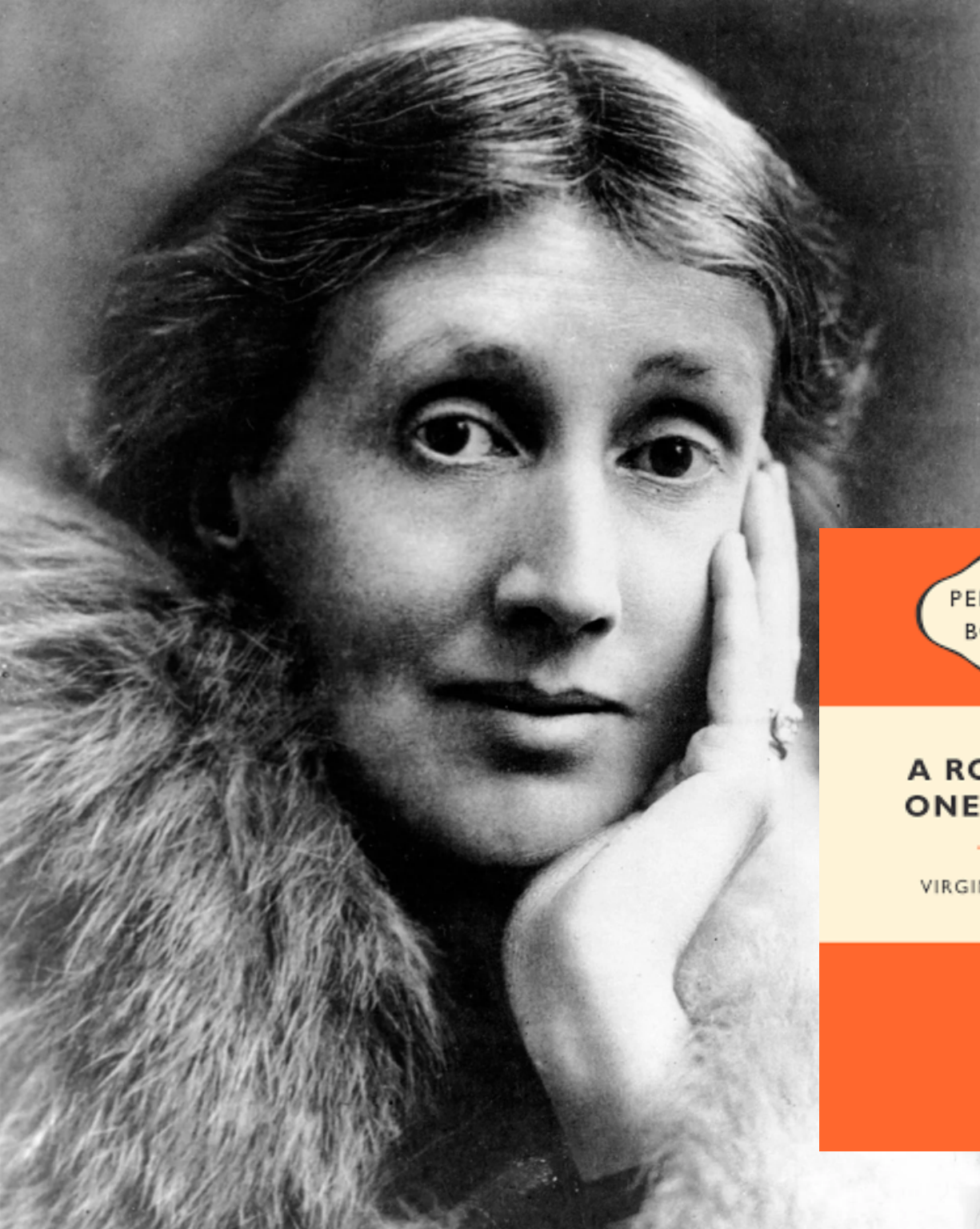


**Third Shift:
Lessons in
Creativity from
Mother Writers**





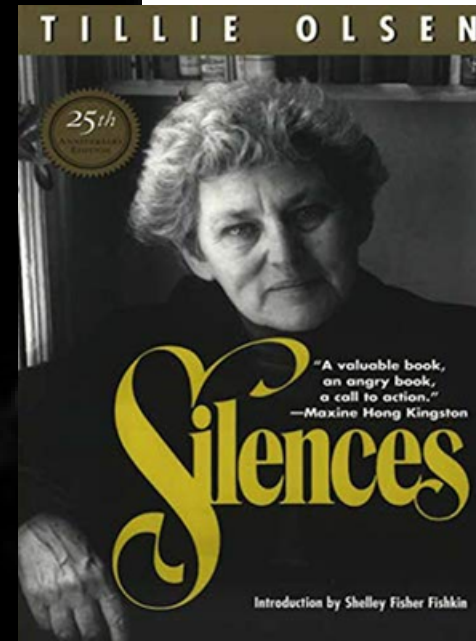
Virginia Woolf

1882- 1941



Tillie Olsen

1912–2007



“Founded the
“Women’s Studies”
syllabus, about 45
publications

4 children



A Portrait of the Artist As a Young Mom

Is domestic life the enemy of creative work?

