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On the cover: Korea’s renowned K-Arts Dance Company will perform this July at the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s Annual Benefit. For more information on this performance, please see the article on page 18. Photo by Baki

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Igudesman & Joo: Mozart Meets Monty Python at the Doctorow Center for the Arts

By Elizabeth Hall and Margaret Uhalde

When was the last time you laughed at classical music? Even some professionally trained classical musicians have never seen the more comical, hidden side of the genre. For those of you who are musicians, perhaps seeing something as ridiculous as 2048th notes in Anthony Phillip Heinrich's Toccata Grande Cromatica from The Sylviad, Set 2, m. 16 (pictured). Or maybe hearing a harpsichord sonata inspired by a cat walking across the keys (Fugue in G minor by Domenico Scarlatti) might make you giggle. The point here is, perhaps you’ve NEVER laughed at classical music—but I assure you, you’re about to.

Since 2004, two long-time friends (Aleksey Igudesman and Hyung-ki Joo) have been presenting classical music in a very different way: by mixing music and humor, they hope to explain that all music is connected. “The underlying message is that all music comes from the same place. We truly believe that all music originates from the heart and from feelings, and also from the same harmonies. We love pointing that out,” Igudesman said in an interview with Jeremy Hobson on “Here and Now.”

Some say that everything in music has already been done. It’s impossible to be original, because even as early as Beethoven’s time, every possible combination of notes had been thought out and written down already, but musicians such as Igudesman and Joo seem to think that’s not at all a problem. In one of their comical concerts, And Now Mozart they examine the likeness of Mozart’s music to the popular music of today—by performing a mashup of various Mozart compositions, and “I Will Survive,” by Gloria Gaynor.

The New York Times said of their artistry, “Their blend of classical music and comedy, laced with pop culture references and a wholly novel take on the word slapstick, is fueled by genuine, dazzling virtuosity.”

Catch Igudesman and Joo’s And Now Mozart on August 6 at the Doctorow Center for the Arts and be prepared to listen, laugh, and marvel at the future of classical music.

Advance tickets for this concert are $25; $20 seniors; $7 students, and may be purchased at www.catskillmtn.org or by calling 518 263-2063. Tickets purchased at the door are $30; $25 seniors; $7 students. The Doctorow Center for the Arts is located at 7971 Main Street in the Village of Hunter.

Gala Orchestra Concert in Windham on Saturday, July 16

Come and hear the Windham Festival Chamber Orchestra with pianist Tanya Gabrielson and conductor Robert Manno this coming Saturday July 16 at 8 pm at the Windham Civic Centre Concert Hall, 5379 Route 23, Windham, NY.

The program includes Bach’s Concerto in F Minor, Webern’s romantic “Langsamer Satz” Gerald Finzi’s lovely Eclogue for piano and strings, the Saint-Saëns Caprice for piano and strings and culminating with Tschaikovsky’s lush Souvenir de Florence.

This concert will sell out in advance and tickets may be purchased in Windham at the Windham Public Library, Carole’s Gift Emporium or the Catskill Mountain Country Store.

For Reservations please call 518 734 3868 or send an e-mail to info@windhammusic.com. Only cash or check will be accepted.
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Dinner, drinks, and local music as doors open 90 minutes before showtime
Windham Arts Alliance 13th Art Fest Celebration July 2, 2016

The Independence Day weekend marks the true beginning of the summer season and is a wonderful time to visit the gorgeous Mountaintop town of Windham, NY. Imagine a balmy summer morning strolling on a lawn under majestic sugar maples with beautiful mountain views all around. The 13th Annual Windham Arts Alliance Art Fest 2016 presents displays of the works of many artists in a variety of media, with the sounds of a keyboard by David Peskin and guitar and banjo by Scott Berwick playing during the event at Christman’s Windham House. As part of your adventure, sit on the front porch of this historic Inn and watch the world go by, or enjoy a lunch on a deck overlooking a golf course with beautiful views.

ART FEST 2016, sponsored by the Windham Arts Alliance, will take place at Christman’s Windham House, 5742 Route 23, located a mile west of the center of Windham New York, on Saturday, July 2, 2016 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The show is free, providing an opportunity to meet the artists, view their work, and enjoy discussions about the processes involved. The artwork is for sale. There will be a silk painting demonstration by Elaine Warfield. WAA will be showing the works of over 25 artists, all of whom will be present to talk about their efforts. A large variety of media will be displayed including paintings, photography, etchings, silk painting, photography, pottery, jewelry, as well as historic photographs of Windham.

