

TIFFANY SHLAIN



THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM AND ARTIST TIFFANY SHLAIN PRESENT
DENDROFEMONOLOGY: A FEMINIST HISTORY TREE RING
A FOUR-DAY ART INSTALLATION AND ACTIVATION
ON THE NATIONAL MALL IN WASHINGTON, DC NOVEMBER 1 – 4, 2023

A Robust Program of Events Will Include a Kick-Off Program of Speakers Including Padma Lakshmi, Lynda Carter, Dolores Huerta, Tarana Burke, and Senator Sarah McBride; an Intersectional Feminist Dinner; a Convening of the ERA Coalition; Activations by Artists Michele Pred, Autumn Breon, and Whitney Bradshaw; and More



WASHINGTON D.C., NOVEMBER 2023 – [The National Women's History Museum \(NWHM\)](#), a museum dedicated to amplifying, interpreting, and celebrating women's diverse contributions to society, [Women Connect4Good](#), and artist [Tiffany Shlain](#) announce *DENDROFEMONOLOGY: A Feminist History Tree Ring*, a four-day public exhibition, activation, and program of dynamic events on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. aimed at convening a broad coalition of feminist organizations to galvanize and

inspire in a period of profound division in our country. The installation of Shlain's sculpture, *DENDROFEMONOLOGY* takes place November 1 – 4, 2023 and kicks off an array of art activations and events including an intersectional feminist dinner party, the convening of the ERA Coalition at Vital Voices HQ, and more.

"Taking a long 50,000-year view of feminist history and distilling it into the lines on a tree ring, it's clear that progress doesn't always move in one direction," Shlain states. "We have to keep pushing for the change we want—a more just world with more feminist perspectives and leadership. My goal for this installation is to make this statement in our nation's capital in conversation with some of our country's most iconic symbols. This activation is about coming together and inspiring us all to reclaim our history and create the future we want."

"We are profoundly honored to present Shlain's artwork on the National Mall," states Frédérique Irwin, president and CEO of the National Women's History Museum. "For far too long women's voices, contributions, and accomplishments have been underrepresented in our national narrative, from classroom textbooks to the halls of Congress to right here on our National Mall."

"We're excited to bring the *DENDROFEMONOLOGY* installation and activation to Washington, D.C. to ignite a national conversation about how, together, we can close the gender equity gap and create what we want for the next generation," said Dr. Nancy O'Reilly, Co-presenter & President of Women Connect4Good.

[With more than 93,000 races on the ballot this November that could affect women's rights, trans rights, and reproductive freedom, Planned Parenthood Action Fund, ERA Coalition, Feminist Majority Foundation, Vital Voices, She The People, GLAAD, The TransLatin@ Coalition, Voters of Tomorrow](#), and many more are participating in the *DENDROFEMONOLOGY* activation to convene leaders and provide important resources to help educate, register, and mobilize voters for the 2023 election, as well as kick off the year-long countdown to the 2024 presidential election.

DENDROFEMONOLOGY AND ART ACTIVATIONS

DENDROFEMONOLOGY is a 65-inch reclaimed deodar cedar wood sculpture that offers a timeline of humanity through an intersectional feminist lens, mapped against the concept of trees bearing witness to history, as a new kind of feminist monument for the 21st century. The sculpture explores an important narrative about where we started as a feminist culture, how far we've come, and how far we still have left to go. The timeline starts 50,000 years ago, with text burned onto the tree ring showcasing how society has gone from worshipping goddesses in most ancient civilizations, to patriarchy spreading, to women securing the right to vote, to the overturning of Roe v. Wade in 2022. The artist recently added a new entry on the timeline that says "Today," as both an invitation to take action and a reminder that what we do today will influence what's recorded next.

While *DENDROFEMONOLOGY* will serve as the central gathering point, located in front of the iconic Reflecting Pool with the Washington Monument in the background, there will be an additional tent nearby that will present an interactive social campaign. The campaign will engage visitors who are in

person and online nationwide by asking them which timeline entry has had the most impact on them, what's an important milestone to them that's not on the timeline, and what they'd like to see as the next entry. While the tree ring sculpture timeline is a distilled list, the public is invited in person and online to create an expansive feminist timeline that will be featured on the National Women's History Museum website. Additional artwork and resources onsite include; *The Care-Machine* by artist Autumn Breon, a vending machine that offers banned books, abortion pills, and more; feminist books curated by Rozella Kennedy, author of *Our Brave Foremothers*; and a visual display of the 93,000 races on the ballot this November that could affect women's rights, trans rights, and reproductive freedom.



PARTNER PROGRAMMING AND PUBLIC EVENTS

A robust lineup of events will accompany the artwork, all inspired by entries on the *DENDROFEMONOLOGY* sculpture that people can experience in person or online. The four-day activation will kick off on Wednesday, November 1 with a press conference featuring groundbreaking women who are recognized on the tree ring, actors and activists Padma Lakshmi and Lynda Carter; labor leader Dolores Huerta; Tarana Burke, founder of the #MeToo movement; and Senator Sarah McBride, the country's highest-ranking transgender elected official. On Thursday November 2, A Tour Of Her Own and the National Women's History Museum will lead tours on the Women's History Shuttle, which will travel between the *DENDROFEMONOLOGY* installation and the National Women's History Museum's exhibition, [*We Who Believe in Freedom: Black Feminist DC*](#) at the Martin Luther King

Jr. Memorial Library. The tour will give riders the opportunity to visit women's history sites throughout the city and learn about Black feminist changemakers whose impact can be felt locally and nationally. A screening of Shlain's film about gender equality throughout history and across the globe, [50/50](#), will take place at Vital Voices HQ, and artist Whitney Bradshaw will photograph womxn screaming for her OUTCRY exhibition, which debuted on the night of the Women's March in 2018 to empower womxn to reclaim the revolutionary power of their voice. On Friday, November 3, there will be an interfaith Shabbat candle lighting at the *DENDROFEMONOLOGY* sculpture with Rabbi Amichai Lau-Lavie, followed by a Silent Disco. On Saturday, November 4, artist Michele Pred will lead an Abortion is a Human Right Parade starting at the White House. A cathartic flashmob dance choreographed by Rena Marie Guidry will close out the four-day event. For those who cannot attend the events in person, the majority of events will be available to view online.

