

Earth Shakers & Ground Breakers

16 Women's Portraits

Art and Commentary by Laura Sinks

The Women's March on Jan 21, 2017 was a global phenomenon, and probably the largest protest march ever. But the genius of this event was in its inclusiveness. One overriding theme was *Women's Rights are Human Rights and Human Rights are Women's Rights*. The Women's Movement has matured enough to embrace other groups. Unity Principles show the connected nature of all struggles to dismantle systems of oppression. Marchers for all causes joined harmoniously together.

This group of 16 women's portraits is a reflection of that harmony, that energy, and that hope. These portray women Artists and Activists whose work made the world a better place. In my women's studies programs I learned that the personal is political. Our daily choices when consciously made can and should support our beliefs. In my early years I longed for political expression in my art. But my studies of the human figure didn't seem to offer up much interplay with politics, until now. The medium of graphite and pencil have always been my preference. I illustrate the faces of women who had the courage to follow their unique personal path. Their *Ground Breaking Work* and their *Earth Shaking Art* forged new concepts and opportunities for others.