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On the cover: The wildflower *Claytonia virginica* is a Catskill classic. Photos just cannot do justice to the lovely sight of a forest floor covered with this tiny pale pink flowers. Photo by Heather Rolland

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Two New Exhibitions at Windham Fine Arts: Gallery on Main

Windham Fine Arts is pleased to present two new exhibitions in their North and South Galleries this March.

Appearing in the South Gallery through April 2, A New York View: Country Landscapes by Robert Schneider is an exhibition directly from the Fenimore Art Museum in Cooperstown, NY. In the tradition of the Tonalists, this work recalls many late 19th and early 20th century American landscape paintings and reveals a uniquely personal view of our region. This exhibition was curated by Michelle Murdock.

Kaleidoscope is the title of the newly opened exhibit in the North Gallery. What will we see in the world to come? How will perspectives shift or be shifted for us? How will we process information experienced through a variety of filters incorporated into our lives, voluntarily or involuntarily, by the algorithms that follow us through our days…. This exhibit will continue over the next few months, bringing new and changing views to still life, sculpture and abstraction by an assembly of artists. Evolutions by Marko Shuhan push oil painting to explore metaphor and illusion through digital manipulation. Mixed media collages by Maya Farber push perception to its limit, evoking the question: What is preconceived v. what is created through a series of still life dialogues. Abstract glassworks by Glenn Abel allow us to see the world through his vision of fused and cast glass, manipulated and expressed through vibrant color. New to the gallery, we introduce Color Field Sculpture by Shelley Parriott. Miniature interior to large-scale installations simultaneously present visual and perceptual dichotomy; an integration between the corporeal and the intangible of the physical and spiritual. Monumental in size and impact, yet illusory, transparent layers play in the changing light as they describe Material v. Immaterial, Being v. Non-Being and the transitory nature of form. An Artist Reception for Kaleidoscope will be held on Saturday, March 4 from 5:00 to 7:30 pm.

New for 2017, follow us on Instagram @WindhamFineArtsGallery for insights into gallery operations, artists, art, exhibits and regional tidbits. On Twitter @WindhamFineArts learn more about collecting, curation, sales and openings of important shows and art fairs. Look us up on Facebook.com/WindhFineArtsGallery for specifics on latest events and our artist community. Visit us at windhamfinearts.com for information on framing services and current/coming shows.

Windham Fine Arts: Gallery On Main is located in the historic downtown at 5380 Main Street, Windham NY. Gallery hours are Friday and Saturday from 12 to 7 pm, and Sunday from 12 to 4 pm. For more information, contact the Gallery Director Karen LaMonica at 518 734 6850.
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Catskill Mountain Foundation Hosts the Award-Winning Ensemble Apollo’s Fire for a Performance of An Appalachian Gathering: Music from the British Isles

Classical music returns to the Catskill Mountain Foundation in March with the USA’s hottest baroque orchestra Apollo’s Fire, under the leadership of Jeannette Sorrell. The group is set to ignite the stage at the Doctorow Center for the Arts in Hunter, New York with a riveting and compelling cross-over performance of Sugarloaf Mountain: An Appalachian Gathering, which debuted at #5 on the Billboard Classical Chart in 2015.

Patrons attending the show on Saturday, March 25 at 8:00 pm will be enthralled by the Cleveland-based international baroque orchestra, making its stop in Hunter as part of the Apollo’s Fire 25th anniversary tour. Tickets are $25 for adults and $20 seniors if purchased in advance while if purchased at the door are $30 for adults and $25 for seniors. Tickets for students are $7.

For this performance Apollo’s Fire will blend their classical techniques and training with the reels, jigs and storytelling of Appalachian folk music. “We were inspired by the Appalachian music,” said Jeannette Sorrell, “Long ago, the sparkling fiddle tunes and haunting ballads of the British Isles came across the water—taking root in the hills of Virginia, mingling with southern hymns and African spirituals, creating the soulful music we call Appalachian.”

According to Pam Weisberg, director of programming at the Catskill Mountain Foundation, “We are delighted to host the internationally renowned baroque orchestra Apollo’s Fire, which fits in perfectly with our mission of bringing the very best in the arts to our area and to the greater Catskill Region. We encourage classical music lovers and those with a passion for the arts to experience this special cross-over Appalachian folk performance.”

Named for the classical god of music and the sun, Apollo’s Fire was founded in 1992 by the award-winning young harpsichordist and conductor, Jeannette Sorrell. Sorrell envisioned an ensemble dedicated to the baroque ideal that music should evoke the various Affekts or passions in the listeners. Apollo’s Fire is a collection of creative artists who share Sorrell’s passion for drama and rhetoric.

Hailed as “one of the pre-eminent period-instrument ensembles” by The Independent in London, Apollo’s Fire made its London debut in 2010 in a sold-out concert at Wigmore Hall with a BBC broadcast. Subsequent European tours took place in 2011, 2014 and 2015. European performances include sold-out concerts at the BBC Proms in London (with live broadcasts across Europe), the Aldeburgh Festival (UK), Madrid’s Royal Theatre, Bordeaux’s Grand Théâtre de l’Opéra, and major venues in Lisbon, Metz (France), and Bregenz (Austria), as well as concerts on the Birmingham International Series (UK) and the Tuscan Landscapes Festival (Italy).

In the U.S., Apollo’s Fire has played to sold-out crowds in New York, Boston, Washington, San Francisco and the prestigious Tanglewood Festival in the Berkshire Mountains, Massachusetts.

For more information on the Foundation, or to purchase tickets, please visit www.catskillmtn.org or call 518 263 2063.