DENDROFEMONOLOGY: A Feminist History Tree Ring debuted as part of Tiffany Shlain's *Human Nature* artist-in-residency exhibition at San Francisco Ferry Building's Shack15 in November, 2022. The exhibition includes tree ring timelines exploring different topics, large-scale lightboxes, photographs, supergraphics and video art.

The art activation and event is produced by Let it Ripple and presented by the National Women's History Museum and Women Connect4Good. Participating organizations include: ERA Coalition, Planned Parenthood Action Fund, Vital Voices, Feminist Majority Foundation, She The People, Take The Lead, Equality Now, GLAAD, African American Policy Forum, Supermajority, Female Quotient, WorldWideWomen, Voters of Tomorrow, Vote Pro Choice, The Feminist institute, Reboot, A Tour of Her Own, The TransLatin@ Coalition (TLC), and Equal Means Equal.

###

MEDIA CONTACT

Sarah Brown-McLeod

sarah@department-pr.com

Roberta Zertuche

roberta@department-pr.com

ABOUT TIFFANY SHLAIN

Tiffany Shlain an interdisciplinary artist, activist, Emmy-nominated filmmaker, national bestselling author, and the founder of the Webby Awards. Shlain's work explores the intersection of feminism, philosophy, technology, neuroscience, and nature and has been shown at The Museum of Modern Art, the de Young Museum of Fine Art, The Sundance Film Festival and Embassies globally. *DENDROFEMONOLOGY: A Feminist History Tree Ring* is part of her *Human Nature Exhibition* which will travel in 2024. Her awards and distinctions include selection by the Albert Einstein Foundation for their Genius100 list, the Neil Postman Award for Career Achievement in Intellectual Activity, and inclusion on NPR's list of best commencement speeches. Shlain has had multiple premieres at the Sundance Film Festival, including her acclaimed 2003 documentary on reproductive rights *Life, Liberty & The Pursuit of Happiness*. Her book,

24/6: Giving up Screens One Day a Week to Get More Time, Creativity, and Connection, received the Marshall McLuhan Outstanding Book Award. Shlain is in the 2024 Getty Museum's *Pacific Standard Time: Art & Science Collide* art initiative with Ken Goldberg at the Skirball Cultural Center in Los Angeles in fall 2024. She is represented by Nancy Hoffman Gallery in New York City.
tiffanyshlain.com @tiffanyshlain

ABOUT LET IT RIPPLE

Let it Ripple, is a nonpartisan 501(c)3 organization known for its global art activations, award-winning films and original series, and live and virtual experiences. Founded by artist and activist Tiffany Shlain, and transgender filmmaker and activist Sawyer Steele, Let it Ripple's mission is to inspire audiences to think about what it means to be an engaged human in today's evolving world. Their films have won 60 awards, been viewed over 50 million times, and play across all platforms – theatrical, television, and nearly all streaming platforms. Their art projects and films have premiered at MoMA and Sundance Film Festival, and have been selected by the US State Department to represent the US at embassies around the world. Their global events, including 50/50 Day about gender equity and Character Day about the science of Character, have engaged millions around the globe. Their new films about the feminist history tree ring and the adolescent brain will come out in 2024. www.letitripple.org

ABOUT THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MUSEUM

Founded in 1996, the National Women's History Museum (NWHM) is an innovative museum dedicated to uncovering, interpreting, and celebrating women's diverse contributions to society. A renowned leader in women's history education, the Museum brings to life the countless untold stories of women throughout history, and serves as a space for all to inspire, experience, collaborate, and amplify women's impact—past, present, and future. We strive to fundamentally change the way women and girls see their potential and power. NWHM fills in major omissions of women in history books and K-12 education, providing scholarly content and educational programming for teachers, students, and parents. We reach more than five million visitors each year through our online content and education programming and, in March 2023, mounted an exhibit at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library in downtown Washington, DC, *We Who Believe in Freedom: Black Feminist DC*. The Museum is a nonpartisan, nonprofit 501(c)3. Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) and visit at womenshistory.org.

ABOUT WOMEN CONNECT4GOOD

Women Connect4Good, Inc., is a 501(c)3 with a single mission: women (and men) supporting women, without exclusion. That means working to ensure that all women have access to education, healthcare, housing, and employment opportunities, and putting an end to violence against women and girls and discrimination in all forms. It means connecting with other organizations working for the advancement of women and girls and increasing our reach, so no woman's voice goes unheard. We are committed to increasing women's empowerment and achieving gender equality. We know that true gender equity does not currently exist, and as we work toward it, we must advocate for each other. We must support and encourage each other in our homes and offices, acting as advisors, mentors and friends. We envision a world where women are able to realize their fullest potential, finding strength and support in each other. Women helping women is our greatest self-help tool, and that mission that drives everything we do. www.drncoreilly.com/