

MARA LYNN KELLER, PhD
Curriculum Vitae 2019-2020

WOMEN'S SPIRITUALITY, PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION
CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF INTEGRAL STUDIES

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<https://www.ciis.edu/faculty-and-staff-directory/mara-lynn-keller>

Mara Lynn Keller, PhD (Philosophy, Yale University), is a Professor of Philosophy, Religion, and Women's Spirituality and author of numerous articles on the Eleusinian Mysteries, Ancient Crete, and Women's Spirituality. She is a philosopher, theologian, and specialist on the Eleusinian Mysteries of Demeter and Persephone. Her articles include "The Ritual Path of Initiation into the Eleusinian Mysteries," "Ancient Crete of the Earth Mother Goddess: Sacred Arts and Communal Ritual;" "Goddesses around the World," "Violence against Women and Children in Religious Scriptures and in the Home," and "Women's Spirituality and Higher Education." She believes that "Freedom of Religion to worship Goddess is a social justice issue," a message she delivered to the Parliament of the World's Religions at the Women's Plenary in 2015. As Program Director of Women's Spirituality at CIIS from 1998-2008, she produced dozens of special events on women's sacred arts and scholarship, including a joint art exhibition with CERES Gallery in New York on *Ineffable/Woman: A Bi-Coastal Conversation*.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF INTEGRAL STUDIES (1993-present)

Professor, Philosophy and Religion and Women's Spirituality, M.A. & Ph.D. programs

Director, Women's Spirituality M.A. and Ph.D. Programs (1998-2008)

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S STUDIES INSTITUTE (IWSI) (1981-2010)

Greece, Hawaii, Greece, Turkey, the Baltics, Greece, Spain, Berkeley CA.

Faculty and ritualist.

PACIFICA GRADUATE INSTITUTE

Graduate Faculty, Depth Psychology Program (Spring, 1998)

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

Lecturer (Step 14) (1977-1996)

Philosophy Department, Women Studies Department, Global Peace Studies Program Co-

Founder and Coordinator, Global Peace Studies Program (1990-1994)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

Assistant Professor, Department of Philosophy (1971-1974)

YALE UNIVERSITY

Instructor, Department of Philosophy (1970-1971)

ACADEMIC EDUCATION

Ph.D., Philosophy, Yale University (1971)

M. Phil., Philosophy, Yale University (1970)

M.A., Philosophy, Purdue University (1967)

B.A., Biblical Literature and Religion, Gettysburg College (1965)

Modern Greek, Alexander the Great Language Institute, Chania, Crete, Greece (2005)

Attik Greek I, II, University of California at Berkeley Extension (2003, 2004)

Modern Greek I, University of California at Berkeley Extension (2003)

Homeric Greek I, University of California at Berkeley Extension (2002)

Classical Greek I, II, University of California, San Francisco Extension (1993-1994)

“The Power of Minos: The Emergence, Meaning, and Significance of the Minoan Civilization,”
Stanford University Extension (Spring, 2005)

“Archaeology of Prehistory: In Search of the Goddess,” *Archaeology* 119 (2 units), Stanford
University Extension (Spring, 2006)

PUBLICATIONS

“Divine Mistresses of Nature, Plants, and Animals in Ancient Greece: An Ecofeminist Perspective.” In *The Land Remembers Us: Women, Myth, and Nature. Scholarly Speculations: Animal, Earth, Person, Story*. Proceedings of the Association for the Study of Women and Mythology, editors Sid Reger and Marna Hauk, 2020.

“The Once and Future Goddess Art Exhibition.” In *FEMSPEC: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. 19.2. November 2019.

“Women Rising! New Visions of a Post-Patriarchal World,” with Kris Grossman. In *FEMSPEC: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. 19.1. July 2019.