Catskill Mountain Foundation is funded in part by the New York State Council on the Arts, Greene County Legislature through the Cultural Fund administered by the Greene County Council on the Arts, Greene County Youth Fund, the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation, the Samuel and Esther Doctorow Fund, the New York Council for the Humanities, The Royce Family Foundation, Charles B. and Natasha Slutzky, The Windham Foundation, Bank of Greene County Charitable Foundation, All Soul’s Church, Marshall & Sterling Insurance, Stewarts Shops, and by private donations.
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March 2017 • GUIDE 5
Verges: The Paintings of Nancy Orr at Kaaterskill Fine Arts

The Kaaterskill Fine Arts and Crafts Gallery proudly presents Verges: The Paintings of Nancy Orr. The show opens March 17 and runs through May 7, 2017. The free opening reception is Saturday, March 25, from 1-3 pm. Nancy Orr will be giving an Artist Talk on Saturday April 8 from 1-2 pm.

In her artist’s statement, Orr says, “I liked the idea of Verges for the show for multiple reasons, just as the word itself means more than just an edge. As I paint I find myself on the verge of discovery. I am learning about building layers of thin paint which adds so much depth and richness. I enjoy allowing a happy accident in paint to lead me in a different direction and into a new understanding not just of the material, but of the subject matter. What I originally intend is rarely the end product.”

“I love the edges of light and substance I see every day in the Catskills around me. Sometimes you cannot tell where the mountains end and where the clouds begin. Sometimes the edge of a meadow and a line of trees break into different worlds. Every perspective reflects different movement and life…. The wind through grass and tree has rhythm and voice and the edges merge, divide, and flow. The colours in the mountains have such nuance, sometimes delicate, sometimes bold. There is no end to the variation. Sometimes I like the edge of a brushstroke to show, sometimes to soften and blur, a mirror to what I see everyday around me.”

Living in the Catskills is like coming home for Nancy Orr, as she spent her early years growing up and enjoying the rural and wild in Canada. She has always painted, drawn, or sculpted as she made her living as a scenic artist, bringing to life the plans and visions of others who worked as designers in the fields of theater and dance, movies and TV, and other commercial venues. Finally, she is now able to pursue her own art as she is exploring further the mediums of oils, watercolours, cloth and board. Nancy lives with her husband, Dan, and their fine dog, Bosco, perched in the West Kill hills.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the Kaaterskill Fine Arts and Crafts Gallery will host an Artist Talk with Nancy Orr on Saturday, April 8 from 1 to 2 pm.

The artist talk will address challenges of working with new materials and how that develops into an ever changing approach to painting—how failures and a living, breathing landscape allows discovery and excitement and why the concept of VERGES captures her work at this point in time.

The Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Kaaterskill Fine Art and Crafts Gallery is located in Hunter Village Square at 7950 Main Street, in Hunter, NY. The Gallery is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm, and Sundays from 10 am to 3 pm. For more information visit www.catskillmtn.org, or call 518 263 2060.
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At the Door: $30 adults; $25 seniors; $7 children

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www.catskillmtn.org or 518 263 2063
Long ago, the sparkling fiddle tunes and haunting ballads of the British Isles came across the water—taking root in the hills of Virginia, mingling with southern hymns and African spirituals, creating the soulful music we call Appalachian. The people of the mountains raise their communal voices in celebration of daily life—love, singing, dancing and prayer.

“A triumph ... an absolutely joyous achievement”
— ClevelandClassical.com

Tickets purchased ahead: $25 adults; $20 seniors; $7 children
At the Door: $30 adults; $25 seniors; $7 children
Greene County Restaurant Week is coming to a local restaurant near you from March 24 to April 2, 2017. Restaurant Week is brought to you by The Greene County Chamber of Commerce and offers you a chance to visit that restaurant you have been dying to try but never got around to or a chance to explore an old favorite you haven’t seen in a while. The best part of Restaurant Week is that there is something for every taste because Greene County offers a wide variety of restaurant styles, genres and offerings from around the world.

Each participating restaurant will be offering a special Restaurant Week Menu priced at $20.17 per person, excluding tax, tip and beverages. This special offer will feature a preselected, three-course prix fixe menu for you to choose from. Choose your appetizer, entrée and dessert with friends and family at any of the participating fine dining locations in Greene County. While you are there be sure to look over what each restaurant’s regular menu also has to offer.

The bonus to dining during Greene County Restaurant Week is your opportunity to Dine & Win! When you eat at a participating restaurant during Restaurant Week you will be given an opportunity to enter into the drawing to win great prizes from local restaurants. There is nothing better than a chance to win a free dinner just for eating dinner!

To see all of the participating restaurants and their special prix fixe menus visit www.DineInGreene.com. When you are there you can also learn more about the Dine & Win contest.

Don’t miss this chance to explore and experience new restaurants and rediscover past favorites at many of the area’s high quality and diverse dining destinations of Greene County. The Greene County Chamber of Commerce looks forward to seeing you out there enjoying your local dining experience.

Greene County Restaurant Week: March 24 – April 2, 2017
$20.17 per person (excluding tax, tip and beverages)
For more information: www.dineingreene.com

DINE & WIN • VISIT www.DineInGreene.com FOR DETAILS
Alta Log Homes marked its 45th anniversary in the housing industry in 2016.

The Catskill Mountain log home manufacturer has been a leader in innovative building techniques since the early 70’s. A forerunner in the “green” building movement, Alta is an Energy Star partner. The company’s new log homes can qualify for Energy Star and LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certification, an internationally recognized green building method based on third-party verification.

Through its dealer network, Alta has sold homes in nearly every state. There are even Alta homes overseas.

As part of Alta’s 45th anniversary they decided to take a step back in time to keep up with the current trends. One of Alta’s first designs was a “tiny home.” At just 400 square feet, Alta joins the “tiny home” trend with the Altan 1. This floor plan has been reworked to meet today’s standards, but comes from one of the first models ever created by Alta. You can see the Altan 1 materials package fully assembled at the Halcottsville location.

Alta offers a “try before you buy” option with Log Home Lodging. Opened in 2010, and adjacent to the Alta complex, Log Home Lodging gives visitors a taste of Alta craftsmanship and quality. Anyone staying at the lodging facility will receive a credit for their stay up to $1,000 off the cost of a home ordered within a year.

