

Caroling

**“Wholeo is the ongoing search
for the whole self, the whole O.”**

**“For me, color is a very important
part of the search for the whole self.”**

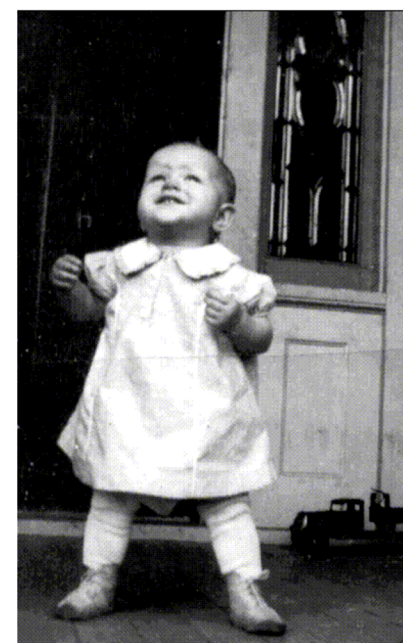


Carol Constance Lind was born in Minneapolis in 1934.

In 1958 Caroling's art reflected Japanese Brush Painting.

**She graduated Summa Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa
in 1956, and received an M.F.A. in 1960.**

**She worked in stained glass studios from 1961 to 1966 and
continued doing stained glass free lance work.**



**Caroling married Mel Geary in 1960,
and gave birth to son Leo in 1961.**

**Caroling moved to New York City
in 1962 and worked for a
large glass art studio.**

**She taught stained glass at
Richmond College, CUNY
Staten Island, NY, 1971 - 1972**



**“If we are composed of flickering vibrations
of colored light, then color is our most
direct language.”**



Birth of Wholeo Dome

“Stained glass for me was going to be the highest of fine arts”

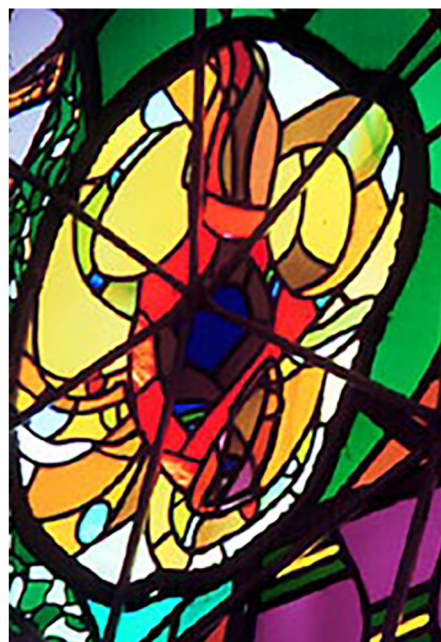
San Francisco, California, 1966 - 1967

“I was yearning for an aura of colored light and dreaming of ways to build it... I came to see that I needed to build the space myself.... I would be an artist, architect and builder.”



Caroling made a test panel to see how pieces of flat glass could be leaded together in the curvature of a 14 foot diameter sphere. She made concave and convex forms to serve as glazing tables. At left is the first completed panel: “Cells.”

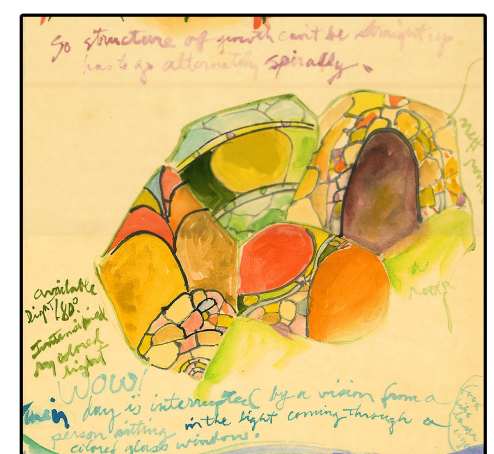
“I tuned in and dropped out...my two possible careers as a college teacher or stained glass designer ended in 1967”



To the right and left are commissioned works installed in San Francisco.



Caroling did extensive research and design for stained glass work. Wholeo's images emerged through paintings, sketches, writing, collage, sculpture and models.



