

MARIN

WINE TIME
Five Under-the-Radar Makers

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Years of Film

Going **GREEN**
Groundbreaking
Tech Debuts
in Mill Valley

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Author Talk



We sat down with Pamela Burke of radio program *The Women's Eye* to discuss her new book, *20 Women Changemakers: Taking Action Around the World*, a collection of noteworthy interviews from the show.

MM: How do you choose the women you talk to on *The Women's Eye*?

PB: It all began because I was just noticing how many stories about women who are making change weren't being told. We look for women who are really making a difference in some interesting way. We get suggestions. I had a woman get in touch with me, a reporter from northern Pakistan, who said, "Our stories aren't being told. Can I do some interviewing for you?" We had a reporter who was in the Congo who was very interested in the issue of sexual violence and suggested we do Maman Nzoli. She's in the book. Nzoli has a group called Coperma, where she goes out into the very dangerous sections of the Congo and brings women back for medical treatment, and women who are being harassed, women who are going through a lot of brutality there.

MM: Tell me about a woman from the Bay Area who is making a change.

PB: Donice Sandoval is an example of someone who took a very complex issue, homelessness in San Francisco, and decided that she was going to penetrate

the problem somehow. As with many of our women, there was kind of a flash point for her. She saw a woman sitting on the side of a sidewalk in San Francisco. She was filthy dirty. Then [Sandoval] started to notice that there was a huge problem. And she just delved into it. She found that there were 7,000 homeless; half of them didn't have showers. Now, all these years later, she has two mobile buses that have been retrofitted into portable showers for the homeless. She's representative of women who find a solution and keep working on it, even though it's very difficult.

MM: What's something overarching you've learned from the women you've come across?

PB: I learned how to solve problems. Really. And not to give up on problems. I think that if these women, these ordinary women, can do it, there's a possibility for anyone to. It's not easy. You have to have the passion. You have to have the endurance. You have to have the resiliency. But it is possible, if you want to take on an issue that's really important. **CALIN VAN PARIS**

Local Page Turners



20 Women Changemakers by Pamela Burke (Tiburon), *Women's Eye*, \$16. This collection of interviews co-edited by veteran broadcast producers and journalists Pamela Burke and Patricia Caso spotlights dynamic women taking action to make the world a better place. These collected stories convey the global force that women embody as they step up to create change. Producers of *The Women's Eye* appearing at Book Passage Corte Madera October 7, 7 p.m.



In the Midst of Winter by Isabel Allende (Sausalito), Atria Books, \$28. *New York Times* best-selling author Isabel Allende offers a sweeping novel about three very different people who are brought together, a mesmerizing tale that journeys from present-day Brooklyn to Guatemala in the recent past to 1970s Chile and Brazil. The novel begins with a minor traffic accident, which becomes the catalyst for an unexpected and moving story of love between two people who thought they were deep into the winter of their lives. Appearing at Book Passage Corte Madera October 31, 12 p.m.



Wonder Girls: Changing Our World by Paola Gianturco and Alex Sangster (Mill Valley), powerHouse Books, \$49.95. *Wonder Girls* is a call to action to help girls accomplish important work. Paola Gianturco and her 11-year-old granddaughter, Alex Sangster, documented the work of 15 girl-led nonprofit groups in 13 countries in Asia and Central Asia, North and Latin America, the Middle East, Africa and Oceania. Appearing at Book Passage Corte Madera October 21, 4 p.m.



Where the Past Begins by Amy Tan (Sausalito), Ecco Press, \$28.99. In *Where the Past Begins*, best-selling author Amy Tan delves into vivid memories of her traumatic childhood — confessions of self-doubt in her journals and heartbreaking letters to and from her mother, offering evidence that made it both unlikely and inevitable that she would become a writer. Through spontaneous storytelling, Tan shows how a fluid fictional state of mind unleashed near-forgotten memories that became the emotional nucleus of her novels. Appearing at Dominican University October 23, 7 p.m.

Reviews by Book Passage Marketing Manager Zack Ruskin.