There will be an opportunity to buy chances on art donated by each artist with the winners drawn at the end of the event. You need not be present to win.

Enjoy the rest of the day and evening in Windham with its fine restaurants and shops. The Windham Arts Alliance’s mission is to develop the Windham, New York area as a cultural center and artistic destination for residents and visitors by coordinating and promoting the visual, performing, and literary arts as well as other cultural activities.

Please plan to join us for this noteworthy event and help support the arts on the Mountaintop.

69th Annual Twilight Park Art Show, Haines Falls, NY, August 13 & 14.

On August 13 and 14, 2016 the 69th annual art exhibition, sponsored by Twilight Park Artists, will be open to the public. The exhibition will feature over 80 works by artists from the community. The opening reception will be held on Saturday, August 13 from 5 to 7 pm. The show will be open on Sunday from 2 to 5 pm. On Sunday from 3 to 4 pm there will be a demonstration by artist Scott Balfe. Balfe is a local artist who paints in the tradition of the Hudson River artist such as Frederick Church, Asher B. Durand and Thomas Cole.

Applications for artists to submit work are available at twilightpark.com, at the Twilight Park Gatehouse or by calling 518 589 9855. Deadline for submissions is July 13.

The 69th Twilight Art Show is sponsored by Twilight Park artists and residents of Twilight Park, a community established “on the mountain top” in Haines Falls, NY in 1888.
Purchase Belleayre Music Festival Tickets Today and Save!

Fans of Rock & Roll Hall of Famers The Yardbirds have only a few weeks to save on advance sale ticket prices for the Belleayre Music Festival's opening show in its new venue on Saturday, July 2 at 8 p.m.

For the first time, the festival's concerts will be held in the intimate setting of Belleayre's Discovery Lodge. The space allows all patrons to be close to the acts. Capacity in the new concert location is about 400, with a combination of reserved seating and general admission standing room only. Ticket prices are $48 and $38 for reserved seats and $28 for general admission standing room tickets for the opening show. Day of show purchases increase by $5 each for every ticket level.

The Yardbirds boast three of the genre's all-time greatest guitarists as alumni. Eric Clapton, Jimmy Page, and Jeff Beck all rose to fame as lead guitarists with the group. The Belleayre show will transport listeners back to the early days of one of rock's most influential periods: the "British Invasion.”

Drummer and founding member Jim McCarty leads the band, which boasts a lineup of top-notch musicians headed by one of today's most revered guitarists, Johnny A (Peter Wolf, Bobby Whitlock). The current lineup also includes bassist Kenny Aaronson (Bob Dylan, Billy Idol), singer/blues harpist/percussionist Mike Scavone (Ram Jam & Doughboys), and guitarist/singer John Idan. The Yardbirds promise to deliver blues-tinged, hard-charging versions of timeless classics like “For Your Love,” “I'm a Man” and “Heart Full of Soul.” Woodstock-based favorites Connor Kennedy & Minstrel will open, and Professor Louie & the Crowmatix will provide pre-show entertainment on the deck beginning at 6:30 p.m.

For special promotions, and information on how to become a donor, visit www.belleayremusic.org and sign up for our newsletter. For questions, e-mail belleayremusicfestival@gmail.com or call 845 254 6094. Belleayre Music Festival concerts are held on the grounds of Belleayre Mountain in Highmount. Belleayre Mountain is located in the heart of New York's Catskill Mountain region, and is operated by the Olympic Regional Development Authority. The ski resort is located just off Route 28 and is 37 miles west of Thruway Exit 19 at Kingston; 55 miles southeast of Oneonta on Route 28; 40 miles from the Route 17 exit at Roscoe; and 95 miles southwest of Albany and just two hours north of NYC.
Manhattan in the Mountains Returns to Celebrate the Fifth Anniversary of their Summer Music Festival!

By Elizabeth Hall and Margaret Uhalde

Established in 2012, in partnership with the Catskill Mountain Foundation, Manhattan in the Mountains was created as a summer music festival for violin, viola, cello, and piano students ages 13 and up. This year, students will be arriving from China, Canada and the United States for the three-week festival of solo and chamber music with piano and strings.

