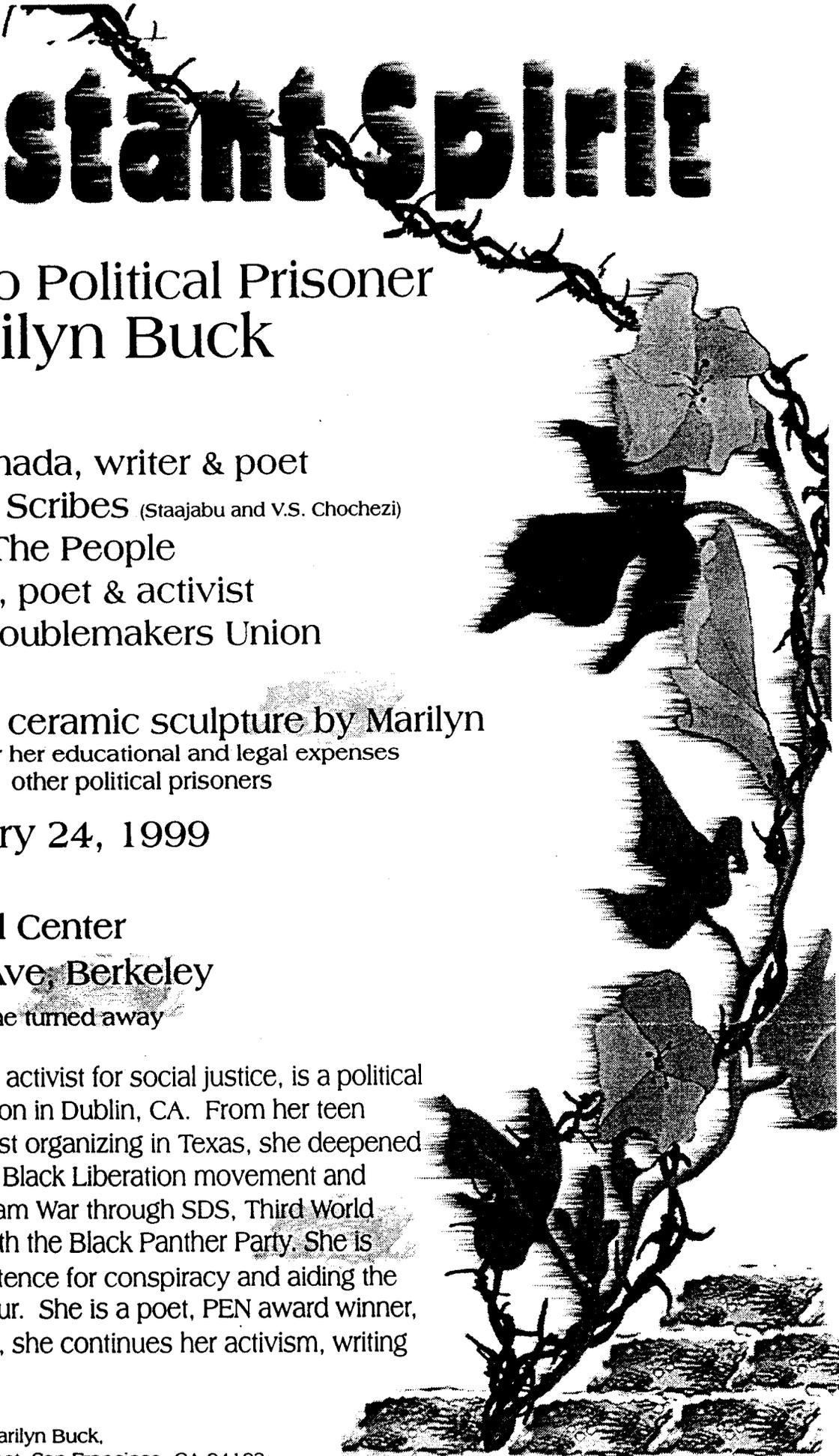


Resistant Spirit



A Tribute To Political Prisoner Marilyn Buck

Featuring:

Mitsuye Yamada, writer & poet

Straight Out Scribes (Staajabu and V.S. Chochezi)

Poetry For The People

Nellie Wong, poet & activist

music by Troublemakers Union

Benefit Raffle:

“Jericho ‘98” ceramic sculpture by Marilyn

to raise funds for her educational and legal expenses
and support other political prisoners

Sunday, January 24, 1999

2:00-5:00pm

La Peña Cultural Center

3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley

Donation \$5 - no one turned away

Marilyn Buck, long-time activist for social justice, is a political prisoner in Federal prison in Dublin, CA. From her teen involvement in anti-racist organizing in Texas, she deepened her commitment to the Black Liberation movement and opposition to the Vietnam War through SDS, Third World Newsreel, and work with the Black Panther Party. She is serving an 80 year sentence for conspiracy and aiding the escape of Assata Shakur. She is a poet, PEN award winner, and sculptor. In prison, she continues her activism, writing and studies.

Sponsored by: Friends of Marilyn Buck,
c/o LSPC, 100 McAllister Street, San Francisco, CA 94102;
lspc@igc.org; www.prisonactivist.org/pps+pows/buck.html

Marilyn Buck's sculpture, Jericho '98, reflects her own spirit. Like the blast of Joshua's horn, her life has long been directed at blowing down the walls of oppression. She began her anti-racist activism as a teen in Texas, organized against the war in Vietnam, and joined SDS and Third World Newsreel. She fought for self-determination for all people, and she aligned herself with the Black liberation movement. In 1973 she was convicted of purchasing two boxes of handgun ammunition and was given a ten year sentence. After serving four years in Federal prison in Alderson, West Virginia, she was granted a furlough and did not return. The following eight years she was underground.

In 1985 Marilyn was recaptured and tried for breaching another wall - she was convicted of conspiracy for the successful escape of Assata Shakur from her New Jersey prison. (Assata remains active from her exile in Cuba). Marilyn was also convicted of conspiracy to commit "armed bank robbery" in support of the New Afrikan independence struggle. In 1988 she was given another ten years in the Resistance Conspiracy case, for conspiracy to protest and alter government policies (the invasion of Grenada, intervention in Central America) through use of violence against government and military property. She has been in prison for 17 years, with a total sentence of 80 years.

Marilyn continues her activism inside the Federal women's prison in Dublin, California, where she made the sculpture, which depicts people coming together, wailing on a saxophone to crack the walls and free all political prisoners and prisoners of war. Joining with other political prisoners internationally, she issued one of the early calls to organize for Mumia Abu-Jamal's life. She is deeply involved in cultural and educational activities for all prisoners, and translates for Spanish-speaking women inside. She has lifted her own voice through poetry for the whole time she has been incarcer-

ated, and participates in June Jordan's Poetry for the People workshop.

For the past five years, Marilyn has been working towards a bachelor's degree through Ohio University's College Program for the Incarcerated. This fall she will continue her studies in psychology through New College of California, where she can also study poetry and translation.

"I am deeply interested in the psychology of repression and resistance, and the psychological results of both state and self censorship. I see psychology as a useful field to support other women prisoners as well as to maintain my own personal integrity and well-being. I intend to use my skills to help explain and transform prison conditions and existence. I see my poetry and writing as vehicles

in accomplishing this."

Part of the proceeds of the raffle will go for tuition and books, aid that is urgently needed in this time of slashing prison educational programs. Some of the proceeds will also go to legal costs, as she pursues the appeal filed by herself and her co-defendant Mutulu Shakur, attempting to expose the elements of COINTELPRO and government misconduct in their case. Money from the raffle will also go to the Jericho movement.

For those of us who know Marilyn, she is a steadfast friend and comrade. For those of us who know her by her example, her continuing on through the worst of circumstances is an inspiration. We need her voice. Join us in celebrating her art and supporting her.



photo: Scott Braley