Wholeo's First Panels

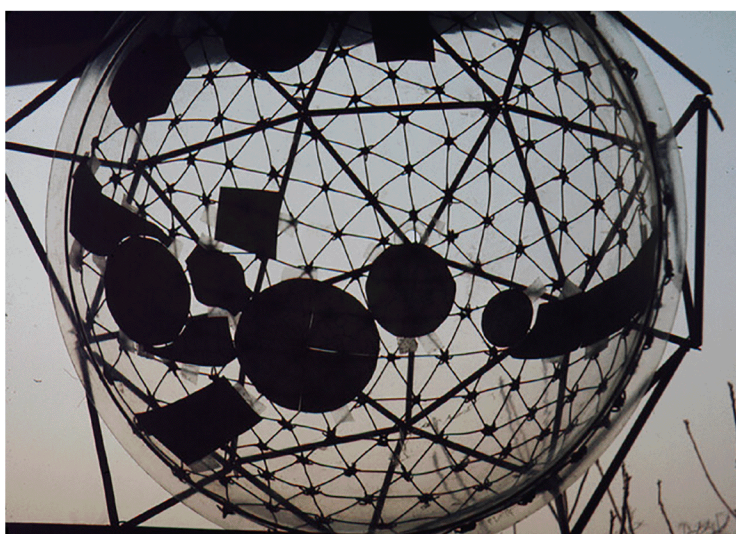
"With sight and insight ever more open as my consciousness expanded, I wanted to draw, paint, write and express everything I could see with my eyes closed."

Staten Island, NY, 1967 - 1972



The first 20 panels of Wholeo Dome were created on a concave light table Caroling designed.

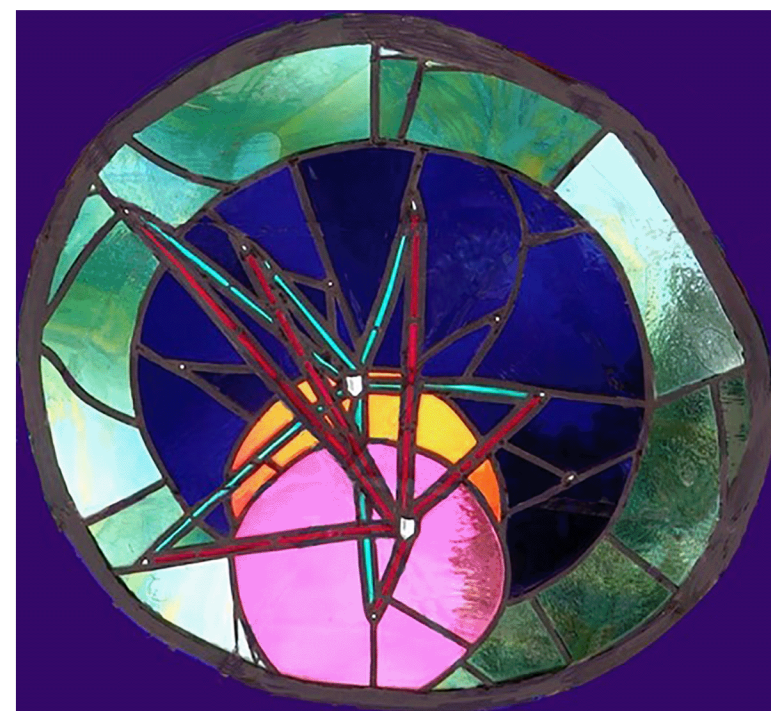
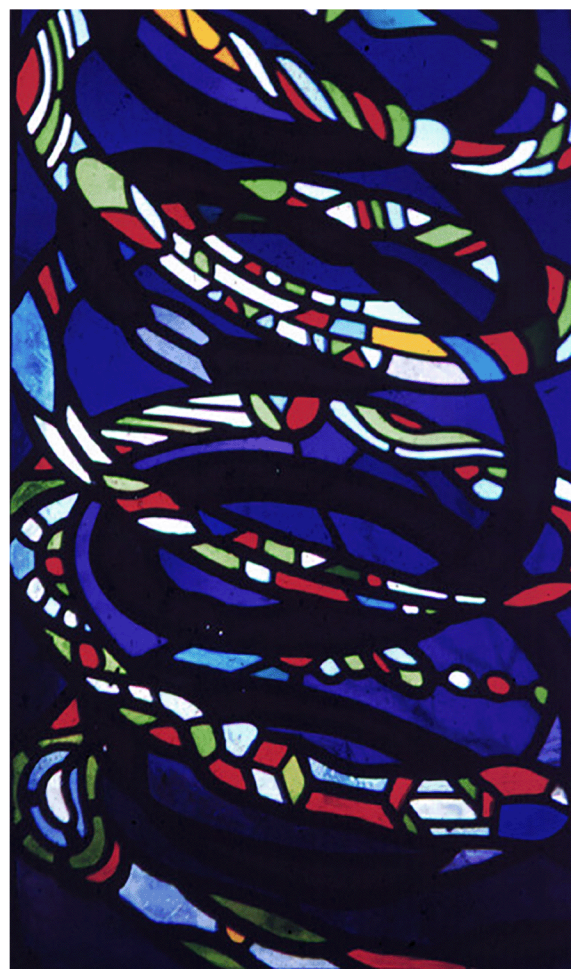
She began to build a curved structure to hold the panels, inspired by Buckminster Fuller's "Dome Book Two."