Alta is always looking to expand its reach by adding new dealers nationwide. Alta is looking to extend their reach with dealers that will uphold their high standards. New dealerships will be key to Alta’s continued growth.

The superior fitting double interlocking corner system and unique profiled logs are innovations that have helped set Alta apart from competitors.

Like any company with a proud history, the combination of quality products and renowned customer service are keys to Alta. Alta is a member of the Log Homes Council.

The log grading system utilized at the company’s Halcottsville site ensures only the finest logs are used in each home. Alta uses Eastern White Pine as its primary building material. This product provides superior insulating properties and resists shrinkage and checking. For customers who prefer a different look, Western Red Cedar is an option. The company also offers the choice of its standard Classic Log and the larger Frontier Log profile.

The same exacting attention to detail goes into every other element of Alta Log Homes—from laminated ridge beams to windows and doors.

Alta features more than 50 standard models, but can modify any of those as well as create a complete custom plan. There are very few limitations when meeting a client’s design needs. In addition to supplying materials for thousands of homes, Alta has provided designs and materials for restaurants, stores and hotels.

Contemporary styling that is a company hallmark means Alta Log Homes are equally appealing on a remote mountain-top location or in a suburban setting. Alta is located on Route 30, Halcottsville, about five miles north of Margaretville. For additional information please call 800 926 ALTA or visit www.altaloghomes.com.
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THE GREAT OUTDOORS IN THE CATSKILLS

By Jeff Senterman

Hopefully our Winter can hold on a little longer here in the Catskills, as we have been enjoying the cold and the snow, especially for those of us who enjoy skiing! However, March is often a time when winter and Spring battle over the Catskills. It’s a month with the potential for highly variable weather conditions, temperatures and snowpack. All visitors to the Catskills in March (or any time) should be prepared for all different kinds of conditions, should keep an eye on the forecast, and check on the latest trail conditions before they leave for their Catskills adventure.

Are you a fly fisherman or ever wondered how the flies that are used are made? You can learn how at the Erpf Gallery’s latest show, Catskill Fly Tying: the Art of Artifice.

Did you know that dozens of groups go to Albany every year to advocate for the Catskill Park? Learn what the Catskill Park Coalition asked for this year and how you can help.

Maybe you would like to spend a week in a cabin in the woods of the Catskills? The Platte Clove Preserve Artist in Residence Program offers artists one of the most unique opportunities anywhere and right now they are accepting applications for the 2017 summer season!

Looking to give back to the mountains that you love? Learn more about the Catskill Conservation Corps, our very own local resource for connecting volunteers to the multitude of service opportunities across the Catskill Park and see how you can support the Catskill Center’s efforts to protect and preserve the Catskills!

Trail Safety

Hiking, skiing and snowshoeing conditions can change quickly in the Catskills. A warm spring hike can suddenly turn dangerous when it starts raining and temperatures drop quickly. In the winter months, the mountains can be unforgiving with low temperatures, high winds and deep snowpacks. March is an even trickier month with the opportunity for winter snow storms and cold temperatures, along with wet spring weather and warmer temperatures. You truly must be prepared for just about any weather when you’re exploring the Catskills in March.

Anyone planning on being outdoors in the Catskills should keep in mind a few general safety guidelines for any trip. It is a good idea to consider all four of these guidelines for every trip you take into the backcountry, no matter if it’s summer, winter, for a few hours or for a few days:

• WEATHER: Always obtain local weather conditions from sources like the Albany National Weather Service, or local services like the Hudson Valley Weather website, all of which provide local conditions and weather discussion for areas throughout the Catskills.

• WARNING: Wilderness conditions can change suddenly and all users should plan accordingly, including bringing a flashlight, first aid equipment, extra food and clothing. Weather conditions may alter your plans; you should always be prepared to spend an unplanned night in the woods before entering the backcountry. Backcountry hiking trails can be rugged and rough—they are not maintained as park walkways—always wear proper footwear and clothing!

• REMEMBER: Weather and trail conditions can change rapidly, especially during fall, winter and spring. Plan and prepare accordingly.

• ALWAYS: Inform someone of your itinerary and when you expect to return so they can alert authorities if you do not return on time.

For more detailed information on the condition and status of trails and trailheads in the Catskills, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation offers a page on their website with regularly updated conditions (www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/108207.html). While this information is regularly updated, it may not reflect current, specific conditions. The local Forest Ranger is the best source for more current and specific information. To contact the Forest Rangers for Region 3 (Ulster & Sullivan Counties), please call the NYSDEC’s New Paltz regional office at 845 256 3026. For Forest Rangers in Region 4 (Greene and Delaware Counties), please call the NYSDEC’s Schenectady regional office at 518 357 2161. These numbers should also be used to report backcountry emergencies, such as lost or injured hikers, and wildland fires to the DEC Forest Rangers.

Visit the Catskill Park’s Visitor Center

Looking to stop in the Catskills for more information on your adventures? The Maurice D. Hinchey Catskill Interpretive Center is located on Route 28 in Mount Tremper and your gateway to
Catskill Park where you can learn about the vast outdoor recreational opportunities in the area as well as discover the Catskill region’s communities and rich cultural and natural history.

The Catskill Interpretive Center is open seven days a week from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm and until 6:30 pm on Fridays. At the Center, you can explore the interpretive exhibits, gather information and speak with knowledgeable staff about the Catskill Park and region. Visit www.CatskillInterpretiveCenter.org, call 845 688 3369, or e-mail info@catskillcenter.org for more information.

The Catskill Interpretive Center is located at 5096 Route 28 in Mount Tremper.

**Catskill Fly Tying: the Art of Artifice now at the Erpf Gallery**

The exhibit, Catskill Fly Tying the Art of Artifice, will be displayed in the Catskill Center’s Erpf Gallery (43355 State Highway 28, Arkville, NY 12406) through March 18, 2017. Almost 40 macro photographs of flies will be on display. The images, captured by photographer Mark Loete, show some of the man-made flies local fishermen find success fishing in Catskill streams.