By Kim Brooks



Madeline L'Engle

1918-2007



“A Wrinkle In Time”
Newbury Award winner
in 1962, and 59 other
published books.

3 children

Alice Neel

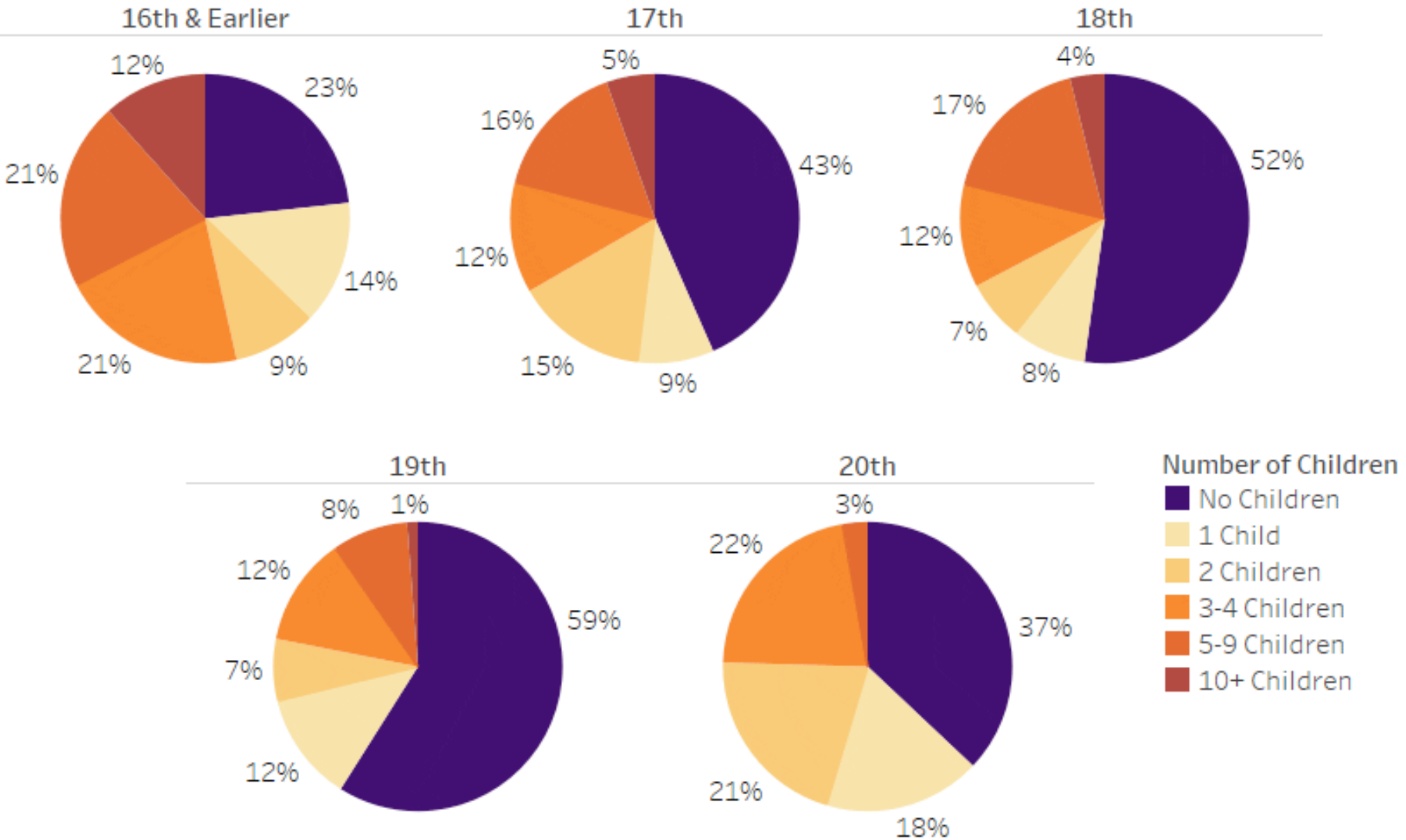
1900-1984



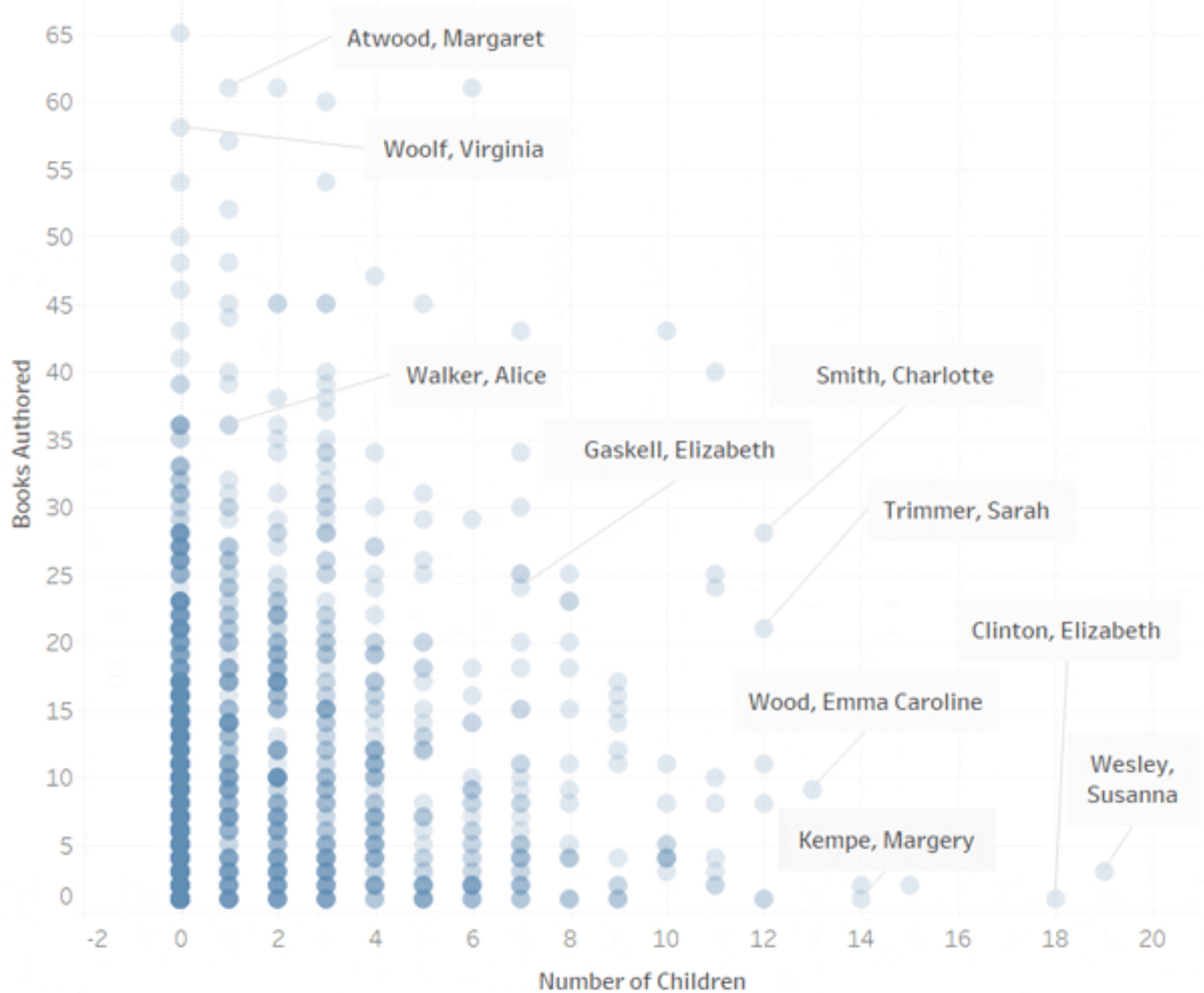
“One of the most important American expressionists”

4 children

Century of Birth



The number of children born to women writers across the centuries. Karen Bourrier and John Brosz
<https://slate.com/culture/2022/09/women-writers-motherhood-history.html>