**Elizabeth
Born in 1969**



"Brain Cells"



Two of Wholeo's first 20 panels

"The brain cell paintings explored new subjects from the world behind my eyelids. Later, these images appear in Wholeo Dome"

Harmony Ranch Installation

**"I needed to see the glass in position, in natural light.
So I went to California."**



Berkeley, CA, 1973: Caroling, Leo and Elizabeth brought the 20 glass panels made in New York. Caroling created a geodesic dome of bamboo as an experiment.

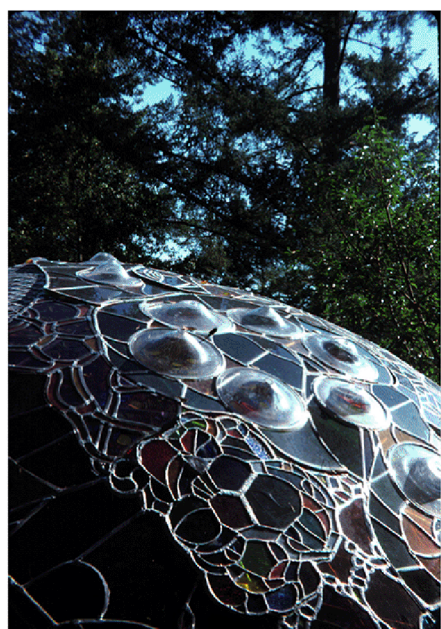
**"At last I was quite sure it would work.
And it was a wonderful idea."**

Forestville, CA, 1973-1975: Caroling sought a "pure, simple life, close to nature," and found **Harmony Ranch "the cosmic place where I could complete Wholeo Dome...It fostered the necessary solitude and serenity."**



BUMP

"I am eternally grateful for being able to build and live in Bump," the 16' diameter dome that housed herself and Elizabeth for two years. Running water from a faucet was the only amenity. There was no electricity. Wholeo's lead came joints were soldered with a soldering iron fueled with a propane torch.

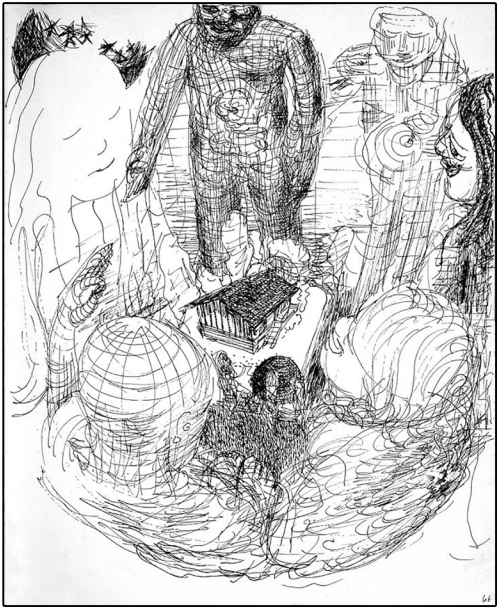


"Only gradually I learned the significance of Bump's form. The geometry has become the basic framework for imaging evolution of consciousness."



Monterio: The Second Installation

"I realized what I had done is a perfect example of the joy, serendipity, and wonder of being an artist"



Wholeo Dome was moved to a house Caroling bought in Monterio, CA in 1975.

Wholeo was installed in the front yard, and was open to the public for six years.

To protect Wholeo, Caroling imagined friendly spirits surrounding the house and dome (pictured at left).