Manhattan in the Mountains offers a minimum of two private lessons per week, and daily chamber music rehearsals and coaching. This summer, along long-term faculty including pianists Tatiana Goncharova and Joanne Polk, cellist Marion Feldman, and violinist Jaram Kim, Manhattan in the Mountains welcomes Robin Scott, first violinist of the Ying Quartet and cellist Julian Langford to their faculty. Students are ensured plenty of time to practice, while still having time to enjoy the fresh air and explore the beautiful scenery of the Catskills.

Much of the focus is on developing technical and musical skills, and learning ensemble playing techniques in small groups of strings both with and without piano. These ensembles mix students with assistant faculty to give the students the experience of working with and being directly inspired by professional players.

Musicologist Jeffrey Langford will give one lecture per week, on subjects as varied as Mozart, Charles Ives, and Verdi's Rigoletto. Workshops in the neighboring Piano Performance Museum will utilize the vast collection of playable historic pianos, allowing students to gain experience on pianos built in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Manhattan in the Mountains is committed to bringing the joy of music to local audiences of all ages in the Catskills. Student concerts will be held each week on Thursday and Friday evenings. Performances include “Kids4Kids”, an interactive concert by youngsters for youngsters, the Faculty Concert: “Bach to the Future”, featuring works of by Bach, Gershwin, and Earl Wild, and guest artists Igudesman & Joo. Pianist Hyung-ki Joo attended Manhattan School of Music, home to many Manhattan in the Mountain's faculty.

The residency lasts from July 24 to August 16. All performances take place in Weisberg Hall in the Doctorow Center. See you this summer!

For more information, please visit www.manhattaninthemeountains.com.
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The New York Blues Hall of Fame returns to the Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center in Tannersville on Saturday, July 16 at 8 pm, with another exciting show honoring this year’s inductees Rory Block and John Platania. There will also be performances from Hall of Fame Ambassador Michael Packer, Professor Louie and the Crowmatix and singer/songwriter Greg Dayton. It will be a special evening full of new music, old classics, and unique musical collaborations from the best in the business.

Rory Block
Heralded as “a living landmark” (Berkeley Express), “a national treasure” (Guitar Extra), and “one of the greatest living acoustic blues artists” (Blues Revue), Rory Block has committed her life and her career to preserving the Delta Blues tradition and bringing it to life for 21st century audiences around the world. A traditionalist and an innovator at the same time, she wields a fiery and haunting guitar and vocal style that redefines the boundaries of acoustic blues and folk. The New York Times raved: “Her playing is perfect, her singing otherworldly as she wrestles with ghosts, shadows and legends.”

Born in Princeton, NJ, Aurora “Rory” Block grew up in Manhattan in a family with Bohemian leanings. Her father owned a Greenwich Village sandal shop where musicians like Bob Dylan, Maria Muldaur, and John Sebastian all made occasional appearances. The rich and diverse Village scene was a constant influence on her cultural sensibilities. She was playing guitar by age ten, and by her early teens she was sitting in on the Sunday jam sessions in Washington Square Park.

During these years, her life was touched and profoundly changed by personal encounters with some of the earliest and most influential Delta Blues masters of the 20th century. She made frequent visits to the Bronx, where she learned her first lessons in blues and gospel music from the Reverend Gary Davis. She swapped stories and guitar licks with seminal bluesman Son House, Robert Johnson’s mentor, who kept asking “Where did she learn to play like this?” She visited Skip James in the hospital...
after his cancer surgery. She traveled to Washington, DC, to visit with Mississippi John Hurt and absorb first-hand his technique and his creativity.

She says, “I now realize how lucky I was to be there, in the right place at the right time. I thought everyone knew these incredible men, these blues geniuses who wrote the book. I later realized how fleeting it was, and how even more precious.”

By the time she was in high school, her family had splintered in different directions. With nothing holding her down, she left home at 15 with her guitar and a few friends: heading for California, she picked her way through a vast catalog of country blues songs and took her first steps in developing a fingerpicking and slide guitar style that would eventually be her trademark.

She recorded an instructional record called How To Play Blues Guitar in the mid-60s, then took a decade off from music to start a family. In the mid- and late 70s, she made a few experimental records until, she confesses, “I gave up totally and went back to the blues.” The result was a record deal with the Boston-based Rounder label, which released High Heeled Blues in 1981. About that album Rolling Stone raved: “Some of the most singular and affecting country blues anyone—man or woman, black or white, old or young—has cut in recent years.”

She stayed with Rounder for the next two decades, making records that simultaneously indulged her affinity for traditional country blues and served as a platform for her own formidable songwriting talents.