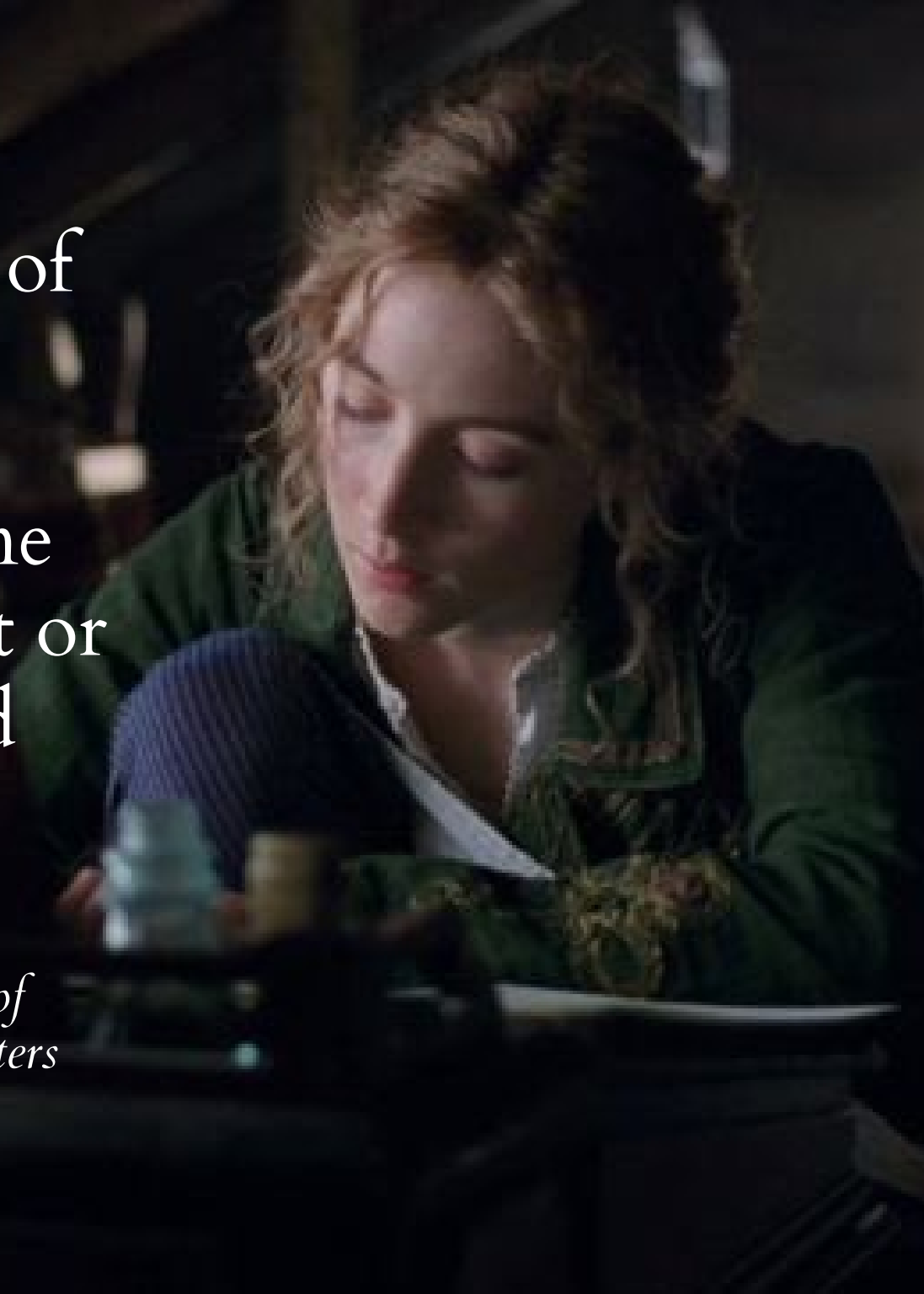
Each blue dot represents a woman author. The horizontal position shows the number of books; the vertical position indicates the number of children that the author had. Only books published within the author's life span were included in the count of books authored. Karen Bourrier and John Brosz

What can we do?

Re-imagine the
stories we tell
of artists
of mothers
of mother-artists

“...there is a heroic aspect to the practice of art; it is lonely, risky, merciless work, and every artist needs some kind of moral support or sense of solidarity and validation.”

-Ursula K Le Guin,
on why Jo March is so important for the imagination of women writers, and why women writers need community.