Leo

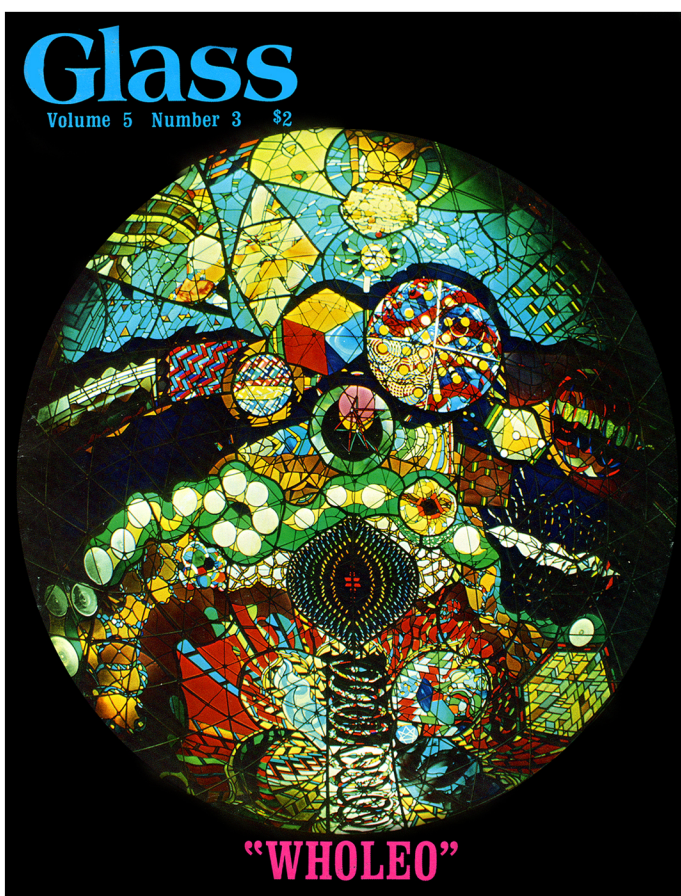


Wholeo with half the panels attached



Blessing Wholeo Dome, 1976

The Glass Magazine Article



"Wholeo is a monumental statement about the state of the art in stained glass, the first piece of art in glass that is a piece of architecture in itself."

Fred Abrams, Editor, Glass Magazine, 1977

Stained glass has been the handmaiden of architecture for centuries. "Liberating the Handmaiden," as Caroling described it, was a revolutionary act. "I knew I had the basics of a revolution, because traditionally, the architect and the patron came first."

Caroling

A Gift To The Farm

“When I despaired of all that I had learned and been taught, I related to the Love Generation of the Sixties for my cultural impetus.”



Following a 20-year career as a Silicon Valley tech writer, in 2002 Caroling moved to Santa Rosa Beach, Florida, her current home, and stored Wholeo.



Caroling gifted Wholeo to The Farm in 2004. Albert Bates responded to Caroling's inquiry. “Thanks to Albert for opening the door to The Farm.”



Joel Kachinsky prepared the ground.



Francesco Casini built the 14 posts and concrete ring.

Albert Bates



Sharon Wells



Wholeo was installed on a site Sharon Wells offered near The Farm School. Interns at The Ecovillage Training Center assembled the geodesic dome.

Installation at The School



Caroling supervised the installation, and set up a glass workshop to train Farm members to repair the panels.



Vickie Montagne



Mark Hubbard



Pat Montagne

With all stained glass panels attached, Wholeo became a classroom and a showpiece for visitors. Trevor Eustis and Laura Look found it on Wholeo.net, came from Maine to take a look, and never left.



Marilyn Harris

Take Down, Storage and Repair



Rickey Turner, local stained glass artist commented: "It's an amazing piece of art. Every panel is a focal point. Everything is interlocked together. The Farm is very fortunate to have it."

In 2015, lead was found in the soil around Wholeo, and it was taken down.



Rick starting the take-down

Rick Diamond headed the take-down crew, and raised money with a benefit concert. Albert Bates provided storage in the Ecovillage Training Center. Patrick Montagne built stacks to hold the panels. Farm members created the concave cradles for the panels.



Benefit concert poster



JaySun Deptula and the stacks



Rick and Marilyn creating a cradle



The repair crew was Heather McDowell, Marilyn Harris, Fuse (Teresa White), and Kayla Smolick.



Tierra McMahon's greenhouse was re-created as a workshop for stained glass repair in 2017, with help from Nashville stained glass artist Diane Allen.

Wholeo Rising

The effort to raise Wholeo Dome in its final resting place began in 2021.



Kenny Breckinridge, Pat Montagne, JaySun Deptula design the cover.



A new site was found, and the foundation is prepared.



JaySun designed the perfect stairwell, keeping the dome's curve.



The 28' polycarbonate dome – "Wholeover" - is assembled.



"Wholeover" is complete - a door that locks and 4 windows. The geodesic dome inside waits for Wholeo's panels.



Caroling advises precise placement of panel one relative to the four directions, and the crew attaches it.



From her home in Florida, Caroling reviews progress on the installation.



In the workshop on The Farm, stained glass panels are repaired and restored.

