### IN PRINT

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# Uppity Women of the Renaissance

(Conari Press; 1999) By Vicki León

**Focus** 

In the bonfire-happy fourteenth to seventeenth centuries, it took particular courage (and asbestos undergarments) to be an uppity women. Nonetheless, author Vicki León uncovered hissies and homemakers of every social class who had the brass to become sheriffs, spies, soap entrepreneurs, sci-fi writers, army commanders, and professional ice skaters. There was Joan Dant – a humble peddler who franchised herself into an Avon empire; wet nurses like Katherine Elliot, who boldly went into busi-

ness with kings; and Catalina de Erauso, who dueled, drank, and cross-dressed her way through Spain and North America. Women also wrote peace treatises, founded utopias, led armies, and got religious sects from Lutheran to Quaker rolling. On the intellectual side, Renaissance women became humanists and fought for the power of the individual; more brawny types muscled into fields like carpentry and silver mining.

Author, Leon romps through the Renaissance in Europe and Russia, illuminating such action figures as fiend-pacifer Mrs. Vlad "The Impaler" Tepes to brewster Katie von Bora, who kept Martin Luther's boat afloat. Their stories prove that the Age of Discovery was as rich with towering feminine figures as it was with Rembrandts and Sir Walter Raleighs. As a bonus, you'll also meet the gutsy gals who kept Rembrandt solvent and Sir Walter out of the slammer. Combining meticulous research, period artwork, and a wicked sense of humor, this latest volume in the Uppity Women series profile 200 daring dames who gave the world a rebirth it would never forget.

# B. Smith's Entertaining and Cooking for Friends

(Artisan; 1995)
By Barbara Smith

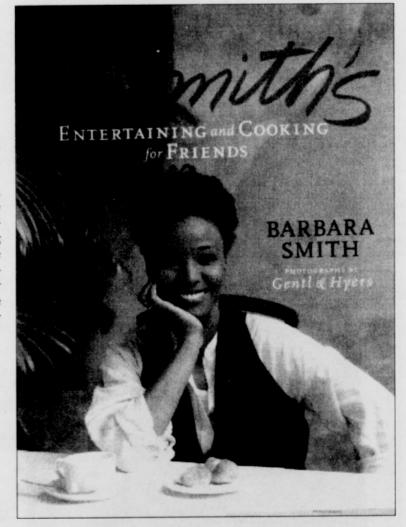
Barbara Smith, founding partner and creative genius behind B. Smith's restaurants in New York's theater district and Washington's Union Station, shares her entertaining style, ideas, and advice. B.Smith's: Entertaining and Cooking for Friends speaks with a jazzy rhythm, an urban energy, and a global perspective as it addresses the entertaining needs of

a new generation

In 100 soul-satisfying recipes and chapters on party events such as a Cocktail Party for Business and Pleasure, a Picnic at the Beach, and a romantic Valentine's Dinner for Two, Barbara Smith defines her appealing approach to entertaining which, like her popular bistro, is cosmopolitan and elegant, yet casual and fun. She explains the importance of maintaining a sense of spontaneity,

being prepared to improvise, and most important, having fun at your own party.

With authority and humor, Barbara leads us through all the steps of planning a party, from extending the invitation to deciding on the menu, selecting the wine and other beverages, and preparing your home and yourself for the event. Barbara's extensive travels as a fashion model and her wide circle of celebrity friends



# Hang thanks for the long overdoe assemblage of Women of the Beat Generation.—Allen Ginsberg SPANIEN OF BEAT CENERATION The Writers, Artists and Muses at the Neart of a Revolution BRENDA KNIGHT Foreword by ANNE WALDMAN Afterword by ANNE WALDMAN Afterword by ANNE GHARTERS

## Women Of The Beat Generation

The Writers, Artists And Muses At The Heart Of A Revolution

(Conari Press; 1996) By Brenda Knight

Winner of the American Book Award in hardcover, Women of the Beat Generation is a one-of-a-kind collection that reverberates with the howls, raps, and roars of 40 women writers, artists, and muses from a fascinating era of American literary history. With riveting biographies, over 50 rare photos, and never-before-published writing, Women of the Beat Generation is an anthology of the life and work of some magnificently creative women who broke with tradition during the rigidly conformist 1950's. This book sheds light on

an amazing array of talented, iconoclastic women. With illuminating commentary by 1997 Poet of the Year Anne Waldman and preeminent Beat scholar Ann Charters, Women of the Beat Generation excavates and honors a long ignored motherlode of our literary heritage.