Denise Gasser

Contemporary

“Art After” exhibition
3 children



3:40pm - 4:30pm

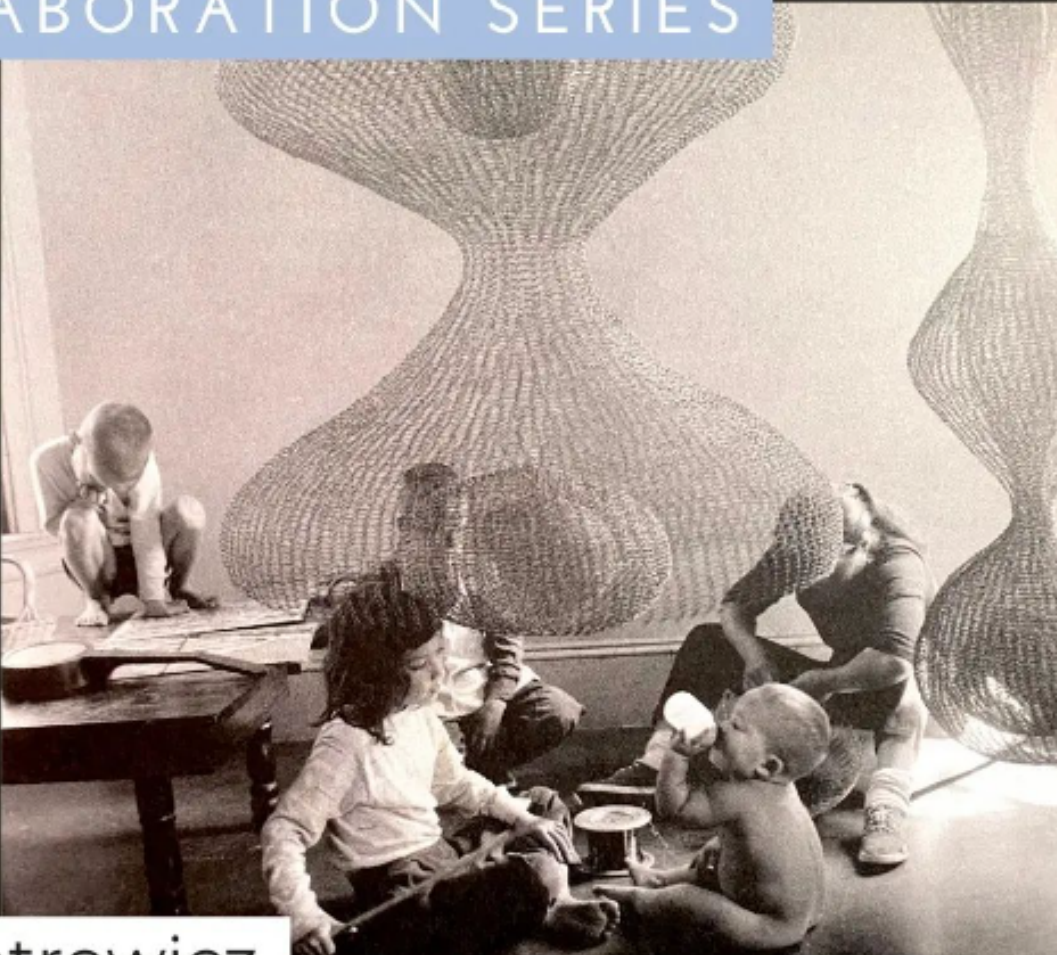
Boys are begging me
to play zombie tag.
They just did bubble-
gum in a dish and
determined that I'm
it.

82

WELLSPRING *a Mother Artist project*

ERNITY LEAVE

LABORATION SERIES



wellspringmotherart and kara.patrowicz



wellspringmotherart "When I first opened "Everything She Touched: The Life of Ruth Asawa" by Marilyn Chase, I stumbled upon this captivating photograph taken by Imogen Cunningham

The candid image shows the renowned Japanese-American sculptor working in her home art studio, encircled by four of her children. Ruth's face is concealed by one of her sculptures while her children look relaxed (and maybe bored!) as they drink bottles, read books. Amidst the domestic setting, Ruth is engrossed in creating her exquisite wire sculptures. This reveals prevailing narratives that often separate the roles of artist and mother.

Ruth Asawa has a remarkable legacy -- her studies at Black Mountain College, her museum retrospectives, her groundbreaking work in art education. What truly leaves me in awe, however, is her resilience in the face of profound trauma. During her teenage years, Ruth endured the hardships of living in a Japanese internment camp, an often-neglected tragedy that befell American citizens of Japanese descent. It was within these terrible confines that she encountered visiting artists, including



Liked by elizabeth_a_berget and 25 others

What can we do?

Support
mother-artists

Mary Ingraham Bunting at The
Radcliffe Institute for Advanced
Independent Study



HOME

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THE COMMONPLACE BOOK

WELLSPRING: A MOTHER ARTIST PROJECT

WELLSPRING:

A MOTHER ARTIST PROJECT

We believe that to flourish creatively, mother artists need moments of rest, contemplation, community, and freedom, supported within their process.



Church as a
patron for
mother-arists

