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IN THIS ISSUE

4 A CATSKILLS WELCOME TO THE GRAF PIANO
   By Joan Oldknow & Sarah Taft

12 ART & POETRY BY RITA GENTILE

13 TODAY BUILDS TOMORROW:
   How to Build the Future We Want: The Fear Factor
   By Robert Tomlinson

14 VISIT WOODSTOCK

22 WELCOME HOME TO THE CATSKILL MOUNTAINS!

36 CHOIRS: Darla Bjork

40 CATSKILL MOUNTAIN REGION GUIDE
   PHOTOGRAPHY PORTFOLIO:
   Views Around Woodstock
   Photographs by Robert Hsu

46 A CHAT WITH BENEDETTA BARBARO:
   Chef/Owner, The Green Palate

47 A GREENE COUNTY GARDEN IN NOVEMBER
   By Margaret Donsbach Tomlinson

48 THE GREAT OUTDOORS IN THE CATSKILLS
   By Jeff Senterman

52 PAPER COLLAGE: Liz Innvar

54 DONATE TO THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION

56 PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS
A Catskills Welcome to the Graf Piano

The Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Piano Performance Museum in Hunter, NY is thrilled to announce the arrival of an original 1826 Conrad Graf Fortepiano, acquired from Edward Swenson, noted piano restorer and musicologist from Ithaca, NY. The arrival of this instrument signals a significant step forward in the Museum’s collection, curated by Steven E. Greenstein. Conrad Graf’s importance as a pianomaker in the history of the instrument cannot be overstated, and neither can the stellar reputation of his fortepianos amongst many of the most celebrated composers and musicians not just of the 19th century, but of the 20th and 21st centuries as well. It is also an instrument uniquely suited to playing 19th century music the way it was originally intended to be heard.

For professional pianists, playing the fortepiano is a personal, intimate, experience that can be enjoyed to its fullest extent at the Piano Performance Museum. The Graf’s presence in its new home will help introduce enthusiasts all over the world to the remarkable sound of an instrument that was celebrated by the Schumanns, the Mendelssohns, Beethoven, Chopin, and many others.

To celebrate the Graf’s arrival, Academy of Fortepiano Performance founders and faculty members Yi-heng Yang and Maria Rose will perform in a recital recorded at the Piano Performance Museum. The video recording of the performance will be intertwined with a prerecorded lecture by Edward Swenson, who spent two years restoring the Graf to its current condition. The performance will be available online on the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s YouTube and Facebook pages starting on November 28 at 7:30 pm. A live Q&A session will follow the performance on November 28. This event is free, but registration is required: visit catskillmtn.org to register.

The Fortepiano ... Is An Underdog?
Most audiences throughout the world are accustomed to hearing piano concerts played on modern pianos … they are indeed more prevalent, but the past several years has seen a steady growth in interest in the fortepiano in both the United States and in Europe. U.S. audiences are getting used to professional pianists playing on fortepianos in concert halls such as Carnegie Hall;
while European audiences are somewhat more familiar with the instrument, it’s still not a regular occurrence to hear it played on the concert stage.

For students in New York City and around modern piano institutions, the fortepiano is often an underdog, overshadowed by the modern piano. It is more common for conservatory students to study fortepiano as a supplement to their main studies, and a few of them get hooked.

About the Pianists ... And How They Came to Love the Fortepiano

Yi-heng Yang remembers how she started her journey in playing the fortepiano. Growing up in New Jersey, she started piano lessons at the age of 6, quickly moving on to recitals and competitions. After college, she became interested in playing fortepianos when she heard her roommate play the baroque violin and was drawn to the authentic sound produced by the fortepiano. She further explored the instrument’s possibilities as a doctoral student, when she took a course on fortepianos with Audrey Axinn at The Juilliard School of Music. She pursued further study on the fortepiano at the Amsterdam Conservatory, under the renowned Dutch fortepianist Stanley Hoogland.

Yi-heng discovered that, for her, playing music on a Mozart piano was revelatory. She compares the sounds of the Graf to paint colors: “At the Graf, a thousand colors are available to the pianist, versus just three colors in the standardized modern piano. The Graf has a range of imaginative possibilities and is responsive to the slightest touch by the pianist’s hand.”

Maria Rose agrees, adding that what is important to her is the way that the fortepiano can articulate. She says that “…the fortepiano was made for Romantic music. Just as in poetry—the articulation of a poem—every word is important and there is much more subtlety.”

Originally from The Netherlands, Maria started piano lessons at age 6 and later studied at the Conservatory. About 30 years ago, after moving to the United States, she encountered a copy of a Stein fortepiano, which she very much enjoyed playing. Maria then developed a long-lasting interest in the fortepiano, an interest that eventually connected her with Yi-heng.

When asked about dynamic markings for fortepiano music, both Yi-heng and Maria explained that the dynamics are freer than those on a modern piano. It is a language that one learns—the language of musicians at that time. The markings indicate the shared language that musicians used in the Romantic era. Schubert indicated many dynamic levels in his piano music, including triple ppp. On the Graf, there are different ways to play a triple ppp: not only by touch but also with either one of two pedals (the Graf has four pedals) that add hushed colors.

About Conrad Graf

Early in his career, Graf was frequently mentioned as the finest fortepiano builder in Vienna. His expensive instruments were purchased by wealthy European nobles, concert halls, monastery schools and churches. At an exhibition in Vienna in 1835, Graf was awarded a gold medal for the excellence of his instruments. They were praised for their solid construction, clarity, stable tuning, light touch and strength of tone. Graf never entrusted the shaping and leathering of the piano hammers to any of his workers. He was, after all, the son of a leather tanner. With that knowledge he manufactured hammers that produce a wide range of nuances, colors and shadings of tone. His innovations were copied by rival piano builders but only rarely matched. His instruments are ideal for the performance of music from the late Classic and early Romantic periods.

In fact, most key figures from the Romantic Era admired the Graf piano, and recognized the exceptional quality of the Conrad Graf’s artisanship. Gustav Mahler, Felix Mendelssohn and Ignaz Moscheles also played or owned Grafs. It has a Viennese action, with leather, not felt, on the hammers. The Graf is stronger and more powerful than earlier pianos, and has a rich sound.

Eventually I found a Graf piano that in sound and playability (Spielart) immensely appeals to me; that responds to the softest pianissimo as well as when I attack with full strength. It is also extremely attractive, so I wrote my name in it that it is for you. You will be pleased. It seems to me to be the best instrument I have played since England. Moreover, Graf is generally regarded here to be the best and is considered by all musicians as the first. The same is true in Leipzig and Berlin ...

—Felix Mendelssohn, in an 1830 letter to his friend Julius Schubring, for whom he was selecting a piano
In Vienna on November 10, 1835, the newspaper *Der Wanderer* reported about Conrad Graf’s international reputation: “Graf’s pianos are struck at the North Pole and fade away at the South Pole. In an elegant salon in Vienna, Graf’s piano is played to accompany Strauss waltzes, in North America a Quaker plays Graf’s instrument, and in Moscow John Field lulls icy humanity into cheerful, fluttering dreams. Even under the equator, ship’s passengers play on a Graf piano.”

Wars, floods, changes in taste and the ravages of time have led to the destruction of many of Graf’s instruments. He completed circa 3,000 fortepianos at his Viennese factory. Today only about 200 surviving instruments are documented. Then as now many pianist and composers regard him as one of the greatest piano builders of all time. Hopefully other surviving instruments will soon find the light of day.