As part of the ongoing exhibit, on Saturday, March 4 at 1pm, photographer Mark Loete will give a talk sharing the history and insights into the creation of the exhibit. Both programs will take place at the Erpf Center in Arkville, NY.

The relationship between trout and man is a primordial one. It is the artificial fly that is the tenuous connection between us and that mysterious, elusive, watery creature. The artificial fishing fly is an artifice—a clever deception. Fur, feather, and sometimes man-made materials are lashed to steel with thread in such a fashion as to mimic the size, shape, color, and natural behavior of the aquatic insects trout depend on for their main food source. The selection, manner and method in which these materials are deployed on the hook—the fly “pattern”—draws upon a deep body of generational wisdom, regional diversity, and folk art. Some patterns are deceptively simple to tie and fish. Others are complex architectural constructs built to exacting specifications. When these beautiful miniature sculptures are photographed at high resolution and enlarged, the art behind the artifice is revealed.

The idea for a gallery exhibit of trout fly photographs was born of a project completed for the Jerry Bartlett Memorial Angling Collection, a collection of angling books, art and memorabilia, housed at the Phoenicia Library. Stephanie Blackman Design was commissioned to create a web based digital “hatch chart” for the Collection—an informational matrix that shows what insect species an angler might encounter on the Esopus Creek at a given time of year, and what artificial fly best imitates that insect. Thirty-four aquatic insects we felt were most important to the fly fisherman were identified and then 64 fly patterns that best
imitate them were selected. To create them, we reached out to 15 master fly tyers who excel in the Catskill style and traditions, and who had some personal history or connection to our area. Some of the patterns are specific to the Esopus Creek, and little known beyond the Catskills. Others are fished worldwide. Once the patterns were tied, every artificial fly was meticulously photographed in a carefully controlled studio environment.

Mark Loete is a professional fine art and corporate photographer with over thirty years experience shooting a wide range of subjects, such as landscapes, architecture, jewelry, products and people. Most of those years were spent in New York City, creating commercial and advertising imagery for clients like Sony, IBM, Avon, Harper-Collins, and the United Nations. In 2002, Mark moved his home, family, and photography business to the Catskill Mountains, settling in the historic hamlet of Chichester. The move allowed him to indulge his dual passions for photography and fly fishing the streams and rivers of the Catskill Mountains.

Growing up in Illinois, Mark cut his angling teeth fishing the bass ponds of the Midwest, and hooking an occasional catfish in the Mississippi River. Moving to the East Coast after college, he discovered the fly rod and immersed himself in learning all aspects of the sport—including fly tying. In 2014, Mark founded Catskill Mountain Angler, a fly fishing guiding and instruction service. Of late, Mark spends much of his time with a fly rod or a camera in hand, and often finds himself holding both at the same time.

Catskill Fly Tying: The Art of Artifice draws upon Mark's background and extraordinary skill at photographing fine jewelry and his extensive knowledge of the fly tyer's craft. Through these unique, larger-than-life images and the tiny details they reveal, we can truly appreciate the beauty and artistry that is the Catskill Style.

Catskill Fly Tying: The Art of Artifice, is on display through March 18, 2017. The Erpf Gallery, located at 43355 Route 28 in Arkville, NY is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm. For more information, contact the Catskill Center at 845 586 2611, or visit www.catskillcenter.org.
Governor has advanced several major advertising campaigns for the region.
The Catskill Park Coalition strongly encourages the public to contact the Governor and their state representatives and ask them to support the $10 million Catskills Package.

Learn more about about our efforts at AwarenessDay2017.org where you can see two short films of Coalition members describing the importance of support for the Catskill Park and Forest Preserve. Details also available at CatskillCenter.org/awareness-day.

The Catskill Conservation Corps
The Catskill Conservation Corps (CCC) offers the easiest way for the public to volunteer on a multitude of stewardship projects throughout the Catskills. The CCC’s goal is to provide quality volunteer opportunities to the public on projects that protect natural resources and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities in the Catskills. Managed by the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference, the CCC recruits and supervises volunteers to perform various stewardship tasks in conjunction with New York State’s efforts in the Catskills and the Catskill Park. To learn more about the Catskill Conservation Corps, find events and volunteer in the Catskills, please visit www.catskillconservationcorps.org.

Unique Platte Clove Artist in Residence Program Accepting Applications for 2017 Summer Program
The Catskill Center is now accepting application for the 2017 Platte Clove Artist-in-Residence Program. The residency, the only one in the country situated in the historic landscapes which were the inspiration for the Hudson River School, provides a tranquil and rustic workplace. A retreat for artists, working in a variety of disciplines, located in the living landscape where American art began.

The residency is open to visual artists and performing artists who have an affinity for the natural world. The residencies run from July through September and artists can choose to stay from a couple days to a full week, depending on availability. The work produced should foster an appreciation for the environment and participants are encouraged to submit works for the Platte Clove art exhibit at the Catskill Center’s Erpf Gallery.

Participants stay in a rustic cabin in the Platte Clove Preserve - 208 wild, pristine acres full of hiking trails, multi-tiered waterfalls, and old growth forests. Hiking trails to Indian Head and Overlook mountains begin near the cabin and the 60-foot Plattekill Falls is a short walk from the cabin.

Artists are selected by a jury comprised of representatives from local arts organizations as well as the Catskill Center. Artists working in all mediums are encouraged to apply. For more information and an application, please visit the Catskill Center web site at www.catskillcenter.org, contact Katie Palm at kpalm@catskillcenter.org or call 845 586 2611.

Give Back to the Catskills
The natural beauty, the majesty of the mountains, the protection of the Catskill Forest Preserve, the region’s natural and cultural resources, all need your help! By supporting the work of the Catskill Center, you support: stewardship of our Catskill Park and its vast natural resources; the Center’s collaborative spirit as we convene, create partnerships and facilitate discussions that benefit the region; and the Center’s work to support education, arts and culture throughout the Catskills.

