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CVAG Press Release – For Immediate Distribution
Comox Valley Art Gallery presents the film !WOMEN ART REVOLUTION

On the heels of a special sold-out screening at the Museum of Modern Art, Lynn Hershman Leeson's new film *!Women Art Revolution* will make its theatrical debut at New York City's IFC Center June 1, running for one week only. Comox Valley art and film lovers will be able to see this remarkable film here at home as part of the Comox Valley Art Gallery's FILMS YOU WANT TO SEE! Series on Wednesday, May 25th at 7pm in the Stan Hagen Theatre at North Island College (2300 Ryan Road, Courtenay).

Through intimate interviews, art, and rarely seen archival film and video footage, *!Women Art Revolution* reveals how the Feminist Art Movement fused free speech and politics into an art that radically transformed the art and culture of our times. Hershman Leeson says of the film, "*I felt a tremendous responsibility to honour the women who struggled to invent themselves and who introduced the concepts of social protest, collaboration and public art that addressed directly the political imperatives of social justice and civil rights.*"

The film details major developments in women's art of the 1970s, including the first feminist art education programs, political organizations and protests, alternative art spaces such as the A.I.R. Gallery and Franklin Furnace in New York and the Los Angeles Women's Building, publications such as *Chrysalis* and *Heresies*, and landmark exhibitions, performances, and installations of public art that changed the entire direction of art.

New ways of thinking about the complexities of gender, race, class, and sexuality evolved. The Guerrilla Girls emerged as the conscience of the art world and held academic institutions, galleries, and museums accountable for discrimination practices. Over time, the tenacity and courage of these pioneering women artists resulted in what many historians now feel is the most significant art movement of the late 20th century.

The film's original score is by Carrie Brownstein and the soundtrack features gifted musicians such as Laurie Anderson, Janis Joplin, and Tribe 8. Judy Chicago, Beatriz da Costa, Judith Baca and many more artists from a wide range of artistic disciplines are included.

The CVAG FILMS YOU WANT TO SEE! film series will continue on Wednesdays at 7pm at the NIC Stan Hagen Theatre on June 15th, July 20th, and August 24th. The upcoming films are still being confirmed at this time, please visit our website for updates. The film series is a fund raiser for the Comox Valley Art Gallery.

Tickets are \$10 each, available at the CVAG Gift Shop, 580 Duncan Ave, Courtenay and Video's N More, 264 Anderton Road, Comox. For more information call 250-338-6211 or visit www.comoxvalleyartgallery.com