“The Myriad Faces, Marvelous Powers, and Theology of Greek Goddesses.” In *Goddesses in Myth, History and Culture*. Mary Ann Beavis and Helen Hye-Sook Hwang, eds. (Lytle Creek, CA: Mago Books, 2018). ISBN-13: 978-1976331022; ISBN-10: 1976331021

“Archaeomythology as Academic Field and Methodology: Bridging Science and Religion, Empiricism and Spirituality” in *Myths Shattered and Restored: Proceedings of the Association for the Study of Women and Mythology*, edited by Marion Dumont and Gayatri Devi. Women and Myth Press, 2016. 7-37.

“Women’s Spirituality in Higher Education,” in *Foremothers of Women’s Spirituality: Visionaries and Elders*, edited by Miriam Robbins Dexter and Vicki Noble. New York: Teneo Press, 2015, 55-

64.

“Demeter and Persephone” (2014). In Leeming DA (Ed.) *Encyclopedia of Psychology and Religion*, 2nd ed., Vol 1, pp 471-478. Springer New York Heidelberg Dordrecht London.

“Goddess Spirituality” (2014) In Leeming DA (Ed.) *Encyclopedia of Psychology and Religion*, 2nd ed., Vol 1, pp 729-735. Springer New York Heidelberg Dordrecht London.

“Marion Rosen at 97: Finding a New Life Later in Life,” in *Poetics of Aging Journal*, based on the presentation for the Poetics of Aging Conference with Marion Rosen and Sara Webb. November 16, 2013. <http://agesong.com/today/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Marion-Rosen-at-97-Finding-a-New-Life...-1-14-13.pdf>.

“The Eleusinian Mysteries as Illuminated by Diotima’s Spiral of Love.” 2011

“The Ritual Path of Initiation into the Eleusinian Mysteries.” In *Eleusis: Digest* (Rosicrucian Order AMORC Kindle Editions) by Rosicrucian Order AMORC, Nicholas P. Kephelas, et al. June 9, 2015; and in *The Rosicrucian Digest*, Special issue on Eleusis, Volume 87, No. 2 (2009): 28-42.

“Goddess-God Creation Myth” poem in *She is Everywhere*, Volume II. anthology gathered by Annette Williams, Karen Villanueva, and Lucia Chiavola Birnbaum. iUniverse, (2009): 305-307.

“Letter of Welcome” and “Dedication to Elizabeth Low Webster Shillington” with Dunya Nuaimi and Tamara Thebert, *OCHRE Journal of Women’s Spirituality*, October 2007.

“Introduction.” In *Goddesses, Goddesses: Essays*, Janine Canan. Oakland, Regent Press, 2007, 9-11.

“Violence against Women and Children in Scriptures and in the Home” in *The Rule of Mars: Readings on the Origins, History and Impact of Patriarchy*, edited by Dr. Cristina Biaggi (Manchester CT: Knowledge, Ideas & Trends, (2005): 225-240.

“Goddesses around the World.” In *Common Ground* Special Issue on Women, No. 113, (Fall 2002): 16, 18-19,137-138; republished in *She is Everywhere*, anthology gathered by Lucia Chiavola Birnbaum. iUniverse, (2005): 201-208.

“Partnership-in-Motion: Rosen Method Movement. A Conversation with Marion Rosen, Lisa Thompson and Lilica Anderson.” In *Rosen Method Professional Association (RMPA) Magazine* (Winter 1999): 11-12.

Readers' Forum, "Keller on Gimbutas," *The Pomegranate: A New Journal of NeoPagan Thought*, No. 6 (February 1999):2-2, 51-55.

"Crete of the Mother Goddess: Communal Rituals and Sacred Art." In *ReVision: A Journal of Consciousness and Transformation*, Vol. 20, No. 3 (Winter 1998): 12-16.

"Front Porch: A Conversation between Mara Keller and Carol Christ," *SALT Journal* Vol. 1, No. 2 (February/March, 1998): 48-59.