In the 90’s Rory brought home Blues Music Awards four years in a row—two for Traditional Blues Female Artist of the Year, and two for Best Acoustic Blues Album of the Year. Then in 1997, she won the Blues Music Award for Acoustic Album of the Year, The Lady and Mr. Johnson, a tribute to Robert Johnson.

Her most recent project, titled The Mentor Series, is a growing collection of tribute albums to the blues masters she knew in person.
John Platania

John Platania's musical journey began in the Hudson River Valley of New York State, studying piano at Catholic parochial school. It was there that he fell under the spell of the guitar thanks to the impact of Elvis Presley on the youth of the world. He perfected on the music of Elvis (and his guitarist Scotty Moore), Buddy Holly, Chet Atkins, The Ventures, Chuck Berry and The Everly Brothers as well as such jazz guitar masters as Wes Montgomery, Hank Garland and Jimmy Bryant, while also absorbing the musical lessons to be learned from everything from country to rhythm & blues. Once Platania started playing in bands at the age of 15, it all served him well on numerous later hit, best selling and critically lauded recordings as well as many worldwide tours.

Starting in 1967 Platania began recording and making his mark on the New York City studio scene, playing on sessions for John Cale to songwriting legend Mort Schuman. His gigs in the Hudson River Valley caught the ear of Van Morrison, who was living at the time in Woodstock. After auditioning for Morrison in the spring of 1969, Platania began his long association with the rock legend, capturing ears with his signature guitar work on Morrison’s commercial breakthrough with the album *Moondance*. Platania’s guitar work can be heard on four other Morrison studio albums and the live release *It's Too Late To Stop Now*. He also co-wrote two songs on *Philosopher’s Stone* and in 2006 rejoined Morrison’s band for the *Pay The Devil* world tour.

Soon after Platania started working with master songwriter, Chip Taylor (“Wild Thing” and “Angel of the Morning”). From the mid-’70s into the 1980s, he toured and recorded with Randy Newman, Bonnie Raitt, Judy Collins and Don McLean and later in the 90’s with Natalie Merchant. Since 1997 Platania has served as Taylor’s (returning after a two decade hiatus) right-hand man on his solo releases and duet albums as well as his international tours.

In 1997, he released his first solo album, *Lucky Dog*. John’s writing and production credits include four acclaimed albums for blues neo-traditionalist Guy Davis, the score for the Emmy-winning musical revue *None For The Road* (a 1983 public service production for Reader’s Digest), various theatrical works and even the music for Whoopi Goldberg’s children’s show *Whoopi’s Littlebug*.

On the road, Chip Taylor and Platania created the album *Blues, Waltzes and Badland Borders*. The result is a full-fledged work of songwriting and musical artistry about the Texas Mexico border where the artist happens to be Platania and his guitars.

“Blues, Waltzes and Badland Borders is a textbook of guitar orchestration, featuring steel string, nylon, electric, baritone, and sitar—all in the service of tunes composed by Platania, Taylor, or both, with narrations by Taylor’s brother, actor John Voight (“Running With The Dogs”), Alejandro Escovedo (“Child Heroes”), and others. Platania doesn’t play a lot of notes, but he plays the important ones.”
—Michael Ross Guitar Player Magazine

Michael Packer

Michael Packer is a singer-songwriter, guitarist, born in New York City in 1950. He did his first gig at the Bitter End in Greenwich Village at the age of 15. His group Free Beer was born in Greenwich Village in 1973. Free Beer recorded three albums for Buddha and RCA records and toured extensively with the likes of the Atlanta Rhythm Section, Johnny Rivers, Dr. Hook, and Clifton Chaniar, to name a few. All of the albums made the *Billboard* top 100. After dropping out of the music scene in the late 80’s and early 90’s Michael Packer hit the skids. His drinking had escalated and he found himself living on the streets. He did a year in Rikers Island for attempted robbery but that seemed to be the turning point in his life. Even in prison he had a band. HBO did a special, *The Prisoners of Rikers Island*, in which he appears. Michael Packer has been sober 20 years now and life is good especially his music. Since 2000, The Michael Packer Blues Band has received rave reviews in *Living Blues*, *Blues Matters*, and *Blues Revue* magazines. In 2010 Producer Michael Frank presented Packer with the opportunity and the honor of playing second guitar and touring with the late Grammy award winning legendary Delta blues guitarist David “Honeyboy” Edwards, who knew and played along side Robert Johnson. They performed their last gig together in September of 2011.