The Restoration of the 1826 Graf Fortepiano
The story of how this particular instrument found the light of day gives us hope that somewhere, more of these treasures are laying in wait for their turn at restoration. Edward Swenson describes how he came to acquire this fortepiano, and how he restored it:

“In 2007 I bought Conrad Graf fortepiano opus 1389 in Stockholm, Sweden from Hans Jacob Waern, who acquired the instrument from members of the Heilborn family. Mr. Waern’s children took piano lessons using the Graf. The instrument was still in nearly original condition. The hammers had their original leather covers. The leather and Karsch dampers and the moderator were in excellent condition. When I flew to Stockholm to inspect the piano, I stayed with my Swedish cousin Staffan Elmgren. His apartment was only a few blocks from the Waern’s home. With Staffan’s help, I was able to buy the piano and ship it to the United States. The restoration of the Graf took two years. The lid of the instrument had been used as bar by the Waern family. Rings from alcoholic beverages had spoiled the original finish. It was clear that the entire instrument needed to be refinished using a traditional method called French polishing. The beauty of Conrad Graf’s cabinetry was eventually restored. During a restoration attempt in Sweden a local piano technician replaced the original strings and tuning pins. The original parts were lost. Modern, oversize tuning pins were driven into the pin block causing cracks in the wood. The original strings were replaced with modern steel music wire. [To restore] the strings and tuning pins, the modern strings and tuning pins were removed. The pin block was repaired by drilling slightly oversize holes in the block and plugging them with maple pin block material. The cracks and plugs were glued in place with thin epoxy. Fortunately, I had a set of tuning pins from an original Viennese fortepiano, that could not be restored, as replacements for use in the Graf. It was helpful that wire diameters for the original Graf strings were written on the bridge in Graf’s factory. The modern music wire was replaced with iron wire made in England by Malcolm Rose. The bass strings, overspun with brass, were made on a string lathe in my workshop.”

The result is a breathtaking instrument, both in terms of visual appeal and sound.

About Edward Swenson
Edward Swenson never dreamed his life would lead to the role of restorer of lost instruments; when he found his first Graf, he was searching church and monastery archives in Austria, hoping to find a copy of a lost work by Mozart or Haydn.

“During my junior year at Oberlin College, I participated in the Oberlin-in-Salzburg program, which sent the entire junior class of the conservatory of music to the Akademie Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. All of the Oberlin students were assigned an Austrian family. My Austrian mother was an English painter and a writer who was married to an elderly banker. They were interested in the arts and also very well connected. With their influence, I was fortunate to receive a letter of recommendation from the Archbishop of Salzburg. It allowed me to gain access to church and monastery collections of manuscript music. … While I was cataloging music in the archive of a monastery in Upper Austria, the abbot stopped by to greet me. On his way out, I also overheard him speak to one of the priests about an old, dilapidated piano that was resting on its side. ‘Let’s get rid of that old instrument, it’s just in the way.’ I went over to look at the piano and
realized I had never seen anything like it. It had leather hammers and an unusual mechanism. I asked the abbot if I could buy the instrument. Fortunately, a truck from Salzburg had just made a delivery to the monastery. I paid the driver to take the piano back to Salzburg, where my Austrian family stored it until I was able to have it shipped to the United States. The inlaid inscription on the instrument’s nameboard read: ‘Conrad Graf in Wien. I had never heard of him.’

Years later, Ed Swenson is recognized as one of the foremost piano restorers in the world. In addition to a fine career as a piano technician and restorer, Ed is a scholar of the history of the Graf piano and is a known lecturer on the subject.

Having spent many years restoring the Graf to beautiful playing condition, Ed has a deep personal relationship with the instrument. It is wonderful that the Graf’s new home will be in New York State, within driving distance to Ed’s home. Ed’s lecture, which will be interspersed between pieces during the recital, will add context and history to the music performed by Yi-heng and Maria.

A Catskills Welcome to the Graf Piano

For the recital at the piano museum, Yi-heng will play late Beethoven Bagatelles, Opus 126, which fit well with the composer’s late style. While not written specifically for the Graf piano, the Bagatelles make use of the contrast, capriciousness and the color of the Graf. The sound is ephemeral and transcendent, with many shadings and subtleties. She also plans to play some Vorisek impromptus, which bring out the charm and delicacy of the Graf.

Yi-heng has recorded Mendelssohn’s Violin Sonatas on this Graf piano with the talented violinist Abby Karr on the Olde Focus label. She has spent many, many hours playing this particular piano, and it is one of her favorites. Ed Swenson worked with Yi-heng during her recording sessions on the Graf.

Maria will play a Schubert sonata to highlight the unique sounds of the
Graf. Schubert was a contemporary of Conrad Graf. In 1808, the 11-year-old Schubert already practiced on Graf’s pianos at the latter’s workshop in a suburb of Vienna. He didn’t own a Graf piano, due to the fact that he was very poor, but the Graf’s pianos remain to this day inextricably linked with Schubert’s piano music as they match each other so well in warmth, clarity and colorfulness. Maria will also play two Romances by Clara Schumann. Clara received a Graf piano from her husband, Robert Schumann.

Yi-heng and Maria are pleased to offer this music, especially now in these hard times. Yi-heng says that in performing on the fortepiano, the pianist is re-creating the music, expressing music as it was played and heard at that time. It is universal. Beyond being one of her favorite instruments, playing fortepiano is one of the best things she gets to do, especially now in these hard times. With the recent passing of her brother, Yi-heng will play the Graf in his memory.

Maria added, “We need music for solace. Schubert endured incredible suffering. Instruments are our teachers and we listen to them. They all have stories to tell.”

The Academy of Fortepiano Performance
The Academy of Fortepiano Performance was co-founded by Audrey Axinn, Maria Rose, and Yi-heng Yang in 2017. The three women had previously connected due to their mutual love of the fortepiano and their shared connections in the fortepiano world. It was only when Maria discovered the Piano Performance Museum, though, that the idea to start a workshop and festival in Hunter arose.

When Maria moved to the Catskills, she inherited a grand piano from her mother that needed some special care. In her search for a humidifier system for the piano, Maria met Steven Greenstein, who told her about his piano collection at the Piano Performance Museum in Hunter. When she saw the museum, Maria was inspired to start some type of workshop there.

She met with Pam Weisberg, Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Director of Performing Arts, who was an enthusiastic supporter of the idea of a fortepiano residency. Maria was excited to have met Pam and called Yi-heng to ask her to join the workshop and both thought it would be great if Audrey could join them. That was the beginning of the Academy of Fortepiano Performance.

The mission is to provide an inspiring and practical immersion into the world of historical performance for students, professionals, amateurs, and audiences.

The Academy is open to students, professionals, and adult amateurs. Advanced high school students are welcome with a parent or chaperone. Auditors are welcome for all events.

Maria feels it’s important that the fortepiano is the main focus for the students who come to Hunter for the Academy of Fortepiano Performance residency. In addition to the fortepianos...
NOW OPEN BY APPOINTMENT!

The Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Piano Performance Museum reopens to the public on Fridays and Saturdays, from 11am to 3pm by appointment only. Please call the CMF Reservation Line at 518 263 2063, to make an appointment to visit the museum. We will return your call as soon as possible to confirm your appointment.

The docent tour is approximately 30 minutes. Appointments are available for a maximum of three people at a time. Masks are required and temperatures will be recorded at the door and visitors will be asked to answer a short questionnaire related to Covid 19. During the pandemic, visitors will be asked not to touch the pianos or other artifacts on display in the museum. CMF staff have established healthful guidelines for your visit to the museum to provide as safe an environment as possible for visitors and staff. We welcome you and look forward to showing you our extraordinary collection of historical pianos from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

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Please call 518 263 2063 to request an appointment

The CMF Piano Performance Museum is funded in part by the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation
in the collection of the Piano Performance Museum ... now includ- ing the Graf ... Maria, Yi-heng, and Audrey supplement the Piano Collection with their own instruments for the workshop. It takes an enormous effort to transport these pianos, but well worth the effort. At some of their concerts they had four or five different pianos on the stage, displaying the range of sound and develop- ment of the fortepiano.

International Fortepiano Salons
Starting in January, 2021, Maria and Yi-heng, along with Audrey Axinn, plan to curate six online “International Fortepiano Salons” as part of an Academy of Fortepiano Performance series. Featur- ing special guests from Europe, China, Switzerland and America, each artist will talk about their work and show their collection. Drawn from the international community of fortepiano lovers, each guest will share their love of playing fortepiano. In addition, each Salon will feature an “open mic” time where early keyboard students and amateurs can perform something online for the community, from their own home. COVID-19 created the need, Zoom makes it possible and Academy of Fortepiano Performance makes it happen. The audience can be comfortable at home, connect with international artists and collections, and enjoy live performance. Anyone interested in performing can e-mail academyfortepianoinfo@gmail.com.