"The Interface of Archaeology and Mythology: A Philosophical Evaluation of the Gimbutas Paradigm." *From the Realm of the Ancestors: Essays in Honor of Marija Gimbutas*, Joan Marler, ed., (Manchester, CT: Knowledge, Ideas, Trends, Inc., 1997), 381-398; Republished in *The Pomegranate: A New Journal of NeoPagan Thought*, No. 5, (July 1998): 17-29.

"Implications of Sacred Pleasure for Philosophy." In *World Futures, The Journal of General Evolution*. Ervin Laszlo, Editor, Italy, 1997.

"Gimbutas' Theory of Early European Origins and the Cultural Transformation of Western Civilization" in *Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion*, Special Section on "The Legacy of the Goddess: The Work of Marija Gimbutas," edited by Carol P. Christ and Naomi Goldenberg, Vol. 12, No. 2 (Fall 1996), 73-90.

"Rosen Method Bodywork--Spiritual Dimensions: A Conversation with Marion Rosen and Gloria Hessellund" in *Creation Spirituality Magazine* (November 1993): 28-31.

"The Eleusinian Mysteries: A Nature Religion of Demeter and Persephone." In *Reweaving the World: The Emergence of Ecofeminism*. Irene Diamond and Gloria Orenstein, eds. San Francisco, Sierra Club Books, 1990, 41-51.

"The Eleusinian Mysteries of Demeter and Persephone: Fertility, Sexuality and Rebirth." In *Journal for Feminist Studies in Religion*, Vol. 4, No. 1 (Spring 1988): 27-54.

"Sexual Love Choices: Personal and Cultural Regeneration." In *Sojourner*, Vol. 10, No. 2 (Oct., 1984), Cambridge, MA.

WORKS-IN-PROGRESS

The Eleusinian Mysteries and Greek Goddess Traditions. (650 pages)

The Greater Mysteries of Demeter and Persephone. (350 pages)

ON-LINE RESOURCES

Interview by Vajra Ma, in "Foremothers of Women's Spirituality and their Living Wisdom for Today." Women's Spirituality Online Resource Center. Interviews by Vajra MA. 2018.

www.womenspirituality.org

"Bringing Goddess-worshipping Cultures to Life: Mary Mackey in conversation with Mara Keller," April 6, CIIS, April 6, 2018. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TA_HvtKvv8Q.

"Spirituality and Social Justice: An Integral View." Roundtable Discussion with Alka Arora and Annette Williams. Founder's Symposium, California Institute of Integral Studies. 2017. CIIS Audio file, published on Digital Commons.

<https://digitalcommons.ciis.edu/founderssymposium2017/schedule/track1/11/>

"Freedom of Religion to Worship Goddess is a Social Justice Issue!" Keynote Address, Plenary on Faith in Women, Parliament of the World's Religions, Salt Lake City, Utah, October 16, 2015.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7Oz8SvFlak>

"Professor Mara Lynn Keller Delivers Parliament Keynote Address."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q7Oz8SvFlak>

<https://parliamentofreligions.org/videos/professor-mara-lynn-keller-delivers-parliament-keynote-address> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fVt2nBds1D0>

"Marion Rosen at 97: Finding a New Life Later in Life," in *Poetics of Aging Journal*, based on the presentation for the Poetics of Aging Conference with Marion Rosen and Sara Webb. November 16, 2013. <http://agesong.com/today/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Marion-Rosen-at-97-Finding-a-New-Life...-1-14-13.pdf>.

<https://rosenmethod.com/portfolio/marion-rosen-at-97-finding-a-new-life-later-in-life/>

"An Emerging Paradigm." With Charlene Spretnak and Susan Moulton. *Language of the Goddess: From the Realm of the Ancestors.* Women's Spirituality, CIIS, conference. Fort Mason. June, 1998. CIIS Audio file, published on Digital Commons

<https://digitalcommons.ciis.edu/languageofthegoddess1998/4/>

PH.D. DISSERTATION AND M.A. THESIS COMMITTEE WORK (1995-2020)

Philosophy and Religion with a concentration in Women's Spirituality

Ph.D. Dissertation chair:

- Joan Marler. "The Legacy of Marija Gimbutas" (in progress)
- Demetria Shew, "Brain Plasticity, Mirror Neurons, and Women's Spirituality: Experience, Place, Ritual, Art, and Human Development (2020)
- Denise Zimmerman. "A Healing Deathbed: Body, Spirit, Soul Healing for Those Approaching Death: Narrative Research into A Sacred Feminine Perspective on End-Of-Life Care" (2018)
- Francesca Tronetti. "The Maetream of Cybele: An Ethnographic Study of a Women's Religious Pagan Community in Palenville, New York. 2018
- Kasia Pereira. "An Ecofeminist Creaturely Theology: An Ecofeminist Spirituality for Healing the Relationships Between Humans and Animals" 2018
- Jeannette Wooden Kiel. "Women's Stories of Ecofeminist Activism and Artistic Expression: A Transdisciplinary Spiritual Feminist Inquiry into Transformative And Spiritual Connections." 2017
- Marcelle Williams. "Women's Ordination in The United States: A Comparative Study of Women's Struggle in The Roman Catholic Church, Episcopal Church, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America." 2017.
- Loleta Collins. "Scáthach, An Exegetical Study of Iron Age Ireland's Warrior Woman." 2017.
- Elisabeth Sikie. "A Modern Soul Retrieval: Recovering Female European Wisdom Traditions and a Lost Indigenous Ancestral Consciousness of Deep Relations." 2017.
- Margaret Lynn Mitchell. "Saint Brigid of Ireland: A Feminist Cultural History of Her Abiding Legacy from the Fifth to the Twenty-first Century." 2015.
- Lori Swick: "Recognizing Women's Initiative in the Development of Christianity." 2013.
- Joan Cichon: "Revisiting Matriarchy in Ancient Crete: A Perspective from Archaeomythology and Modern Matriarchal Studies." 2013
- Lisa M. Christie: "Towards an Ecological Post-Modern Feminist Process Philosophy of Religion: Re-Membering the Oceanic Self." 2012.
- Anna Joyce: "The Sixth Sun: The Spiritual Path and Practice of Mexican-American *Curanderismo*," 2011.
- May Elawar: "The Epistemic Goddess: A Post-Colonial Analysis of Justice Through the Methods of Women's Spirituality: A Feminist Case Study on Afghanistan." 2011.
- Anastasia Prentiss, "Sophia Rising: A One-Woman Passion Play," 2009
- Irene Plunkett. "A Sturdy Rose: Women's Spiritual Heritage in US Women's Literature" 2009.
- Anne Key, "Death and the Divine: The *Cihuateteo*, Goddess in the Mesoamerican Cosmo-vision." DSS 2006.
- Elizabeth Shillington, "The Moon in Her Womb: An Organic Inquiry of Women's

Menstrual Stories." 2003.

PhD second committee member

Mensimah Shabazz, "Traditional Medicine and Healing Practices of the Akan of Ghana: Understanding Akan Spirituality, Mysticism, and Concept of Grace." 201.)

M.A. Thesis chair:

Nancy Ivey, "Ecofeminism and Yoga" (2006).

Jodi de Martile, "Restitution of the Woman Seeress: Women Seers and Psychics of the San Francisco Bay Area" (2006).

Valgerdur H. Bjarnadottir. "The Saga of Vanadis, Volva, and Valkyrja: Images of the Divine from the Memory of an Islandic Woman" (2002).

Jacqueline Ginty. "The Goddess' House: Exploring the House Archetype through Jung, Alchemy and Goddess Mythology" (2001).

Eahr Joan. "Re-Genesis: A Mother-Line Archive of Feminist Spirituality" (2000).

Marilyn J. Davis. "The Rosen Method: Coming Alive and Staying Alive in the 21st Century" (1999) Published as book, iUniverse 2002, now in use for the Rosen classes and workshops at CIIS.

Staci Boden. "Dancing with the Shadow: Transformational Pregnancy as Practice Of Daily Living" (1998).

