC OR ALIVE!

April Burris, 64, has been a poet all her life. She sees that much of being a poet and writer depends on listening and noticing what is around her, both in nature and interacting with others. She loves taking long walks in nature, going out for coffee and people watching, or curling up with her cat and a good book. Inspiration strikes when she sees or hears something beautiful or out of the ordinary. By focusing on listening to inner thoughts, poems emerge on their own.

"Writing about sex seemed like it would be a new experience. Through this experience I've researched more about eroticism, and broadened my perspective. The women in this group have been very open and supportive of each other. I was a little apprehensive about what I could contribute, but **I have really enjoyed opening my mind to be aware of erotic moments during the day.** I especially enjoyed writing the poem about all the items on our altar, learning about what each item meant to each person. After class, I ate a Thai Salad that through an open mind seemed very erotic, and became another poem I contributed."

*Sundown by Gordon Lightfoot

Carolyn Brown, 81, is passionate about life and fashion. She has been selling Mary Kay cosmetics for 44 years, and clothing and accessories for 22 years. Carolyn is outgoing and loves complimenting people and learning new things. She volunteers at Repair PDX, NE

Portland Tool Library, and is a Master Recycler (a Portland Metro area program).

"It was very exciting to talk to other women about sex and eroticism. When I rode the bus home from the first session, every bump I went over was a mini orgasm. The entire project was very enlightening. I gained empowerment and learned how to take care of myself sexually. I've never thought about pursuing dildos until I took this class. Doing a sexy photo shoot for the first time was wonderful; I felt different about my body — good all over. This project has been very healing. Now I want to treat myself well and let go of things that do not serve or uplift me. I hope the publication can empower women to have new erotic experiences. **Don't ever be afraid to reinvent yourself!!**"

*Let's get it on! by Marvin Gaye

Elizabeth Brown, 37, is a designer and artist. She co-runs Each Other, a two-person studio specializing in brand strategy, visual identities, and interior design. Her art practice utilizes mixed media installation and immersive theater to cultivate play through light-hearted commentary on the visage of consumerism.

"I feel honored to have played a role in the development of Issue 4! Hearing from these women and translating their words into a visual design has been a joyful and touching experience."

*Sink in by Tizrah

Jacqui Jackson, 80, is very outgoing, loves people and enjoys helping others. She likes walking in the woods, going to the ocean, and gardening. A former bodybuilder and mailwoman, she wants to learn something new everyday and become a better person as she ages. She considers herself lucky to have had a few very, very good lovers.

"It was wonderfully eye-opening hearing other women's perspectives on sex. Carolyn's ideas about finding erotic things in nature are just so amazing to me. It blew my mind when one of the ladies showed us her unusual vibrator. Men should read more about sex and there should be more sex education in schools. It's valuable to know that the clitoris is not a small protrusion but includes the labia which needs stimulation too. **I want to tell women not to feel ashamed about masturbation.** It's a totally natural human experience. Sex is so marvelous when it's done right."

*The Secret Garden by Quincy Jones

Jean Briesenick, 77, was born and raised on the East Coast into a family that was moved by her dad's employers every few years, similar to a military family. Both her parents were WWII vets; her mum a nurse in the Pacific, her dad in the supply chain in Europe. She is passionate about art, animals, nature, and gardening. She was recently energized by being called mischievous and it touched her tender heart.



Pictured here: (top left) April, Moppy, Jacqui, Carolyn, Jean. (bottom left) Elizabeth, Salty. (Not pictured: Joanna)

"It felt timely to join the project, a natural next move, and a way to link facets of my past with the next chapter. **I really enjoy hearing people's life paths and choices, and seeing how strong women are.** Being in the project was like being in a support group. I'm a private person and I don't disclose very much. In my previous profession, I listened to the disclosures of others. Here, I was on the other side of what I was used to. In writing my stories, I referred to journal entries and sometimes modified them for a different outcome. I hope this publication can encourage women to take risks, recap their lives, plan their futures, give and get support."

*Come Away With Me by Norah Jones

Joanna Day, who will be 90 in a few months, was widowed on February 11 this year after being married for 65 years to the love of her life. She is a Certified Public Accountant who was Corporate Controller, Director of Finance, and Chief Financial Officer in the manufacturing industry, mining, not-for-profit

and private foundations. She is quiet and a problem solver. She and her husband's motto was "Whatever we need to do!"

"I joined this project out of curiosity! A new season for my life! It was interesting listening to the other women's experiences, many very different from my own. My favorite moments were when I was able to talk with Salty and get to know her. What touched me was to realize the pain some women have experienced or have had to endure. I felt that I contributed another dimension to this topic of aging. I hope this publication will empower women. That they will realize, **no matter what life throws at them, no matter how wonderful or adverse, that they have choices,** they can be strong, they can have that power."

*I Honestly Love You by Olivia Newton-John

Moppy Barr, 82, is surprised at how good she feels at her age — so alive, she wants to go everywhere in the world — traveling is her major passion. She was single most of her life

and loved it. Now she loves the idea that she's by herself and living a full life. She enjoys her little apartment, where the walls are exploding with art. She loves aqua-robics, dancing, outdoor concerts, reading, Sudoku, Rummy cube and games on her phone. She was a bit of a slut and not the least bit embarrassed about it.

"I joined this project because I enjoy talking about sex and nobody ever wants to. It's been fun, informational, and stimulated my sex life. I've become more observant about eroticism around me and notice how much more easily I am turned on now. I'm proud that I'm able to share personal stories with these interesting ladies who listen and understand. I hope this publication makes women think about this subject for themselves and be more free."

*A Summer Place by Andy Williams

Salty Xi Jie Ng, 39, is an artist, educator, and mystic from Singapore. Her collaborative artistic practice explores the erotic, ancestry, the end-of-life, and relationship with spirit worlds, while examining what gets to be called art. She is the 2024 recipient of the Chamberlain Award for social practice artists from the Headlands Center for the Arts, and a romantic, cancerian grandma-at-heart who paints comical penises taking baths. [saltythunder.net]

"Fate brought us together in this season. Deepest thanks to the six of you ladies, for opening your hearts and lives to me — a gift in my late thirties." (see Editor's Note for more reflections)

*Sleepwalk by Santo & Johnny



THE GODDESS IS EMPOWERMENT.

I ENJOY TREATING MYSELF WELL.

I'M 81 AND STILL MASTURBATE REGULARLY.



CAROLYN BROWN