The Crew

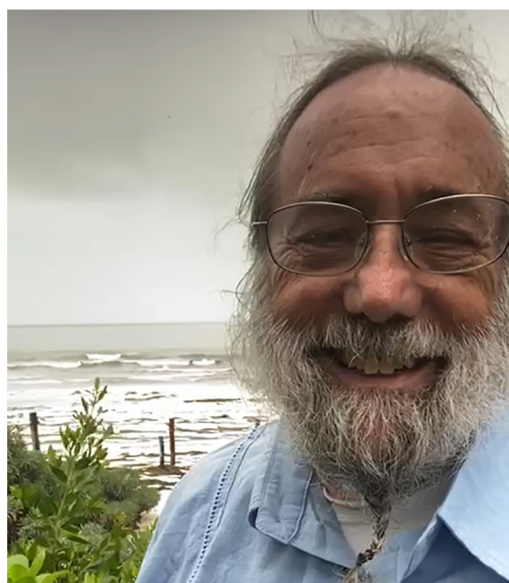
At right, Farm community members who have devoted themselves to the installation of Wholeo Dome at its final resting place.

Top row:

**Pat Montagne
Kenny Breckinridge
Fuse (Teresa White)
Heather McDowell**

Bottom row:

**Mark Hubbard
JSun Deptula
Marilyn Harris**



Albert Bates

Invited Wholeo to The Farm, had his interns assemble the dome frame, and provided storage for the panels.



Kayla Smolik

Assistant to Fuse, she helped repair and restore the glass panels.



Biko Casini



Raven Larsen

The Masons. They executed JSun's design for the curved stairwell.



Rose Crockett

Artist & photographer. Her support included documenting the take-down of the dome in 2015.



Diane Allen

Nashville stained glass artist. She trained the crew in repair and restoration.



Rick Diamond

Led the conservation effort when the dome was taken down at The Farm School



Phil Schweitzer

Assisted in the design and creation of the displays.

Not Pictured: Dan Callarman and Nick Tighe

The Artist and The Patron

Caroling Geary and Marilyn Harris

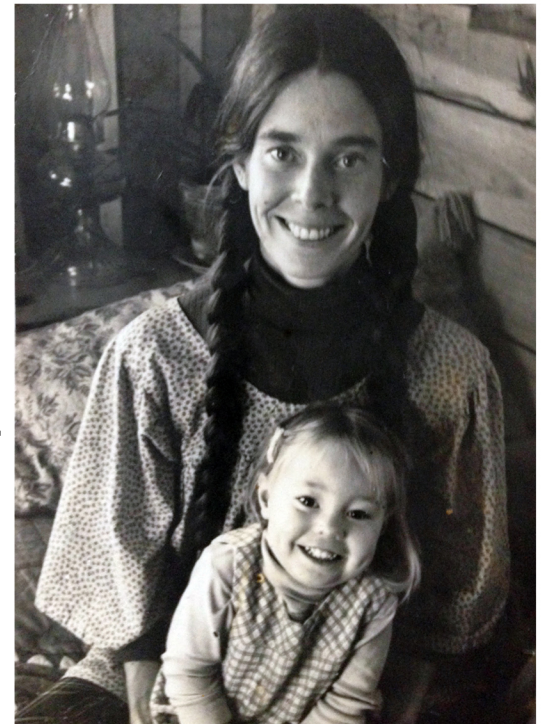


1976

In 1967 I had a vision for my need to be in the colored light of a stained glass window. I was one of the seekers who converged on San Francisco in search of spiritual growth, and of fundamental change in society. I created the all-around window of color that is Wholeo Dome.

I'm so grateful to the innumerable people who have brought my vision to life. Marilyn Harris became patron of Wholeo Dome in 2017. She had the energy, means, and love that sparked *Wholeo Rising*. I'm thankful to Marilyn and her wonderful crew.

Caroling Geary, Santa Rosa Beach, FL, 2024



1974



Marilyn interviewing Caroling, 2023

Fifty years after its creation in 1974, Wholeo Dome has come to rest. The beautiful consciousness of Caroling Geary is enshrined and protected at The Farm Spiritual Community. In November 2023, Caroling and I invited friends to help us bless the sacred space: The Holy O.

I have enjoyed writing Caroling's and Wholeo's history, and bringing this project to life again. It has been a rewarding exploration into the heart and mind of a revolutionary artist who broke with tradition in glass art.

Marilyn Harris, The Farm, September 2024



2024

Wholeo did not stop with Wholeo Dome. Caroling's 2024 documentary *Follow The Sand* begins with the words "How to Wholeo."