Diane Louise Baumgartner. "Erotic Wisdom: The Snake as Guardian of Passion And Prophecy" (1998).

Diane Miller. "Priestessing in the World: A Personal Journey Through Ritual, Research, and Community Service" (1997).

CatieBranwyn Fuld. "Living in the Mists: Celtic and Pre-Celtic History as Healing Ritual-Theater"(1997).

Susan G. Carter. "Mirror of Many Moons: Reflection on the Use and Meaning of the Mirror throughout History--Instrument of the Goddess Culture, Tool for Patriarchal Female Distortion, and Catalyst for Women's Reclamation." 1997.

Peg Jordan, "Worth the Effort: Self-Empowerment as the Missing Link in Women's Health and Fitness" (1996) Basis for her book published by Rodale Press.

Christina Alexandre. "Coyote, Coffins, and Cocoons: Dynamic Advaita Ecofeminist Awareness as a Path to Our Sustainable Future." 1997.

M.A. committee member:

Gail Williams. "Making Art for the Spirit: The Intersections of Feminist, Sacred, and Creative Practice." 2002.

Hera Hagstoz, "The Spanish Goddess" (publishable article, 2003).

Sharon Bigger. "Caregiving as a Rite of Passage: Stories of Transformation" 2001.

Doctor of Psychology

Ph.D. committee member:

Lee Skutch, "Comparison of Life Satisfaction in Middle Age Women who are Mothers-by-Choice and Non-Mothers-by-Choice" (2000).

Karen Lee Chapkis, "An Heuristic Investigation of the Body Image Experience of Spiritual Feminists." 2002.

East-West Psychology Program : Ph.D Dissertation committee member:

Campra, Angeleen. "Sophia: Divine Regenerative Force: A Gnostic Representation of Divine Image." San Francisco: California Institute of Integral Studies DSS, 2001.

Susan Eleanor Swift. "Film, Feminism, and the Sacred: The Tension of Gender and Mythology In Popular Film." San Francisco: California Institute of Integral Studies DSS, 2000.

Sherril Nilson: "Gilgamesh in Relationship: A Feminist, Kleinian Hermeneutic of the Contemporary Epic." San Francisco: California Institute of Integral Studies DSS, 1999.

Integral Health Studies.

Ph.D. Dissertation committee member:

Sachiko Kurawa, "An Exploration of the Historically Situated Ecological Self through Women's Narratives" San Francisco: California Institute of Integral Studies DSS 2001; now published as *Pilgrimage to Memories: An Exploration of the Historically Situated Ecological Self through Women's Narratives* (foreward by Brian Swimme). Kyoto, Japan: Nakanishiya Shupan (2003)

M.A. Thesis chair:

Laura Lynn Jansen, "Lesbians with Cancer: Envisioning Optimal Health Care" (2002)

Philosophy and Religion, Asian & Comparative Studies

Ph.D. Dissertation committee member:

John Russell Mabry, "Crisis and Communion: The Re-mythologization of the Eucharist" 1997.

Priscilla Gayle Sheehan, "Female Saints (700-1700 CE): A Study of the Sacred Feminine Principle in Hinduism." 2008.

Philosophy, Cosmology and Consciousness

Ph.D. Dissertation chair:

Victoria Estelle Logan, "Feminine Spiritual Roots of the Tree of Life: Prehistory

and History of the Sami and Basques as Indigenous Europeans (Finland, Russia, Spain)" 1999.

CONSULTING AND EDITING

Lucia Birnbaum, *Dark Mother: African origins and godmothers*, mss.

