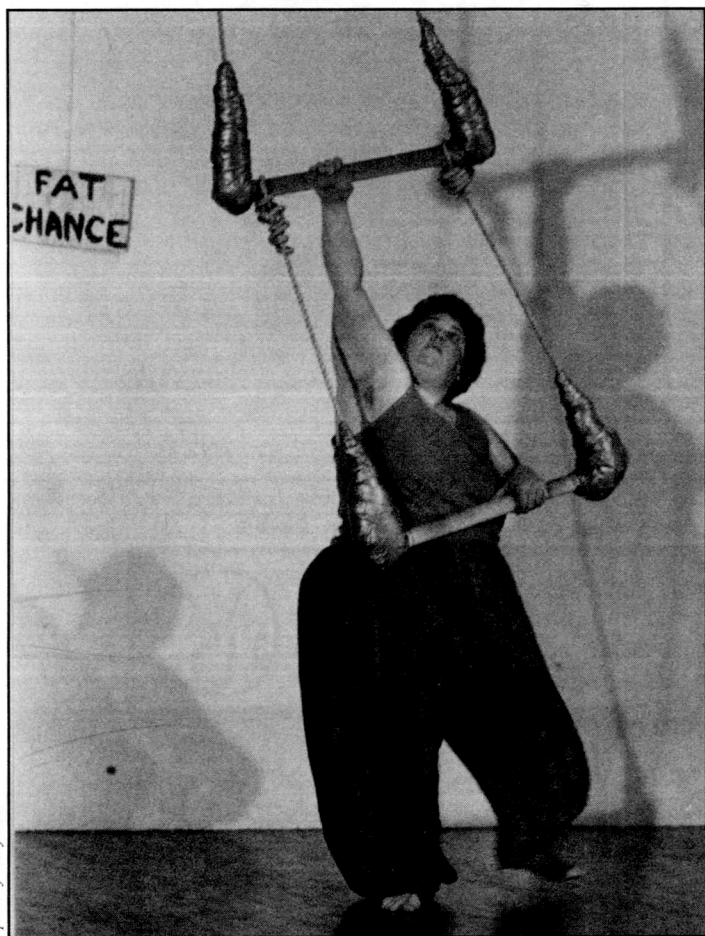


Since retiring four years ago, Freespirit has written two books she's currently pitching to publishers—an incest survivor's story based on personal experience and a memoir, which is being serialized in the Mama Bear's bookstore News & Notes every other month. "I've been writing a lot of fiction and autobiographical stuff," says the activist-turned-author who now lives in Oakland.

Freespirit has come out of her retirement this year to organize the Fat Women's Gathering in October. The annual three-day conference, an arm of the NAAFA Feminist Caucus, draws fat women from all over the country to network and workshop around fat politics. The conference will also be the Fat Underground revisited for Freespirit who has reunited former members for a symposium on the evolution of the group, which disbanded in 1976.

"We have not been in the same room together for 18 years. Some of us haven't talked to each other in 18 years," says Freespirit who



*Judy Freespirit in 1980.*

tracked down the only existing copy of some vintage Fat Underground footage that will be screened at Sunday morning's panel.

And while Freespirit is no longer at the epicenter of fat liberation these days, you can still find her on the periphery, confronting the mythology of fat people wherever she goes.

"So whether I do anymore organizing or whether I belong to any more groups, it's still in every conversation I have with every stranger," she says. "It's become a part of my being. It comes out in my writing. It comes out in my conversation with the grocery clerk." ✨

# REAL MUJERES HAVE PANSAS

JULY 12, 1994

BY LEA ARELLANO

*A REAL MUJER HAS A BIG LAUGHING BELLY  
ONE YOU CAN BOUNCE ON FOR FUN AND FOR LOVE  
SHE ALSO HAS GREAT GRABBING NALGAS  
THAT FLOAT LIKE THE OCEAN  
EBBING WHEN SHE DANCES  
TAMBIEN TIENE THUNDER THIGHS  
THAT WHISPER LOVE SONGS WHEN SHE WALKS  
AS THEY RUB, RUB, RUB TOGETHER  
IF YOU HAVE NEVER LOVED A BIG LAUGHING BELLY  
GREAT GRABBING NALGAS  
THUNDER THIGHED MUJER  
IT IS LIKE NEVER LEAVING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD  
FOR FEAR  
OF THE "OTHER"  
TOO BAD FOR YOU ESA*

TRANSLATIONS: MUJERES=WOMEN, PANSAS=BELLIES,  
NALGAS=BUTT CHEEKS, TAMBIEN TIENE=ALSO HAS,  
ESA=HIP CHICANA SPANISH FOR "GIRL"