To support the work of the Catskill Center, donate online through their website at www.catskillcenter.org/donate or donate By Mail: Checks made out to the “Catskill Center for Conservation and Development” can be mailed to:
Catskill Center
PO Box 504
Arkville, NY 12406

Jeff Senterman is the Executive Director of the Catskill Center, a member of the Board of Directors for the American Hiking Society and the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference. He was formerly the Trail Conference’s Catskills staff representative and was an Assistant Forest Ranger for the DEC in Greene County. He graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from Lyndon State College and worked for several years in the Environmental Planning field in New England before coming back to New York. To learn more about the work of the Catskill Center in the Catskills, visit www.catskillcenter.org.
THE CATSKILL PORCUPINE: SMALL CREATURE, LARGE APPETITE!

Encountering wildlife is my favorite part of living in the Catskills. Eagles, bears, coyotes, owls, mink, fisher… and porcupines? The humble quill pig is not typically anyone’s favorite animal, given its voracious appetite for pretty much everything, and those darned quills. I walk in the woods daily with my four rambunctious dogs, and we share this forest with an unfairly enormous population of porcupines. We see them just about every day. After four years of daily interactions, I have come to consider myself something of an amateur porcupine expert. A porcupine whisperer, if you will!

Home Life
Porcupines are rodents, and look like quilled terrestrial beavers—they are roughly the same size and shape, and have the same rodent front teeth. Porcupines live in dens or burrows on the ground, often in rock ledges here in the Catskills. Scan under rocks for porcupine scat (poop) as a telltale sign that a porky is making that particular spot his or her home. They leave home each morning to go forage for food, and return to the den each evening. In dry conditions, or where the vegetation on the ground is especially sensitive, this creates a well-traveled trail you can easily see. In the winter, look for tracks in the snow similar to horseshoe crab tracks on the beach—a herringbone pattern with footprints and a tail swish!

As you hike in the Catskills, remember to look up every now and then, and scan for patches of eaten bark. That’s a sign a porcupine has been using that tree as his meal ticket. But don’t stand underneath: one surprising common cause of death in porcupines? Falling out of trees!

Diet and Exercise
Porcupines have earned the ire of homeowners, campers and even research scientists, by eating their way through the Catskills like a house afire. Away from humans and their tantalizing plastic, rubber, wood, metal, and the salty coatings of all those substances, porcupines are 100% vegetarians. They eat bark in the winter, and all manner of plant matter during the growing season.

However, as humans have moved into porcupine territory, porkies have discovered that automobile brake lines are incredibly delicious. Metal trail marker tags get sampled. Any plastic item is fair game—just ask research scientists studying acid rain: many different collection receptacles have been chewed to smithereens. And when I was a volunteer fire tower steward on Hunter Mountain, I found out that the wooden porch of the cabin was another delicacy. All night long, gnawing and chewing … despite the fact that I had multiple dogs in the cabin with me.

Quills
Many hikers, pet owners, and veterinarians are not fans of porcupines because pet-porcupine interactions are common and can be dangerous or even deadly. Porcupines are covered in both fur and quills—an estimated 30,000 quills! These quills are barbed at each end, and made of the same proteins as their fur. Quills are essentially hard pointy hairs, and just like hair or fur, they are attached to the porcupine. They can only come off the porky by being hooked or embedded in something else. That means porcupines cannot throw or shoot their quills. In fact, removing a quill from a porcupine is a bit like pulling out a hair. One here or

This porcupine is young, possibly only a year or two old. I got a little bit too close taking this photograph and she chattered at me to back off, which I promptly did.

Porcupines do have natural predators, the most well-known one being the fisher. However, owls and coyotes will also eat porcupines if less prickly prey isn’t available. In the western United States, cougars also prey upon porcupines, apparently just ignoring the quills. However, the quills do provide a pretty serious deterrent for most predators.
Porcupines will generally attempt to avoid an altercation rather than create one. They can run (it’s pretty adorable to see a beaver-shaped porky motoring at top speed), but if cornered, they will hiss and chatter and emit a stinky scent. If that doesn’t deter the marauder, they will turn around and face a rock, tree, or whatever they can shove their face into, so that the quill-enriched tail and back faces out. And if you still don’t get the message, they will flip their tail, almost like a beaver’s tail slap on the surface of a pond. A few of my dogs have been standing back, trying to behave when they’ve gotten the ol’ tail slap in the face.

Removing porcupine quills from a dog (and yes, from myself!) hurts a lot. They hurt going in and they hurt coming out. Best practice is to get your dog to the vet, where the dog can be sedated for a thorough removal and once over. This is important because in rare cases the quills, if not promptly removed, can migrate into the dog’s body instead of being rejected and just popping out. When a quill migrates, it can cause very serious organ damage or death. Again, this is rare, but worth the extra caution to get a veterinarian to do that thorough removal with a comfortable, sedated dog.

Do not snip the quills at all. There is a rumor about snipping the tips of porcupine quills to make removal easier. Trust me on this one—I’ve removed a lot of quills over the past two decades. Snipping quills makes them shorter. The shorter the quill, the harder to grab and pull. There is no gas inside the quill that is released, and no “relaxing” that happens when you snip the tip. You just make it shorter and harder to grab. If you can get close enough to a quill to snip it—for heaven’s sake, just pull it out! Many dogs will paw madly at the quills, breaking some off in the process. Believe me—the broken ones do not come out any more easily than the whole ones. On the contrary, the longer the quill, the better chance there is to get a decent grasp of it and pull.
The best way to deal with porcupine quills is to avoid getting them in the first place. Prevent and avoid by:

- Walking your dogs during the day. Porcupines are mostly in trees during the day, especially during the winter. At dawn and dusk they are most likely to be traveling to or from their den. Those are good times to avoid being out near porky habitat.

- Train your dogs to come when called. Failing that (porcupines are often slow moving and smell like dinner, so for most dogs this would test even the most passionate recall), train your dogs a few other choice commands. “Leave it” is a good one. I use “down” because if my dog won’t walk away from that tantalizing rodent, he might do a down and watch it. And my youngest pack member honestly believes that herding porcupines is her job. She won’t come and she won’t down. But she understands “watch” and will watch, standing a safe distance away, and bark, alerting me to the porky’s presence.

