

## Memory and Resistance : A Social Justice Art Show

online: October-November 2020 in-person: December 2020



Nancy Lick



Megan Dull, SND

### IRTF: 40 Years of Solidarity

IRTF (InterReligious Task Force on Central America & Colombia) was formed by people of faith and conscience in Cleveland, Ohio, in response to the armed violence in El Salvador. The US-trained, -funded, and -equipped military of El Salvador killed tens of thousands of its own people over the course of 12 years. Many in the US heard of the war in El Salvador for the first time on December 4, 1980, when the bodies of four women from the US were discovered in shallow graves. That was two days after Salvadoran National Guardsmen brutally murdered Maryknoll Sisters Ita Ford and Maura Clarke, along with two members of the Cleveland Catholic Mission Team: Jean Donovan and Ursuline Sister Dorothy Kazel. The four women lived, worked, and died in solidarity with the people of El Salvador.

The spirit of IRTF's 40th anniversary theme, *Memory and Resistance*, is seen and felt in the juried artwork expressing contemporary justice issues of our time. The artwork honors the memories of past and present advocates on whose shoulders we have stood and who inspire us to envision a world of peace and dignity for all.



Virtual Show in October and November 2020

view here <https://scalar.case.edu/memory-and-resistance/index>

**In-person show by appointment only: December 4 - January 30**

(because of health conditions in Cuyahoga County, we are offering private viewings only)

ArtiCLE Gallery, 15316 Waterloo Rd., Cleveland OH 44110

Make your appointment with [dianetheresep@hotmail.com](mailto:dianetheresep@hotmail.com)

Any updates will be posted at [Facebook.com/artinicle](https://www.facebook.com/artinicle)

# Memory and Resistance: 40 Years

## About Memory and Resistance

The **Memory and Resistance Coalition** is a group of organizations, communities, and individuals working together to mark the history of, and continued commitment to, the rich culture of resistance and solidarity in Cleveland, Ohio. The Coalition will present a year of programming (2020-2021) to spotlight, commemorate celebrate, and teach some of Cleveland's history of resistance. Programming open to the public will include art exhibitions, expert panels, public discussions, music performances, book clubs, essay contests, and more.

The Memory and Resistance Coalition was called together by the InterReligious Task Force on Central America and Colombia (IRTF) to commemorate its 40th anniversary year. During the anniversary year, the coalition will **honor the legacy of Cleveland's women killed in El Salvador** (see below), uplift the struggles of all oppressed peoples, and invite communities throughout Greater Cleveland to honor and reflect on our collective legacies of resistance.

## About IRTF

**The InterReligious Task Force on Central America and Colombia (IRTF)** brings together people from various faith and secular communities to act in solidarity with oppressed peoples in southern Mexico, Central America, and Colombia through consciousness-raising and direct consumer and political advocacy.

IRTF was formed as a nonviolent response to the horrific violence of December 2, 1980 when two members of the Cleveland Mission Team in El Salvador were murdered (Jean Donovan and Sister Dorothy Kazel) along with two Catholic sisters from Maryknoll (Ita Ford, Maura Clarke). When they were given the chance to leave El Salvador and avoid their fate, these women chose to stay. It was at that moment that their charity transformed into solidarity.

People of faith and conscience formed IRTF to continue the women's legacy of solidarity with oppressed peoples as they struggle for peace, dignity and justice. After 40 years, IRTF continues to stand with marginalized and vulnerable communities in Latin America, at our border, in immigration detention facilities, in county jails and state prisons, and on the streets of Cleveland. All people—everywhere—deserve dignity, care, and safe communities.

## IRTF programs

### **Afro-descendant & Indigenous Solidarity**

Promoting dignity and equality for Afro-descendant and native peoples, resisting state-sponsored violence and institutionalized racism

### **Anti-Militarism & Nonviolence**

Resisting militarism and upholding self-determination, freedom, democracy, and social and economic justice.

### **Environmental Human Rights**

Resisting assaults on land, sovereignty, natural resources, and local cultures

### **Exploited Labor Solidarity**

Engaging consumers to reform trade policies and empower workers for improved wages and working conditions

### **Fair Trade**

Promoting living wages, self-determination, gender equality, and transparency through democratic processes

### **Immigrant Rights**

Organizing for humane and welcoming immigration policies that promote family re-unification and recognize the right to seek political asylum

### **Gender/LGBTQ+ Solidarity**

Amplifying the calls of women and LGBTQ+ people to end oppression, stop hate crimes, and eliminate gender-based violence

### **Youth Empowerment**

Accompanying, empowering, and supporting youth to become a new generation of leaders for peace and justice

### **Rapid Response Network**

Protecting people living under threat, demanding investigations of human rights crimes, and bringing human rights criminals to justice.

InterReligious Task Force on  
Central America & Colombia

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