About the Piano Performance Museum
The goal of the Piano Performance Museum is to provide visual, audio, and educational programs documenting the musical his- tory and technical development of the piano, an essential instru- ment in performance, accompaniment, and composition. After all, no musical education is complete without understanding the piano's important role in musical development.

The collection includes early and modern keyboard instru- ments including European historic pianos, as well as American pianos built in the 18th and 19th centuries. The collection shows the development of the instrument from the small piano- forte, built for use in private homes and salons, to the modern piano, built for large concert halls. The collection also includes tuning tools and repair kits, some 200 years old, leather- wrapped with a place for each tool; tuning forks, hammers— everything that would allow a technician to bring a piano back to maximum performance standards. The piano collection was created by Steven E. Greenstein, who serves as the Curator of the Museum.

The Piano Performance Museum is open to the public by appointment only on Fridays and Saturdays from 11 am to 3 pm: please call 518 263 2063 to request an appointment.

To Register for the Performance
A Catskills Welcome to the Graf Piano, featuring a recital by Yi-heng Yang and Maria Rose and an accompanying lecture by Ed Swenson, will be available online on the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s YouTube and Facebook pages starting on November 28 at 7:30 pm. A live Q&A session will follow the performance. This event is free, but registration is required: visit catskillmtn.org to register.
We are thrilled to announce the acquisition of an original 1826 Graf Fortepiano, restored by Ed Swenson, as a new addition to the Piano Performance Museum collection.

A Lecture/Recital Featuring works by Beethoven, Vorisek, Schubert, and Clara Schumann

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UNTITLED
(in response to reading TANKA poems)

Sentiments evoked by crickets chirping
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And soon it is fraught with sadness
Until compassionate non-judgement
Amends the frays and tears in the cloth.
The system grows soft, then hard;
The eyes are opened, and then they are shut.

—Rita Gentile
“None of us has enough mental capacity to consume all the information out there. The question is, what part are we processing and how did it get selected? And what part are we ignoring? The kind of information we seem most likely to process is stories: information that sounds dramatic.

“Imagine that we have a shield, or attention filter, between the world and our brain. This attention filter protects us against the noise of the world: without it we would be constantly bombarded with so much information we would be overloaded and paralyzed. Then imagine that the attention filter has instinct-shaped holes in it—gap, negativity, straight line and so on. Most information doesn’t get through, but the holes do allow through information that appeals to our dramatic instincts. So we end up paying attention to information that fits our dramatic instincts, and ignoring information that does not.

“The media can’t waste time on stories that won’t pass our attention filters….

“For the first time in world history, data exist for almost every aspect of global development. And yet, because of our dramatic instincts and the way the media must tap into them to grab our attention, we continue to have an overdramatic world view. Of all our dramatic instincts, it seems to be the fear instinct that most strongly influences what information gets selected and presented to us consumers.

**Here are some facts:**

- In the last 20 years, the proportion of the world population living in extreme poverty has almost halved.
- 80% of the world’s 1-year-old children have been vaccinated against some diseases.
- In 1996 tigers, giant pandas and black rhinos were all listed as endangered. None of them are today.”

Fear does not enhance our world view, it degrades it. We are capable of making less dramatic, more rational decisions that will help us to build the kind of tomorrow that we want to live. We are capable of empowering ourselves to make our lives better, the planet healthier and the future safer. It is the little things that collectively become bigger things that can actually make a difference: dryer balls for reducing the amount of time you run your dryer, bamboo thermoses instead of plastic water bottles, using cleaning products that don’t harm the earth we live on, recycling and composting, etc. These things matter and so do you!

—RT

*HOW TO BUILD THE FUTURE WE WANT: THE FEAR FACTOR*

*By Robert Tomlinson*
Just say the name “Woodstock,” and most folks will get a faraway dreamy look in their eyes. The very name calls up a wistful nostalgia for the 1960s, whether or not you’re even old enough to have lived in the decade. Peace and love, tie-dye, hippies, drum circles … many people know “America’s most famous small town” as the place that inspired the iconic 1969 music festival that bears its name. Yes, Bob Dylan and members of The Band lived and recorded here, as did many other musical icons from the ’60s. But did you also know that Woodstock’s association with the arts goes way, way back, to the 1900s? In 1902, writer Hervey White, along with Ralph Whitehead and Bolton Brown, founded the Byrdcliffe Arts Colony as a utopian community of writers, painters, musicians … artists of all kinds. It was at Byrdcliffe that the first Maverick Festivals were held: raucous bacchanalian parties that celebrated the arts; these Festivals planted the roots of famous 1969 Music Festival.

And in 1916, Hervey started sponsoring summer chamber music concerts under the stars: 104 years later, Maverick Concerts is the oldest, continuous summer chamber music festival in America. To this day, Woodstock continues its tradition of hosting festivals that celebrate the arts, and the streets are lined with galleries, shops featuring locally made crafts, music venues, theaters … there’s something going on just about every weekend.

It’s a beautiful thing, seeing a town that not only embraces its history but builds and grows upon it. And every day welcomes visitors to share their own artistic visions, helping to shape its future. Yes, the peace and love, tie-dye, and hippies are all still there! And the drum circle every Sunday on the Village Green is a hoot—don’t miss it!

For more information about the area, visit woodstockchamber.com or woodstockguide.com.
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A 1st floor master suite features a private covered porch with views of Overlook. Plus, 2nd master suite and office/den on the 2nd floor. The basement boasts a game room w/bar and a den. This mini estate has the whimsical Fountainkill Stream with its striking gorge, rock formations and mini falls running through the lush property. In addition, there are blue-stone trails through out for walking, hiking, horseback riding, ATV's and snowmobiling. This is one of the few properties in Woodstock that has a clear shot of the iconic Overlook Mountain. Plus, a detached 3 car garage and a 2 story Amish barn with climate control, radiant heat and central air with a finished studio on the 2nd floor. 2 hrs. to NYC.

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Nested on the side of a mountain with winter views of the stream and mountain ranges. This romantic getaway is ideal for full time or weekend use. Only 7 min. to the village and 5 minutes to the Tibetan Monastery. Fishing, skiing, hiking trails, restaurants and a well-established health food store make this one of the best locations in Woodstock. Built in 1850, the owners have retained all the original charm and wide board pine floors. The early chestnut beams were exposed in the vaulted ceiling in the LR and used as the mantle for the stone fireplace. The fireplace in the family room is an original and was used for cooking. This room could easily be used for the formal DR. The DR could be converted to a 3rd BR with simple construction.

KINGSTON COMMERCIAL 845-339-9999
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SAUGERTIES 845-246-3300
CATSKILL 518-800-9999

PHOENICIA 845-688-2929
WOODSTOCK TINKER 845-679-9444
WOODSTOCK OLD FORGE 845-679-2928

WWW.WINMORRISONREALTY.COM
LILY’S BOUTIQUE
24 Tinker Street
lilyswoodstockny.com
Facebook: @lilyswoodstock
Instagram: @tinystainkerlilys
845 679 6470
Lily’s Boutique has been in Woodstock for 25 years! We keep evolving to stay fresh and fun! We are now offering handcrafted cozy cotton reversible quilts, beautiful tablecloths, napkins, rag rugs and embroidered pillows for your home. Great gift items for all special occasions! Luscious warm socks, scarves, hats, sweaters, leggings, jewels, local skincare, yummy chocolates, local designers and fun childrenswear! Lily’s always has a fantastic line of partywear! So if you want to look and feel fantastic, come to Lily’s and treat yourself!

LITTLE APPLE CAFE
21 Tinker Street
littleapplelove.com
845 684 5605
Our cold pressed juices are RAW, WHOLE, FRESH and delicious! They are loaded with all the enzymes and nutrients that your body craves and requires to function at its best. Our juices were carefully crafted to offer the most incredible and delicious blends of fruits and vegetables. From the truly green “Green Lemonade” to the sweet and tangy “Super Detox,” our juices are free of all preservatives and chemicals and are loaded with flavor, vitamins and nutrients. Our menu includes cold pressed juices and cleanses, superfood smoothies, acai and smoothie bowls, fresh fruit cocktails, specialty toasts, salads, wraps and sandwiches. Our focus is to get people of all ages eating healthier as well as having a better understanding of how important it is to live a healthy lifestyle. Our delicious cold pressed juices, acai bowls and superfood smoothies are proof that eating healthy can be not only beneficial, but also enjoyable!

