



Sinister Wisdom 126
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Front Cover Art: Graphic

Artist: Lisa Roth • lisarothgrafix.com

Media: Digital design and typography

Biography: Lisa Roth has been a leftist lesbian and graphic designer since the 1960s. She was a founder of the John Brown Anti-Klan Committee and the San Francisco Dyke March.

Artist statement: Free all political prisoners.

Back Cover Art: "Dancing with My Orishas"

Artist: Dylcia Pagán (painter) and Linda Evans (quilter)

Media: Permanent fabric paint and fabric art

Size: 36" × 32"

Artist Statement: Orishas are Yoruba spiritual guides that protect and guide individuals. The larger image is Chango, my six-figure medusa—a warrior woman who dances with powerful movements of rhythms. The others are Yemaya, goddess of the sea; Oya, goddess of the wind and protector of children; and Ochosi, goddess of justice.

DEDICATION

This issue is dedicated to rita bo brown and Marilyn “Mo” Kalman. These two Out of Control members were our close friends and comrades in the struggle for social justice. We miss them both—forever in our hearts.

SINISTER WISDOM, founded 1976

Former editors and publishers:

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Fran Day (2004–2010)

Julie R. Enszer & Merry Gangemi (2010–2013)

Julie R. Enszer (2013–)

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***Sinister Wisdom*, 2333 McIntosh Road, Dover, FL 33527-5980 USA**



Photo credit: Susan Goldberg
Courtesy Susan Goldberg

Marilyn “Mo” Kalman
1953–2018

Mo worked with Out of Control for years and devoted much of her life fighting for political prisoners. As a proud fat activist, working-class dyke, and radical lawyer, Mo defended tenants and produced the SF Dyke March for years.



Photo credit: Unknown
Courtesy Etang Inyang

rita bo brown
1947–2021

Bo, ex-political prisoner, freedom fighter, and one of the co-founders of Out of Control, she devoted her life to building the abolition movement. In her own words, she defined herself: “I am an anti-authoritarian lesbian-feminist anarcho-communist.”

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NOTES FOR A MAGAZINE

I am so proud to publish *Sinister Wisdom* 126: *Out of Control* edited by Brooke Lober and Jane Segal. I met Brooke at a National Women's Studies Association conference where she talked about her oral history work with women involved in Out of Control as well as her profound respect and admiration for the activist work of this San Francisco bay area group. Her respect for these activists and commitment to telling their stories enchanted me; I asked her if part of this work might find a home with *Sinister Wisdom*. When we met *Sinister Wisdom* was already in the partnership documenting stories of lesbian-feminist activism in the South. The story of Out of Control, particularly since it was based in the Bay Area a home of *Sinister Wisdom* in the past, seemed like an excellent next step in this chapter of our history work.

My first conversation with Brooke was nearly ten years ago. It takes time to incubate issues of *Sinister Wisdom*. As you will see reading this issue, the time we put into issues is worth it.

Selections in the issue tell stories about Out of Control and its vital activist work; I am not going to recap it in my introduction, but I do want to share a bit of *Sinister Wisdom's* history and solidarity work with women in prison.

Adrienne Rich and Michelle Cliff were the editors of *Sinister Wisdom* who initiated free subscriptions for women who were in prison or institutionalized. That tradition continues. In the time that I have edited the journal, now about twelve years, we have consistently mailed between 50 and 80 copies of each issue to women on the inside. Women join the list by writing to *Sinister Wisdom* and requesting subscriptions. It is simple. We usually mail them subscriptions until the mail is returned. Many women write to us while inside and after they leave prison to tell us how meaningful the journal is.