- Leash! Although quilling can happen to a leashed dog, leashing sure does improve your odds!

- Stay observant! Don’t space out and stroll along, oblivious to your surroundings. More than once I’ve prevented an encounter by paying attention and seeing the porcupine before my dogs saw it. If I ask for a recall before they’ve spied or scented the critter, I get a recall, no problems.

- Consider walking or hiking in places where you know porcupines are not common. In the Catskills, this can be a tall order. If you cross the Hudson River, Poet’s Walk or the Ferncliff Fire Tower both are lovely close adventures and Dutchess County has very few porcupines at all.

Here are a few tips for sharing space with your quilled neighbors:

- If you are having trouble with a porcupine on your property, you may find specific recommendations or suggestions on NYS DEC’s nuisance wildlife page on their website.

- Forget those cute videos on Facebook: porcupines should not be kept as pets. Yes, they really do make those ridiculous “talking” noises. But no, wild animals should never be kept as pets. Let wild be wild. Enjoy them from a distance.

- Do not trap or attempt to relocate porcupines or any other wildlife without proper permits. A porcupine that you relocate is sentenced to a slow and painful death: it will do everything it can to get back home, making the trip no matter how far. This will likely include crossing roads, and cars are a major threat to porcupines.

Porcupines can be pesky but they are part of our Catskills charm. Coexisting peacefully with them is possible; my dogs and I are living proof. Prevent interactions, protect your home and vehicles, and enjoy watching them from a safe distance.
MOUNTAIN CINEMA
At the Doctorow Center for the Arts • 7971 Main Street, Hunter

March Schedule for Screen Two, the only place on the Mountain Top to see the best Foreign and Independent Films

ALONE IN BERLIN  (RATED R, 103 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY VINCENT PEREZ
Berlin, 1940. Working class couple Otto and Anna Quangel receive the news that their only son has lost his life in the battlefield and decide to resist the Nazi regime in their very own way. Soon the Gestapo is hunting “the threat.” 3/3-3/5. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

“Perez’ film does sincere … justice to the idea that where there is a will for it, resistance can find a way, be it so small as to be postcard-sized.”
—Jessica Kiang, The Playlist

BETWEEN US  (UNRATED, 100 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY RAFAEL PALACIO ILLINGWORTH
A young couple is confronted by the fear that settling down and getting married means their carefree days as city-dwelling young adults are coming to an abrupt and depressing end. Both are tempted by the allure of another life before ultimately realizing why they fell in love in the first place. 3/10-3/12. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

“Stingingly attuned to the tension between long-term love and last-minute misgivings, Between Us makes a familiar situation feel remarkably fresh.”
MY NAME IS EMILY
(UNRATED, 100 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY SIMON FITZMAURICE
A teenage girl runs away from a foster home with the boy who loves her. She searches for her visionary writer father who is locked up in a psychiatric institution. It is a story of redemption.
3/17-3/19. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

“...a film with a great heart.”
—Aine O'Connor, Irish Independent

A GOOD AMERICAN
(UNRATED, 100 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY FRIEDRICH MOSER
Bill Binney, the former technical director of the NSA, discusses the NSA’s decision to not use a cheap surveillance tool that would have predicted the 9/11 attacks.
3/24-3/26. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

“The picture it paints of America’s frontline intelligence services—confused, internally quarrelsome and completely in hock to corporate interests—is fascinating.”
—Tom Huddleston, TimeOut London

PELLE THE CONQUEROR
(UNRATED, 157 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY BILLE AUGUST
At the end of the 19th century, a boat filled with Swedish emigrants comes to the Danish island of Bornholm. Among them are Lasse and his son Pelle, who move to Denmark to find work. They find employment at a large farm, but are treated as the lowest form of life. Pelle starts to speak Danish but is still harassed as a foreigner. But none of them wants to give up their dream of finding a better life than the life they left in Sweden. In Scanian, Danish, Swedish, and Finnish with English subtitles.
3/31-4/2. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

Academy Award and Golden Globe Winner, Best Foreign Language Film, 1989

APPRENTICE
(UNRATED, 115 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY JUNFENG BOO
Aiman is a 28-year-old Malay correctional officer who is recently transferred to the territory’s top prison. He lives with his older sister Suhaila in a modest housing estate. At his new workplace, Aiman begins to take an interest in a 65-year-old sergeant named Rahim. Soon, it is revealed that the charismatic Rahim is actually the long-serving chief executioner of the prison. Rahim also takes notice of the principled and diligent Aiman. When Rahim’s assistant suddenly quits, he asks Aiman to become his apprentice. Aiman tells Suhaila of his new job position, but Suhaila becomes upset, as their father was actually executed by Rahim. Aiman knew this all along. Can Aiman overcome his conscience and a haunted past to possibly take over as the next chief executioner? In Malay and English.
4/7-4/9. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

AFTER THE STORM
(UNRATED, 117 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY HIROKAZU KOREEDA
After the death of his father, a private detective struggles to find child support money and reconnect with his son and ex-wife. In Japanese with English subtitles.
4/14-4/16. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

“This is Kore-eda at his very best, facing up to the hardest truths with honesty and a nervous laugh—uncomfortable, invigorating, and ultimately cleansing....”
—Rory O’Connor, The Film Stage

AMERICAN FABLE
(UNRATED, 96 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY ANNE HAMILTON
When 11-year-old Gitty discovers that her beloved father is hiding a wealthy man in her family’s silo in order to save their struggling farm, she is forced to choose between saving the man’s life or protecting her family from the consequences of their actions.
4/21-4/23. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15

Ticket Prices: $9 / $7 seniors & children under 11

3D Ticket Prices: $11/$9 seniors & children under 11
We show the best Hollywood films available each week. Below are some films that we will show during the month of February.