ULSTER SAVINGS BANK
68 Mill Hill Road
ATM and Drive-Through available
ulstersavings.com
845 679 8434
Ulster Savings Bank is a locally focused and operated mutual savings bank, with locations throughout the Hudson Valley. We don’t have stockholders. Our profits are reinvested back into the communities we serve. We are proud to be the recipient of numerous community awards reflecting our belief that helping community changes lives. We invite you to stop by our location in historic Woodstock and experience the local difference with US.
VINTAGE MODERN
70 Tinker Street
917 903 3153
We opened our store almost seven years ago and we are still here, sanitized and safe! We want to thank our customers for making this a very successful fall season so far. The Holiday season is upon us … Come browse our nice collection of mid-century furnishings, lighting, antique metal toys and arts and crafts pottery. Lots of fabulous wall art as well … some from very well listed artists who spent time as part of the Woodstock arts community. Fall and winter hours are Friday through Sunday, 11 am to 4 pm or by appointment. Happy Holidays!

WIN MORRISON REALTY
5 Tinker Street
845 679 9444
2 Old Forge Drive
845 679 2929
winmorrisonrealty.com
At Win Morrison Realty we listen to your wants and needs while assisting you to make them a reality. We pride ourselves on being the largest and most respected real estate company in the Hudson Valley. Whether it is a weekend retreat, mansion, land, commercial property or business, our experienced agents will assist you every step of the way. We have seven offices located throughout the Hudson Valley and a team of over 100 real estate professionals. We are members of numerous MLS (Multiple Listing Services) to serve you, from New York City to the Adirondacks. Please stop in or call any of our offices … we are here to serve you.

WOODSTOCK ART EXCHANGE
and
Pablo Glass Studio
HOT GLASS • COOL ART
AWESOME GIFTS
1396 Route 28
West Hurley, NY 12491
Open weekends 11 – 6
For weekday hours, drop by or call 646.256.9688
Woodsock offers a thoughtfully curated collection of funny, silly, irreverent and beautiful socks. Add some color and levity to your look or pick out the perfect gift for everyone on your list. Our selection includes premium organic cotton, merino wool and bamboo socks. Just say NO to ordinary socks!

Woodstock Art Exchange is an exciting gift shop and gallery featuring one-of-a-kind handmade gifts, handblown glass, and fine art. Located on Route 28 in West Hurley, there’s something great for everyone, and at every price point. Open weekends from 11 am to 6 pm; for weekday hours, drop by or call us.

THE WOODSTOCK PUB
17 Mill Hill Road
845 684 5470
Facebook: TheWoodstockPub
Occupying the site of the former Landau Grill (and before that, the original Woodstock Pub), the new Woodstock Pub opened this past spring after extensive renovations. New owners Chris Constant, James Constant, and Jennifer Ahearn grew up in Woodstock and bought the old drinking hole just after Thanksgiving of last year. The new Woodstock Pub serves “Pub fare with a Mediterranean flair,” with special Greek and Italian nights in honor of their heritages. Pub fare, soups, salads, burgers and sandwiches. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options. Patio dining and special comedy and trivia nights!

EvolveD INTERIORS
86-88 MILL HILL ROAD
WOODSTOCK NEW YORK
o. 845 679 9970
mari@evolvedinteriors.com

Lily’s Boutique
Open Every Day!
11-6 on weekdays • 11-7 on weekends
24 Tinker St, Woodstock NY 12498
Phone: 845-679-6470 · Web: lilywoodstockny.com
Email: lilywoodstockny@gmail.com
LinkedIn: lilywoodstock2 · tinytainerlily
nights. Their Sweet Chili Cauliflower Wings were the winner of the 2019 Taste of Woodstock for Best Side Dish!

WOODSTOCK WAY
10 Waterfall Way
woodstockway.com
845 684 5911
Woodstock Way Hotel is the legendary town’s signature hospitality destination. With deep roots in the community, music scene and the arts colony that put Woodstock on the map, we marry Woodstock's counter-culture spirit and energy with a modern expression of rustic-but-very-chic style. The sound of water can be heard anywhere on our property as the Tannery Brook Waterfall cascades at the edge of the property and fills the brook that flows through our land. Native trees flourish, including the hemlocks that once were stripped of their bark for the use at the tannery that once existed here on site in the 1800s. Woodstock Way was developed in harmony with its environment and its storied past. The reenergized property was built with reclaimed woods, living roof systems, bio retention ponds and high-efficiency, low carbon footprint materials.

Located just steps from the town center, a new generation of travelers can experience Woodstock's authenticity by leaving the stress of everyday life behind, allowing themselves to relax into the energy that is Woodstock.

WOODSTOCK WINE & LIQUORS
63 Tinker Street
woodstockwineandliquors.com
845 679 6577
The only boutique wine store in the heart of Woodstock. Mary Federoff, proprietor, has been selling and tasting wines from all over the world for 40 years! She personally tastes the wines before they are presented to you. Her extensive traveling and experienced palate have brought distinctive wines from around the world to the Catskills in the Hudson Valley. Her staff is knowledgeable and helpful. It is their mission to introduce something new to your palate that will make you fall in love with and/or be as excited as they are about the incredible art of pure magic in a glass! The selection is large and expansive, and with their help you’re sure to find that perfect wine for your palate and price point.

Woodstock Wine & Liquors
mary federoff
owner/proprietor
63 Tinker Street
Woodstock, New York, 12498
phone 845-679-2569
fax 845-679-6577
Mary@woodstockwineandliquors.com
woodstockwineandliquors.com
COVID-19 has changed the population of the Catskill Mountains, as more folks seeking peace and quiet have retreated upstate. Whether you and your family have lived here for generations, decades or just months, November is the perfect time to come home and explore the beauty and possibilities the Catskill Mountains have to offer.

These businesses are excited to serve you again. Please call ahead or visit websites for restricted hours or social distancing policies. Support local businesses!

WELCOME HOME TO THE CATSKILL MOUNTAINS

ATTRACTIONS & THE ARTS

Catskill Interpretive Center
5096 State Route 28
Mt. Tremper, NY 12457
CatskillInterpretiveCenter.org
845 688 3369
Before you embark on any adventure in the Catskills, be sure to stop at the Park’s official Visitor Center, the Maurice D. Hinchey Catskill Interpretive Center! The Catskill Interpretive Center is your gateway to Catskills, where you can learn about the vast outdoor recreational opportunities in the area as well as discover Catskills communities and rich cultural and natural history. The Catskill Interpretive Center is now open for phone consultations and for drive-up information.

Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Kaaterskill Fine Arts Gallery
Hunter Village Square
7950 Main Street
Hunter, NY 12442
catskillmtn.org
518 263 2060
Kaaterskill Fine Arts gallery has over 1,000 square feet of light-filled exhibition space. We support local and regional artists, featuring their works in solo and thematically grouped shows. On view through November 7: Paper Collage by Liz Innvar. On view November 14 through December 26: Choirs by Darla Bjork. Exhibition hours are Saturday from 11 am to 6 pm, or by appointment; please call 518 263 2060 to schedule an appointment.
Vidbel Mountain Homestead
149 Siam Road
Windham, NY 12496
vidbelmountainhomestead.com
508 208 9447
We offer animal interactions, pony rides, pony parties, petting farm, children’s horsemanship lessons, nature walks with animals, and customized animal encounters. We offer private visits, presentations and parties. No matter the season, the view and the animals are always beautiful.

Thorpe’s GMC
5964 Main Street
Tannersville, NY 12485
thorpesgmcinc.com
518 589 7142
Thorpe’s unmatched service and diverse GMC inventory have set them apart as the preferred dealer in Tannersville. With a full-service team of sales and service professionals, visit them today to discover why they have the best reputation in the area. They offer one of the largest GMC inventories in New York, and their trained sales staff will help you every step of the way during your shopping experience.