Charlene Spretnak, *Resurgence of the Real* (New York: Addison-Wesley, 1997)

Carol P. Christ, *Rebirth of the Goddess* (New York: Addison-Wesley, 1997)

Thandeka, "The Mystical Dimension in Human Consciousness: An Intersubjective Theological Inquiry" (1997)

Dissertation Reader: Margo Elaine Castagna, *Women's Rites of Passage: A Menopause Ritual based on the Greek Myth of Demeter and Persephone: Quantification of Self-Actualization and Self-Esteem Attributes*, Institute for Transpersonal Psychology (Spring 1995)

Thandeka, *The Embodied Self: Schliermacher's Solution to Kant's Problem of the Self* (SUNY Press, 1995)

Riane Eisler, *Sacred Pleasure* (Harper/Collins, 1995)

GDP Enterprises, *Ancient Goddess Religions in Global Perspective*, documentary film development (1992)

Charlene Spretnak, *States of Grace* (Harper/Collins, 1992)

Anneli S. Rufus and Kristan Lawson, *Goddess Sites: Europe* (HarperSanFrancisco: 1991)

Marija Gimbutas, *The Civilization of the Goddess* (Harper/Collins, 1990) publisher's reader

Gail Pellett, Public Education Television Producer for Bill Moyers

Elinor Gadon, *The Once and Future Goddess* (Harper and Row, 1989)

Riane Eisler, *The Chalice and the Blade* (Harper and Row, 1987)

Carol P. Christ, *The Laughter of Aphrodite* (Harper and Row, 1987)

Prentice Hall Publishers, Philosophy/ Critical Thinking texts:

Peter French, *Puzzles, Paradoxes and Problems: A Reader for Introductory Philosophy* (1986)

Stephen Thomas, *Practical Reasoning in Natural Language*

Burton Porter, *Critical Thinking*

Barbara Deckard, *The U.S. Women's Liberation Movement* (1973)

ROSEN METHOD BODYWORK TRAINING, PRACTICE, AND TEACHING

"Peace is in Our Hands: Rosen Method Bodywork" courses at California Institute of Integral Studies, co-taught with Senior teacher Sara Webb, Fall 2011, F 2008, S2007 (1 unit) (2 units)

Rosen Method Professional Association (1988-1991, 1994, 1995, 2011, 2012) Educational Committee (1989-1990)

"Rosen Method: Experiences on Aging" class co-taught with Sara Webb and Gloria Hessellund, Rosen Method: Berkeley Center, February 12, 2012.

"Marion Rosen on Women and Aging," class co-taught with Marion Rosen and Sara Webb, At Marion Rosen's home, Berkeley, CA, September 13; and November 19, 2011.

“Certificate of Completion: Connect to Knowing,” Continuing Education workshop with Marion Rosen and Sara Webb, Rosen Method: The Berkeley Center, July 23-25, 2010; 15 contact hours. Practitioner-assistant.

“Rosen Method Bodywork: Accessing the Unconscious Through the Body,” Practitioner-Assistant for workshop taught by Marion Rosen and Gloria Hessellund at California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, SF, March 3-4, 2007; (1991-1992) (4/24-25/93), Studies (4/24- 25/93)

“Coming Alive! Rosen Method Bodywork and Movement” course at California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco co-taught with Senior teacher Sara Webb, Fall 2007,

“Rosen Method Bodywork: Accessing the Unconscious through the Body,” taught by Marion Rosen and Gloria Hessellund. Workshop March 3-4, 2007; practitioner-assistant.

“Moving from the Core: Rosen Method Bodywork & Movement” Rosen Method movement course at California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco (date)

Rosen Method Bodywork Workshop Teacher Certification (2001)

Rosen Method Bodywork Workshop Teacher Training (1999-2001)

Rosen Movement Teacher Certification (1999)

Advancing Rosen Bodywork Training, with Marion Rosen, Gloria Hessellund & Sara Webb (1998-1999)

Rosen Movement Teacher Training, with Marion Rosen, Lisa Thompson & Miriam Cantor (1997-1998)

Private Practice, Rosen Method Bodywork Certified Practitioner (1986-1996)

Rosen Method Bodywork Practicum Supervisor (Summer 1990)

Certified Practitioner, Rosen Method Bodywork, Rosen Institute, Berkeley, three-year training program (1983-1986), 1986.