For the most up-to-date schedule, call 518 263 4702 or visit www.catskillmtn.org. While there, sign up for our e-mail updates so you can get the newest schedule delivered to your e-mail box each week!

Ticket Prices (Screens 2 & 3, and the Orpheum): $9 / $7 seniors & children under 11
3D Ticket Prices (Screen 1): $11/ $9 seniors & children under 11

View trailers for our films at www.catskillmtn.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Title</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Cast</th>
<th>Synopsis</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Times</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20TH CENTURY WOMEN</td>
<td>R (PG-13)</td>
<td>119 mins</td>
<td>Mike Mills</td>
<td>Annette Bening, Elle Fanning</td>
<td>The story of three women who explore love and freedom in Southern California during the late 1970s.</td>
<td>3/3-3/5</td>
<td>Friday 7:30; Saturday 4:00 &amp; 7:30; Sunday 7:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>A UNITED KINGDOM</td>
<td>PG-13</td>
<td>111 mins</td>
<td>Amma Asante</td>
<td>David Oyelowo, Rosamund Pike</td>
<td>Prince Seretse Khama of Botswana causes an international stir when he marries a white woman from London in the late 1940s.</td>
<td>3/24-3/26</td>
<td>Friday 7:30; Saturday 4:00 &amp; 7:30; Sunday 7:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>BEAUTY AND THE BEAST</td>
<td>PG</td>
<td>120 mins</td>
<td>Bill Condon</td>
<td>Dan Stevens, Emma Watson</td>
<td>An adaptation of the fairy tale about a monstrous-looking prince and a young woman who fall in love.</td>
<td>3/17-3/19</td>
<td>Friday 7:00; Saturday 4:00 &amp; 7:00; Sunday 2:00, 4:30 &amp; 7:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIFE</td>
<td>NOT YET RATED</td>
<td></td>
<td>Daniel Espinosa</td>
<td>Jake Gyllenhaal, Ryan Reynolds</td>
<td>An international space crew discovers life on Mars.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POWER RANGERS</td>
<td>PG-13</td>
<td>124 mins</td>
<td>Dean Israelite</td>
<td>Elizabeth Banks, Bryan Cranston</td>
<td>A group of high-school kids, who are infused with unique superpowers, harness their abilities in order to save the world.</td>
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</tbody>
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www.muralartgallery.org

Mountain Top Arboretum
www.mtarboretum.org

 Writers in the Mountains
www.writersinthemountains.org
Kaaterskill Fine Arts & Crafts Gallery & Bookstore Boutique 2017 Schedule

January 20–March 12 Creating Images: Photographs by Nancy Barton, Liz Hall-Dukin, & Carla Shapiro

March 17–May 7 Verges: The Paintings of Nancy Orr

May 12–July 9 The Portraits of Mark Tatus

July 15–September 10 Hudson River Review: Paintings & Drawings of Contemporary Hudson River Artists

September 15–November 5 Trees, an exhibit of paintings by Annie Borgenicht and photographs by Carla Shapiro

November 17–January 15 Annual Fine Arts & Crafts Holiday Show

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## MARCH 2017 MOVIES & EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- **CINEMA 2** - FOREIGN & INDEPENDENT FILMS AT THE DOCTOROW
- **CINEMAS 1 & 3** - HOLLYWOOD FILMS AT THE DOCTOROW
- **ORPHEUM** - HOLLYWOOD FILMS AT THE ORPHEUM
- **PERFORMANCES**
- **GALLERY EVENTS**
- **LITERARY EVENTS**

Schedule subject to change: please call 518 263 4702 or visit www.catskillmtn.org for the most up-to-date schedule. While there, sign up for e-mail updates so you can get the newest schedule delivered to your e-mail box each week!

### LA LA LAND
- **(F) MAR 3**
  - 7:00 PM
- **(ST) MAR 4**
  - 4:00 & 7:00 PM
- **(SU) MAR 5**
  - 2:00, 4:30 & 7:00 PM

### ALONE IN BERLIN
- **(F) MAR 3**
  - 7:15 PM
- **(ST) MAR 4**
  - 4:15 & 7:15 PM
- **(SU) MAR 5**
  - 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15 PM

### 20TH CENTURY WOMEN
- **(F) MAR 3**
  - 7:30 PM
- **(ST) MAR 4**
  - 4:00 & 7:30 PM
- **(SU) MAR 5**
  - 7:30 PM

### BETWEEN US
- **(F) MAR 10**
  - 7:15 PM
- **(ST) MAR 11**
  - 4:15 & 7:15 PM
- **(SU) MAR 12**
  - 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15 PM

### KONG: SKULL ISLAND
- **(F) MAR 10**
  - 7:30 PM
- **(ST) MAR 11**
  - 4:30 & 7:30 PM
- **(SU) MAR 12**
  - 2:30, 5:00 & 7:30 PM

### BEAUTY & THE BEAST
- **(F) MAR 17**
  - 7:00 PM
- **(ST) MAR 18**
  - 4:00 & 7:00 PM
- **(SU) MAR 19**
  - 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15 PM

### MY NAME IS EMILY
- **(F) MAR 17**
  - 7:15 PM
- **(ST) MAR 18**
  - 4:15 & 7:15 PM
- **(SU) MAR 19**
  - 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15 PM

### A GOOD AMERICAN
- **(F) MAR 24**
  - 7:15 PM
- **(ST) MAR 25**
  - OPENING RECEPTION: VERGES 1:00-3:00 PM
  - A GOOD AMERICAN 4:15 & 7:15 PM
  - A UNITED KINGDOM 4:00 & 7:00 PM
  - AN APPALACHIAN GATHERING 8:00 PM
- **(SU) MAR 26**
  - A GOOD AMERICAN 2:00, 4:30 & 7:00 PM
  - A UNITED KINGDOM 7:30 PM

### PELLE THE CONQUEROR
- **(F) MAR 31**
  - 7:15 PM
- **(ST) APR 1**
  - 4:15 & 7:15 PM
- **(SU) APR 2**
  - 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15 PM