Augustine Nursery
Route 9W & Van Kleecks Lane
Kingston, NY 12401
AugustineNursery.com
845 338 4936
We’ve been creating landscapes of distinction throughout the Hudson Valley since 1974. We started small in our hometown of Kingston. Today, Augustine Nursery has grown to become one of the leading residential and commercial landscape design firms and the “nursery of choice” among high-end landscape architects, independent contractors and discerning homeowners. We offer a stunning selection of larger scale, estate-grade trees, shrubs and plants. There are hundreds of varieties, ranging from the most popular to the new and emerging. We also offer a full menu of nursery services, from planning and design to installation and dress finish for greenscapes, hardscapes and irrigation.
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518 734 9100
Best Hot Tubs Windham store is serves the Hunter/Windham, NY and entire Mountain Top area, including the nearby ski resorts at Hunter, Windham and Belleayre. You will find the right hot tub for your lifestyle and all the accessories you need to make your summer and winter spa experience perfect. Bullfrog Spas are the only hot tubs personalized just for you with a complete array of unique, interchangeable JetPaks. Best Hot Tubs can help you design your perfect backyard and select the right Bullfrog Spa to feature, along with many other products and services.

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N&S Supply is your one-stop resource for all your plumbing, heating and HVAC needs; Whether it’s an oil or gas burner, electric or gas water heater, furnace, toilet, faucet or custom shower, our service parts counters or our beautiful Bath Classics Showrooms will have what you
need. We carry complete product lines, including all the accessories needed for any installation, with dependable, on-time delivery service available. We provide everything you would expect from a full-service distributor, including specialty products designed and manufactured to meet your needs and lifestyle. Contact us today and learn more about how we can provide the best solutions for you.

Or, visit us at one of our full service locations throughout the Hudson Valley including Fishkill, Brewster, Kingston, Catskill, and Hudson, NY; and Danbury, CT and N&S Bath Classic Showrooms in Fishkill. Brewster, Kingston, and Catskill, NY.

Story's Nursery
4265 NY-67
Freehold, NY 12431
storysnursery.com
518 634 7754
Support your community and shop local this Holiday Season! Avoid the hustle and bustle and enjoy the relaxing atmosphere at Story’s Nursery in Freehold, NY. Hand crafted products by local artisans and unique gifts for everyone on your list, not just gardeners. Beautifully decorated wreathes, centerpieces, kissing balls and boxwood trees are made on the premises. Canadian grown balsam trees, a variety of greenery and decorating supplies make for a one stop shopping experience.

HOTELS & INNS

Greenville Arms
11135 State Route 32
Greenville, NY 12083
518 966 5219
greenvillearms.com
Originally built in 1889, our historically registered Inn is situated on six acres of gardens, lawns, and woodlands. The Queen Anne Revival-style main house, renovated Carriage House, and recently constructed Cottage building are host to 16 guest rooms open year-round to guests. Every guest room is uniquely decorated with a blend of antiques and modern amenities. A hot, cooked-to-order breakfast is included with each room.

Windham Manor
1161 County Route 10
windhammanor.com
518 944 1448
Windham Manor is the perfect venue for your next big celebration, corporate gathering, family gathering, or weekend getaway. The spectacular 45-acre property features a beautiful, newly-renovated 12 bedroom Victorian mansion with picturesque wrap-around porches and breathtaking views, as well as a newly constructed luxury barn which can accommodate 300+ guests for dinner and dancing.
Diamond Mills Hotel
25 S Partition Street
Saugerties, NY 12477
DiamondMillsHotel.com
845 247 0700
Diamond Mills is a Luxury Boutique Hotel, a Contemporary American Restaurant and Special Event Center located in the historic Village of Saugerties, New York. Nestled between the mighty Hudson River and the majestic Catskill Mountains, Diamond Mills offers a hotel and culinary celebratory experience like no other in the region. Guests who visit Diamond Mills are welcome to enjoy some of the many activities our region has to offer including hiking, farm and wine touring, antiquing, kayaking, waterfalls/swimming holes, skiing, and other outdoor adventures. Saugerties is host to the famous Garlic Festival and HITS Horse Shows as well as home to some of the most scenic and rustic Pick Your Own apple orchards. Located just 10 miles from Woodstock and a short drive to Rhinebeck, Tivoli, Kingston, Phoenicia, and Hudson, Diamond Mills is the perfect destination getaway.

The Emerson Resort & Spa
5340 Route 28
Mt. Tremper, NY 12457
emersonresort.com
845 688 2828
The Emerson Resort & Spa is a hidden treasure surrounded by the splendor of the Catskill Mountains. With spacious accommodations in the contemporary Inn and Adirondack-style Lodge, Emerson guests enjoy our nature-inspired Spa, Catskill creative cooking in our signature restaurant Woodnotes Grille, shopping in the Country Stores and the World’s Largest Kaleidoscope. The Emerson is an idyllic location for group events and weddings. Dogs are welcome.

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At Coldwell Banker Timberland Properties we provide the respected name, the systems, the tools, the support, the management and atmosphere to help people to accom-
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**Gallagher & Company**

6 Mitchell Hollow Road  
gallagherandcompany.com  
518 734 3300

In a market where homes are widely diverse in style, size and value, making a decision on how to list your property requires a team effort from a group of experienced real estate professionals. If you are interested in selling your home or commercial property please call us to request a consultation.

**Gordon Hunter Mountain Realty**

6528 Route 23A  
Hunter, NY 12442  
gordonrealty.com  
518 589 9000

Gordon Hunter Mountain Realty, LLC is one of the prime real estate professionals in Hunter. They are dedicated to serving you when you’re looking for property in Upstate New York and Northern Catskill Mountains. Their staff specializes in many different types of properties near Hunter Mountain and Windham Mountain ski resorts.

**Grist Mill Real Estate**

265 Main Street  
Saugerties, NY 12442  
gristmillrealestate.com  
845 246 3200

Our real estate office in the heart of the historic village of Saugerties is highly regarded by clients and customers alike, known for their strong market expertise, exemplary individual service, and an enviable familiarity with what makes Saugerties and the surrounding area such a desirable place to live. Although we serve our local community, our largest sales market is NYC, and more recently primary homes for residents from Orange, Westchester, Rockland, and Dutchess Counties. Established in 1974 Grist Mill Real Estate is proud to provide experienced service to our buyers and sellers. Knowledge of the Saugerties market in particular is the most important service we offer our customers.

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www.nesteggshop.com
For the past 35 years, this full-service Italian restaurant has offered great food and impeccable service. Come and share wonderful memories with your loved ones as we fill your table with delicious Italian cuisine that will definitely satisfy your cravings and warm your soul. Born and raised in Southern Italy, owner Louis Caracciolo has mastered the art of Italian cookery. We guarantee that we know the perfect formula to capture the rich flavor of your favorite Italian dishes. Every Wednesday is Pasta Night!

Chef Deanna has been on the cutting edge of the sustainable food industry for over fifteen years. This journey has led her to a tiny bucolic farming town of Bovina NY, where she is surrounded by farmers and local food makers. Chef Deanna lovingly creates beautiful dishes using her Sicilian heritage and her love of everything sweet and savory.

Hunter Mountain Brewery is now open for indoor and outdoor dining. With a full spacious outdoor deck we can accommodate our guest while practicing social distancing. Our full menu is available along with our popular authentic Indian dishes. Every Thursday we have a Sushi pop up restaurant. We have a pet friendly deck...plus a special dog menu! 20 craft beers are on tap, including 13 of our own craft brews.

Restaurant and Lodge is a warm and comfy restaurant and lodge that features a delicious menu of rustic American style cuisine with locally sourced ingredients from the beautiful offerings of the Catskills. Overnight accommodations are also available in the cozy private guest rooms overlooking the scenic views of Hunter Mountain.

Hunter Village Wines & Liquors has been Elevated! We’re always expanding our selection of traditional, organic, biodynamic, and natural wines, plus bartender-selected spirits including single village mezcals and small batch bourbons. From Barefoot Chardonnay to Cru Beaujolais, from Fireball to Fred #5. A wine & spirits shop for anyone at any budget. Lots of local spirits too.
Olives Country Store & Cafe
3110 State Route 28
Shokan, NY 12481
olivescountrystoreandcafe.com
845 657 8959

Olives is the place to stop on the way up the mountain for your coffee & fresh made to order breakfast, to take with you or eat in the Café, for your travel back home and Late Lunch on the way down the mountain, clean rest rooms, Mobil Gas & Diesel, and our unique Catskill Mountain & Ashokan Reservoir logo merchandise along with the expanded one-of-a-kind Gift Shop. Awarded the 2018 Ulster County Small Business of Year!

Pancho Villa's Mexican Restaurant
6037 Main Street
Tannersville, NY 12485
panchovillamex.com
518 589 5134

The Best Mexican Food this side of the Border! Pancho Villa’s is owned and operated by the Oscar and Patricia Azcue family. They have been proudly serving authentic Mexican food on Main Street in Tannersville since 1992. Rooted in tradition, their passion is sharing great food and good company. All of the traditional Mexican favorites are served here, from enchiladas and burritos to chimichangas and flautas...plus great margaritas and daiquiris! Open every day except Tuesday.

Phoenicia Market & Delicatessen
46 Main Street
Phoenicia, NY 12464
845 688 5125

This deli is the best kept secret in the Catskills! For many years, vacationers have come to Phoenicia, a little paradise in the heart of the Catskill Mountains. When they arrive, they encounter a unique Deli with a Continental flavor. Phoenicia Delicatessen sells cold cuts from Schaller and Weber, baked goods from Deisings in Kingston, and German Specialties like Asbach, Reber, Lindt, Knorr, Maggi, Panni, Hero, Apple Herring Specialties and owner Margarete Nolte’s own Calamondin Marmalade.

Pure Catskills
purecatskills.com

Your one-stop source for where to eat, drink, shop, stay and play in the Catskills! This publication and website showcase over 310 farm and forest-based businesses, restaurants, local artisans, other nonprofit organizations, activities and accommodations located throughout Delaware, Greene, Schoharie, Sullivan, Otsego, and Ulster Counties. Buying locally, knowing the source of your food, and committing to supporting local farm and food businesses is no longer a trend—it is a lifestyle. One of the greatest strengths of the Catskill Region is the diversity of products being grown, produced and raised by our local farm and food producers.

The Roost
3542 Main Street
Stone Ridge, NY 12484
845 687 0022
therooststoneridge.com

Fresh handmade cooking, served all day. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. For breakfast: eggs & omelets, yogurt, hash and skillet dishes, pancakes, french toast. For lunch and dinner: soups and salads, quiches, sandwiches. Great burgers and fries! Vegetarian and vegan options available. Craft beer on tap. Daily specials.

The Tavern at Diamond Mills
25 S Partition Street
Saugerties, NY 12477
DiamondMillsHotel.com
845 247 0700

Recognized for its world class cuisine, Diamond Mills Tavern sets the standard. Located in Saugerties, NY, south of the Catskill Mountains where the Esopus Creek meets the Hudson River, The Tavern at Diamond Mills is truly the Hudson Valley’s hidden gem. Dine al fresco on the covered terrace or cozy up in a booth in our atrium style dining room. Whatever you choose, The Tavern will deliver an experience that will have you coming back time and again.

Town & Country Liquors
330 Route 12
Saugerties, NY 12477
townandcountryliquorstore.com
845 246 8931

Over the years our selection of wines and spirits has developed into the best in the Hudson Valley. Our friendly helpful staff is here to assist
you in finding the right beverage: we have a huge selection of wines and spirits from all over the world. In-store service is available, and pre-call curb-side service is encouraged. Please see our inventory online.

Woodnotes Grille at the Emerson Resort & Spa
5340 Route 28
Mt. Tremper, NY 12457
emersonresort.com
845 688 2828, option 6
Woodnotes Grille features food you know done our way with fresh local ingredients, unforgettable flavors that hone in on the local spirit, and handcrafted cocktails that are an experience as well as a drink. We give classic entrees and your favorite drinks a little spin by adding native ingredients and innovative twists.

Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Kaaterskill Shoppe
6042 Main Street
Tannersville, NY 12485
catskillmtn.org
518 589 7500
Located next door to the Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center, our shoppe features a curated selection of books and gifts from around the Region and around the world. Open Friday through Sunday from 11 am to 6 pm, with special shopping hours for seniors and the immune-compromised from 11 am to noon on Fridays.
Kenco
1000 Hurley Mountain Rd.
Kingston, NY 12401
atkenco.com
845 340 0552
A locally owned and operated family business, Kenco’s doors first opened in 1982, and is committed to the proposition that hard workers need clothing and gear to match their ambition. Since then we have applied the same principle and grown to include clothing and footwear for working, outdoor adventure, and casual Catskill living. Kenco is the place to go to for knowledge and gear for your next outdoor Catskills adventure.

Moose Crossing
1 Reservoir Rd.
Shokan, NY 12481
845 657 9792
rustic-cabin.com
Casual, rustic and country Adirondack-style furniture, home furnishings, home decor, accessories, gifts and collectibles. Hand-crafted, Made-In-America sold wood furniture and furnishings for your home, lodge or cabin. Jewelry, blankets, pillows, rugs and clothing in Native American, Western and country motifs and styles. The best selection of nature-inspired items hand crafted from artisanal craftsmen located locally and from around the country.
An old-fashioned country store in the heart of the Catskill Mountains, offering relaxed shopping and mountain hospitality. You’ll find a little bit of everything here: Minnetonka Moccasins, t-shirts & sweatshirts, local area books and hiking maps, candles, soaps, incense, jewelry, local maple syrup and honey, nostalgic candies, toys, puzzles, games and souvenirs … and home-made delicious fudge! Owner Robin Kirk’s family has owned The Nest Egg since 1968.

Greene County Economic Development Corporation
411 Main Street
Catskill, NY 12414
greenecountyedc.com
518 719 3290
The Greene County Economic Development Corporation is your gateway to establishing your business in any of the 14 Catskill Mountain, rural valley, and historic Hudson River towns. Their team connects entrepreneurs, developers, site selectors, and corporate leadership with resources, municipalities, and investment incentives for job-creating businesses.

Images of the Northern Catskills By Francis X. Driscoll

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6042 Main St, Tannersville, NY 12485
(next to the Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center)

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Friday & Saturday, 11 am to 7 pm & Sunday 11 am to 6 pm
(special shopping hours for seniors and the immune-compromised: 11 am to noon on Fridays)

Phone: (518) 589-7500 • KaaterskillFineArtsGallery

Visit Our New website!
kaatart.catskillmtn.org
the catskill mountain foundation’s kaaterskill fine arts gallery presents

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NOVEMBER 14-DECEMBER 26, 2020

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Hunter Village Square
7950 Main Street, Village of Hunter

518 263 2060 · www.catskillmtn.org · on Facebook: KaaterskillFineArtsGallery

Exhibition Hours:
Saturday 11am-6pm or by appointment; please call 518 263 2060 to make an appointment
In an interview before his death, Mark Rothko stated that he wanted to make art that was as good as music. He admired the depth and mystery he found in classical composition and performance.

Can a painting sing?

I’ve been looking at and admiring Darla Bjork’s paintings for the last three years. Her use of oil sticks on wood creates an urgency, fluidity and solidity that is highly unusual in contemporary abstraction. Many of her larger pieces are door size, inviting the viewer to walk up close to it and be emotionally enveloped in or through them. This is how a painting can be both strong and delicate at the same time.

Prior to the Covid outbreak the colors in her paintings were bright, almost cheerful and consistently on a white background which gave them a bright buoyancy. Enduring the pandemic isolation that has swept the land, Bjork has fostered a darker, more private view of our current circumstances: a window into a grief-filled world of uncertainty.

These paintings have a reference to urban structures, tall buildings grouped together, where stacked windows appear to be ladders reaching upward through the darkness, forming an unexpected tribe that is shedding its collective horror and reaching for something more hopeful.

Can a painting sing? Yes. This why we named Bjork’s exhibit, Choirs. I hope you’ll come to the gallery to look and listen.

—Robert Tomlinson
Director, Kaaterskill Fine Arts Gallery
ARTIST’S STATEMENT

One of the first things that I do when I get in my studio is turn on music. Usually classical—Bach or Beethoven, sometimes jazz—Miles Davis or Bill Evans. The music often puts me in an most trancelike state so that I am more focused on the sounds than on the painting. I will start work on a painting that I have gotten “stuck” on but sometimes I find myself picking up an old wood panel that has been sitting around waiting to get scraped down and reworked. I work with layers of oil stick and often etch back to the underlying wax.