### APPRENTICE
- **(F) APR 7**
  - 7:15 PM
- **(ST) APR 8**
  - ARTIST TALK WITH NANCY ORR 1:00-2:00 PM
  - APPRENTICE 4:15 & 7:15 PM
  - SWAN LAKE 8:00 PM
- **(SU) APR 9**
  - APPRENTICE 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15 PM

## WEEKLY CLASSES start June 28

### Basics & Beyond: June 28-August 30
- Susan Beecher, nationally recognized potter & teacher

### Clay for Seniors: June 28-August 30
- Susan Beecher

### WORKSHOPS start June 23

#### Learn, Refresh, Refine: June 23-25
- Susan Bogen, studio potter

#### Magnificent Mosaics: June 23-25
- Cynthia Fisher, award-winning mosaic artist

#### Sensational Salt Firing: June 30-July 2
- Susan Beecher

#### Strategies for Making Unique Pots: July 6-11
- Bede Clark, Professor of Art and potter

#### Preparing and Making with Paperclay: July 7-9
- Lisa Chicoyne, sculptor and ceramic artist

#### Exploring Earthenware: July 13-18
- Ben Carter, studio potter & workshop leader

#### Flashing & Fuming: Special Effects in Raku & Salt Firing: July 20-25
- Randy Brodnax & Don Ellis, master Raku potters

#### Earth, Air, (Salt) Fire & Water: July 27-August 1
- Alan Willoughby, retired Executive Director of the Perkins Center for the Arts

#### Chinese Brush Painting: July 29-30
- Linda Schultz, master painter

#### Altered Elegance: August 3-5
- Martha Grover, functional potter

#### The Allure of the Altered Pot: August 10-14
- Susan Beecher

#### Focus on Making: August 17-21
- Lorna Meaden, studio potter and workshop leader

#### Glorious Ash Glazes for Cone 6: August 24-29
- Richard Aerni, studio potter

For questions about courses, you may email Susan Beecher at beechers60@earthlink.net

Visit www.sugarmaples.org or call 518 263 2001 for more details, to request a brochure, to register or to make reservations for housing.
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Common Ground on the Mountain: A Concert of Folk, Bluegrass and Acoustic Music
Aztec Two-Step, Walt Michael, Professor Louie and the Crownmatix and Greg Dayton
Saturday, January 14 @ 8:00pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

Dom Flemons and Garland Jeffreys
Winter Celebration Concert
Saturday, February 18 @ 8:00pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

Crabgrass Puppet Theatre
“The Pirate, the Princess and the Pea”
Thursday, March 16 @ 4:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

SOLD OUT!

Sugarloaf Mountain: An Appalachian Gathering
Apollo’s Fire: The Cleveland Baroque Orchestra
Jeanette Sorrell, Director
Saturday, March 25 @ 8pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Russian National Ballet Theatre: “Swan Lake”
Saturday, April 8 @ 7:30pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

Lecture/Demonstration: “Beethoven, Schubert and the Anxiety of Influence”
Jeffrey Langford and Joanne Polk
Saturday, May 13 @ 2:00pm
Piano Performance Museum, Doctorow Center for the Arts

Chase Brock Experience
Residency: May 8 through May 20
Performance:
Saturday, May 20 @ 7:30pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center
Lecture: “The Care and Maintenance of Historical Pianos: Tuning, Repair and Conservation Questions—A Variety of Answers”
Richard Hester
Tuesday, June 13 @ 2:00pm
Piano Performance Museum
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Lecture: “Knowing the Score”
Malcolm Bilson
Saturday, June 17 @ 2:00pm
Piano Performance Museum
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Fortepiano Concert: Malcolm Bilson
Saturday, June 17 @ 8pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Next Generation Jazz Orchestra
Co-Presented by 23Arts Initiative and Catskill Mountain Foundation, in association with Monterey Jazz Festival
Saturday, June 24 @ 7:30pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

OMNY Taiko Drummers
With Grammy Award-Winning Taiko Master, Koji Nakamura
Sunday, July 2 @ 6:30pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

The 2017 Annual Benefit
Saturday, July 8 @ 6:00pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

National Dance Institute
Mountaintop Summer Residency Performance
Saturday, July 22 @ 7:00pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

Shai Wosner Solo Piano Concert
Saturday, July 29 @ 8:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Manhattan in the Mountains
Residency & Faculty Concert
Residency: July 24 through August 12
Faculty Concert: Saturday, August 5 @ 8:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Bumper Jacksons
Saturday, August 26, 2017 @ 8:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

The Fast Lane Eagles Tribute Band
Saturday, September 2 @ 7:30pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

Twyla Tharp Dance
Residency & Showcase of Works-in-Progress
Residency: August 14 through September 10
Showcase of Works-in-Progress:
Saturday, September 9 @ 7:30pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

Pushcart Players: “The Velveteen Rabbit Reborn”
Saturday, October 7, 3:30pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

The Sebastians: “Salzburg to Vienna in 100 Years: Biber to Mozart”
Saturday, November 25 @ 8:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

The Nutcracker
Friday, December 8 @ 7:30pm
Saturday, December 9 @ 2:00pm & 7:30pm
Sunday, December 10 @ 2:00pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

ALSO ON OUR STAGES

Christmas in April with Thornton Wilder
Two One-Act Plays: “The Long Christmas Dinner” & "Pullman Car Hiawatha"
Presented by The Kaaterskill Actors Theater
Directed by Jim Milton
Friday & Saturday, April 28 & 29 @ 7:00 pm
Sunday, April 30 @ 2:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Molière’s 17th Century Comic Masterpiece “Tartuffe”
Adapted and Directed by Jim Milton
Presented by Kaaterskill Actors Theater
Friday, October 20 & Saturday, October 21 @ 7:00pm
Sunday, October 22 @ 2:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Annual Holiday Musical
Presented by the Greene Room Players
Friday & Saturday, November 17 & 18 @ 7:30pm
Sunday, November 19 @ 2:00pm
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