For the past few years I have been making grid-like structures that evolved into my weaving series. These consciously evoke the warp and weft of the woven rugs that as a child I watched my maternal grandmother make on her large loom in her basement.

The “Crossroads Series” are about the same size as many of her rugs but where her lines were rigid and uniform, mine are seemingly random crossings and overlapping color. These were done pre-Covid when the world seemed brighter and full of promise.

After the Covid shutdown I along with most people struggled to readjust and learn new coping skills, some as simple as wearing a mask. I switched back to my favorite color—blue—and found by chance an indigo blue that seemed right during this crisis. While I was luckily sheltering in place in Woodstock for what seemed like years, I tried to imagine how people in the large cities trapped in small apartments were coping and started the Covid Windows series as a tribute to whose people but also to those who did not survive the virus. These paintings are a tribute to those who sang or played trumpets from their balconies, clapped at 7pm each night for the first line workers, and even produced zoom choirs.

Darla Bjork

Darla Bjork is a painter who has exhibited in the United States and Europe. Her work has evolved from abstract portraits that reflected her “other life” as a psychiatrist when she was working with people in mental institutions to her present weaving series influenced by her childhood in rural Minnesota and now by the view of the Catskill Mountains from her studio in Woodstock, NY.
“Crossroads 1,” 65”x36”, 2019
Oil stick on wood panel
Views Around Woodstock
Photographs by Robert Hsu
Robert Hsu, an award-winning photographer based in New York City, is celebrating his 25th anniversary in the photographic arts. During these decades, Hsu has combed the Northeast of the United States to capture and reveal the priceless beauty of the mountains, forests and streams of the region through the seasons and over the years.

His photographs often seem both objective and abstract; yet one common element connects them all: Mr Hsu’s work seeks to inspire all to commit to protecting, preserving and appreciating our natural environment, now and for future generations. His lens is his voice; his photographs tell magnificent stories without words.

Born in New York City in 1950, Robert Hsu attended Riverdale Country Day school and studied mechanical engineering at New York University. His native creative gifts plus his acquired technical skills have enabled him to master the photographic arts in both film and digital formats.

His contribution of his artworks to healthcare facilities, wellness institutions and their staffs is his wonderful way of saying thank you for saving and protecting our lives.
What inspired you to become a chef, particularly a vegan chef?
When my husband and I started our vegan lifestyle back in 2008, the options were slim and we quickly became bored with the number of products lacking flavor, particularly veggie burgers. They were bland, highly processed and didn’t fill my nutritional needs. So I started experimenting with an oat-based veggie burger low in calories and packed with nutrition. When that impressed our guests and palates, I started developing more items and realized this is something I enjoy doing. Which lead to the discovery of health benefits of this lifestyle.

Can you tell us why you became vegan?
In 2008, my husband had a back injury and decided to adopt a vegan diet. What would have taken 6-8 months to heal took only a few weeks after eliminating all animal products from his diet. With the positive response of the veggie burger, we started “veganizing” other foods to accommodate our Mediterranean way of eating. As newlyweds, it was a fun way to really get creative and cook together.

How has living among the farmers and food producers in the Catskills influenced your cooking?
Having so many fresh fruits and vegetables at our fingertips has been amazing. It gives us the advantage of using seasonal fresh produce to create dishes and products that are appealing to anyone, vegan or not. Our products are NOT processed, machine made or made with any synthetic preservatives. We take pride in the fact that our products are delicious, filling, and nutritious.

What do you serve at your holiday table?
We love hosting holidays! My motto is “keep it simple.” I always start with a big salad with the works (tomatoes, carrots, sunflower and pumpkin seeds, purple cabbage). We love Mediterranean-style appetizers (fresh-baked bread, olives, cucumbers, fresh hummus, stuffed grape-leaves and an array of nut-based cheeses). My gluten-free Veggie Lasagna is always a must! Plus a few side veggies (teriyaki broccoli, roasted potatoes). For Thanksgiving I make an amazing oat-based Meatloaf with Gravy. (insert mouth watering here)

What’s the biggest myth that you encounter about plant-based cooking?
In my experience, most people think Vegan and they immediately imagine bland tofu or something soy-based made to look and taste like meat. Our product line, catering and food truck is completely soy-free and made from real food. Our Veggie Burgers and Meatballs were NOT created to taste like meat. They’re a nutritious alternative to meat. They carry their own distinct flavor and can be enjoyed alone or used with your favorite sauces and condiments. Their versatility is only limited to your own imagination.

The Green Palate’s award-winning products can be found at local health food stores for purchase while some items (veggie burgers, meatballs and sausage) can be spotted on the lunch and dinner menus at various restaurants, cafes and delis. Catering is available for occasions of all sizes, from intimate dinner parties to weddings … staffed or delivered. Their Food Truck can also be hired for any such occasion! Pre-made or deconstructed meals that are delicious, convenient and freezer friendly can be shipped or locally delivered. For more information or to contact, visit www.TheGreenPalate.com
eaves are an everyday miracle we generally take for granted, except in autumn when they astonish us with a fleeting display of vivid colors. Where do these colors come from?

With leaves that turn yellow, like witch hazel, gingko, or common milkweed, the yellow carotenoids were always in the leaves, masked by the green chlorophyll saturating them in spring and summer. Fall’s shorter days and waning light levels trigger leaves to produce a layer of impermeable cells between stalk and stem. Nutrients can’t flow into the leaves, and other substances are trapped inside. The cell barrier eventually causes the leaf to drop off, but in the meantime, the chlorophyll breaks down from lack of nutrients, so the carotenoids can show off their brilliant color.

With leaves that turn red, like blueberries, maples, and sumac, the process is a bit different. Sugars trapped in the leaves react with sunlight to form anthocyanins, the same type of natural chemical that creates the purples, reds and blues of ornamental flowers as well as foods like beets, red cabbage, and cherries. We don’t know why leaves turning red would help plants survive. Some scientists have speculated that the color deters pests, or that it attracts wildlife to eat the plant’s fruit and spread the seeds.

The autumn display is short-lived. During much of the 20th century in America, it was a fall ritual to rake leaves into piles and burn them, a practice we now know creates hazardous particulate pollution.

Serious gardeners, though, have always prized autumn leaves for mulch and compost. Earthworms pull leaves into the soil as they feed on them, aerating and enriching it. Some butterflies need leaf litter to complete their life cycles. Newly hatched great spangled fritillary caterpillars burrow into the fallen leaves, to spend the winter in a hibernation-like state called diapause. When spring comes they rouse again to fatten up on violet leaves and transform again to become another beautiful everyday miracle.

L A Greene County Garden in November

By Margaret Donsbach Tomlinson
As the last of the leaves fall from our trees and colder temperatures spread throughout our mountains, November can be a great time to get outside in the Catskills, especially if you are a sportsman and are able to enjoy the hunting seasons that are available throughout the month. For hikers or other non-sportsmen, that means a few extra precautions, so be sure to read through our section on hunting season below so you are prepared … hunting season does not mean that you should not get out and enjoy the woods!

Do not just be prepared for hunting season, though. November weather can be unpredictable, so it is best to plan ahead and be prepared so you can enjoy your outdoor adventures in the Catskill Mountains. Weather can change dramatically between the Hudson Valley and Catskill summits, especially in months like November. What could be a light rain at low elevations can be freezing rain or snow at higher elevations. Wetness and dampness can also quickly escalate to hypothermia as it becomes more difficult to stay warm. Be prepared so you can be sure to enjoy your adventure.

Hikers, Walkers and Mountain Bikers, Be Alert During Seasonal Hunting Seasons

Bow season for deer hunting in the Catskill Park opens in October and runs through November 20. Regular (rifle) season for deer hunting begins on November 21 and runs through December 13. There are also seasons for turkey, bear, bobcat and other small mammals. For all the details about hunting seasons, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation maintains a website at dec.ny.gov/outdoor/65231.html with extensive seasonal information on all of the different hunting seasons, their geographic areas and additional information for both hunters and those who wish to recreate during the fall hunting season.

Hikers, walkers and anyone planning on being in the woods should always be aware of the hunting regulations in the area where they are recreating and should always wear blaze orange during hunting seasons to reduce the risk of any incidents.

Don’t forget to watch your pets too! Dogs should be wearing blaze orange when they are in the woods with you during hunting seasons and should always remain under your control to avoid incidents.

Catskill Park Day Coming in February Help Support the Catskills!

Organized annually by the Catskill Park Coalition, which is co-chaired by the Catskill Center, the 2021 Catskill Park Day will be held on Tuesday, February 2, 2021. This day is an opportunity for supporters of the Catskills to have their voice heard in Albany and to make a difference in the support and funding that the Park receives. For more information visit catskillcenter.org/advocacy or call 845 586 2611.

Visit the Catskill Park’s Visitor Center

The Catskill Center is pleased to announce that the Congress- man Maurice D. Hinchey Catskills Visitor Center (CVC) has reopened and is providing tourism related services to the public. The CVC, located in Mount Tremper, NY at 5096 Route 28 is the official visitor center for the Catskill Park and prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, welcomed thousands of visitors annually to the region.
Catskill Center staff are available at the Catskills Visitor Center with all the information you need to plan a Catskill adventure! 

Catskill Center staff are available at the CVC with information, maps and all the advice needed to plan a Catskill adventure. A walk-up service window at the building is now open Monday through Saturday, from 10 am to 3 pm. Visitors who wear a mask and follow social distancing protocols can get their Catskill questions answered in person, receive tourism literature and make purchases at the CVC’s gift shop. The CVC building, including restrooms inside, are not yet open to the public.

CVC staff are also available to answer questions about the Catskills and the Catskill Park via email at info@catskillcenter.org or phone at 845 688 3369.

In addition to the walk-up service window, 1.5 miles of trails on the CVC’s grounds, including the (roughly) 0.5 mile ADA accessible Interpretive Loop Trail, are open to the public daily. The 80-foot tall Upper Esopus Fire Tower, which was constructed and opened last Fall, will also be open daily to visitors. Due to COVID-19, the cab on top of the Fire Tower will remain closed. Visitors are welcome to climb to the last platform below the cab and enjoy the view from there. Picnic tables are available on site for those who wish to enjoy a picnic lunch.

Visitors can explore the ever expanding resources available online for the CVC on the web at catskillsvisitorcenter.org and on the CVC’s Facebook page (facebook.com/catskillsvisitorcenter).

**Working to Make the Catskills More Accessible and Welcoming to All**

Thanks to a recent Smart Growth Grant from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the Catskill Center is working to create a Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Plan and to establish a working group to focus on JEDI issues within the Catskill Park. The Catskill Center looks forward to the opportunity to more comprehensively address these issues internally and is really excited to also explore them further with stakeholders Park-wide. If you’re interested in learning more or getting involved, please contact cccd@catskillcenter.org.

**Catskill Park Updates now Available for the Catskills Online**

Local recreational opportunities are always changing, and by visiting the Catskills Visitor Center’s Trail Conditions blog you can now see updates related to the Catskill Park,
Catskill trails, Catskill campgrounds and camping, Catskill boating, skiing, and more at catskillsvisitorcenter.org.

Catskill Park Advisory Committee
The Catskill Park Advisory Committee (CPAC) was established by the Catskill Center in consultation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) several years ago. Currently chaired by the Catskill Center, the CPAC is a group of representatives from local governments and organizations that provides a forum for communities, user groups and stakeholders of the Catskill Park and the Catskill Watershed to discuss issues of regional importance. The purpose of the Committee is to provide assistance, advice and guidance to the DEC, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection and other land managers in the management of the New York State Forest Preserve, the Catskill Park and the Catskill Watershed.

Meetings are held quarterly and are open to the public. If you'd like to learn more, join the mailing list or attend the next meeting, please contact the Catskill Center at 845 586 2611 or email them at cccd@catskillcenter.org with CPAC in the subject, asking to be added to the mailing list.

Please note that for at least the remainder of 2020, CPAC meetings will be held virtually. You must be on the mailing list to receive the email to register for the virtual meeting.

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.
While the Catskill Center may not be able to interact in person for the time being, their staff continue to explore and launch new ways for them to remain connected with their members, supporters, and those who love the Catskills. Keep a look out for increased resources, virtual workshops, programs, and more from the Catskill Center and CVC websites. Stay tuned into their social media platforms—Twitter, Instagram and Facebook—for even more opportunities to engage, learn, and advocate with them.

Most importantly, know that by being a member and supporter of the Catskill Center you are helping protect and preserve the Catskill Mountains that we all love. This glorious Park will be even better preserved than before because of our collective hard work, and we will one day leave our homes to explore, travel, and enjoy everything this region has to offer once again.

To support the work of the Catskill Center, become a member online through their website at catskillcenter.org/membership or donate by mail: Checks made out to the “Catskill Center” can be mailed to Catskill Center, PO Box 504, Arkville, NY 12406.

Jeff Senterman is the Executive Director of the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development in Arkville, NY, a member of the Board of Directors for the American Hiking Society, the Catskill Watershed Corporation and the Central Catskills Chamber of Commerce. Jeff graduated with a degree in Environmental Science from Lyndon State College and worked for many years as an Environmental Planner in New England before coming back to New York and the Catskills in the nonprofit sector. To learn more about the work of the Catskill Center in the Catskills, visit www.catskillcenter.org.

#RecreateResponsibly in the Catskills

As the Catskills get busier, it can be confusing to navigate this “new normal” in terms of how to recreate responsibly in the era of COVID-19. The #RecreateResponsibly guidelines give some sound advice on how to get outdoors right now. When you choose to recreate responsibly, you are doing your part to keep yourself and others safe and healthy.

Know Before you Go: Check the status of the place you want to visit. If it is closed, don't go. If it’s crowded, have a plan B.

Plan Ahead: Prepare for facilities to be closed, pack lunch and bring essentials like hand sanitizer and a mask.

Stay Close to Home: This is not the time to travel long distances to recreate. Most places are only open for day use.

Practice Physical Distancing: Adventure only with your immediate household.

Be prepared to cover your nose and mouth and give others space. If you are sick, stay home.

Play It Safe: Slow down and choose lower-risk activities to reduce your risk of injury.

Search and rescue operations and health care resources are both strained.

Leave No Trace: Respect public lands and communities and take your garbage with you, including disposable gloves, and masks.

We all have a shared responsibility to care for these places and ensure they remain for future generations to enjoy. Lead by example and join the Catskill Center and the Catskills Visitor Center in learning how to #RecreateResponsibly at recreateresponsibly.org.
the catskill mountain foundation’s kaaterskill fine arts gallery presents

PAPER COLLAGE

LIZ INNYAR

THROUGH NOVEMBER 7, 2020

KAATERSKILL FINE ARTS GALLERY
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7950 Main Street, Village of Hunter
518 263 2060 • www.catskillmtn.org • on Facebook: KaaterskillFineArtsGallery

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There are a lot of moving parts to collage preparation. There is a long gestation period from the blank page to the finished product. I start with a variety of sume papers, as it is a very absorbent paper which bleeds through to the reverse side in unanticipated and often delightful ways. The paint of choice is always gouache. I love this kind of paint for the quality of its colors and the degree to which you can control its opaque nature. The paint is applied with sponges, house paint brushes, and bamboo brushes. The layering of paint can include additions of conte crayon, oil crayon, colored pencil or lead pencil. The idea in this phase is to create a palette of finished papers that are linked by texture, color and landscape theme. I like to keep the landscape theme very open ended and simple. For example one idea I had was our flowering tree season here in the northeast U.S. Another idea might be the month of September in upstate NY.

I will begin a collage once I’ve accumulated at least 20 sheets of painted papers that are fixed with polymer resin. Cutting and layering the paper can take a very long time as I don’t commit to anything until I’m sure the piece is ready to be fixed in place. There’s lots of iterations of the image and it’s very useful taking pictures as the piece develops. Once I’m satisfied with the composition I will then glue the papers together by hot ironing the papers so the resin will fuse the composition in place.

This process reminds me of the days when I would sew my own clothes except here I’m also making the fabric as well as piecing it together. The collage ends up feeling very much like a “thing” and it’s the “thing-ness” that I want you to experience.

—Liz Innvar
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