In 2011 Michael Packer was inducted into The New York Blues Hall Of Fame. The same year, Iris Music group released a CD of unreleased 40 year old Michael Packer Atlantic and RCA recordings called *My Time To Cry*, which received rave reviews. The 2012 recording *Michael Packer Blues Band Live @ The Turning Point* by Interscope Records contains a Honeyboy Edwards appearance. In 2013 he performed at the Chicago Blues Festival and Buddy Guy’s Legends. Packer and his band continue to tour extensively. His new album *I Am The Blues* was released on September 12, 2013 and is the story of his life in both narrative and original songs.

Larry Packer

Larry Packer/ violinist, mando-linist, guitarist, composer and arranger. Born in New York City in 1948, he was a member of Cat Mother and The All-Night Newsboys, whose first album was produced by Jimi Hendrix and contained the 1969 hit...
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Catskill Mountain Foundation is funded in part by the New York State Council on the Arts, the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation, the Samuel and Esther Doctorow Fund, The Greene County Legislature through the Cultural Fund administered by the Greene County Council on the Arts, Bank of Greene County, Greene County Youth Fund, Marshall & Sterling, Stewart’s Shops, Windham Foundation and by private donations.
“Good Old Rock n’ Roll.” The group toured with Hendrix for all of 1968. Larry has performed with Sha-Na-Na, including TV appearances on WNET’s *Live at the Fillmore East*, *The Flip Wilson Show* and on film in the recently re-discovered *Festival Express*. He has also performed and recorded with Harry Belafonte, David Bromberg, Steve Goodman, Michael Kamen and the New York Rock Ensemble, Guy and Pip Gillette Blues Band, The Band (including the 1976 *The Last Waltz*), Levon Helm’s Woodstock All-Stars, Phoebe Snow, Maria Muldaur, Hall and Oates, Kate and Anna McGarrigle, Billy Vera, Professor Louie and the Crowmatix, Rick Danko, Garth Hudson, Artie and Happy Traum and the Woodstock Mt. Revue, The Bill Keith Band, The Jim Kweskin Band Re-union and many others.

**Professor Louie and the Crowmatix**
The house band for the the evening will be Professor Louie and the Crowmatix, the only full band ever inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame. This Grammy-nominated Woodstock, NY band plays 150 shows every year in the U.S. and worldwide. Led by recording engineer and producer, Aaron “Professor Louie” Hurwitz on vocals, keyboards and accordion, The Crowmatix repertoire is steeped in rock ‘n’ roll, blues, Gospel and American roots music, and features a compelling collection of original and traditional tunes. The band’s latest release, *Music From Hurley Mountain* (Woodstock Records, 2016), showcases music written by Louie and his songwriting partner, vocalist, pianist and percussionist, Miss Marie (Rick Danko). Drummer Gary Burke (Bob Dylan, Joe Jackson), guitarist/vocalist John Platania (Van Morrison) and bassist/vocalist Frank Campbell (Steve Forbert, Levon Helm) complete the talented and versatile quintet.

“(They) have grown into a true legacy of Woodstock band. Their new material is soulful and their performance last night … was the highlight of the evening.”
——*Stan Beinstein (WPDH, WDST)*

“An Americana template that is timeless rock, country, blues and New Orleans influenced originals.”
——*The Village Voice*

**Greg Dayton**
The singer/songwriter and guitarist will open the festivities with music from his highly anticipated debut solo album *Lonesome Road*. Featuring original songs ranging in style from electric rock to acoustic blues, the project is laced with an eclectic blend of rich guitar riffs and sly baselines that highlight Dayton’s deeply reflective lyrics. The album is scheduled for release in July, and will be accompanied by an official release party at Last Chance Tavern.

The Blues Hall of Fame is a free organization, open to all, dedicated to recognizing, honoring and promoting great local Blues artists for their incredible dedication to their art through induction by their peers.

Tickets for this performance are $30 in advance; $35 at the door. Advance tickets may be purchased at www.catskillmtn.org or by calling 518 263 2063. The Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center is located at 6050 Main Street in the Village of Hunter.
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Reviving important but neglected operas has long been central to Bard SummerScape’s mission. Presented on Bard’s glorious Hudson Valley campus in the striking Frank Gehry-designed Fisher Center, the festival’s operatic centerpiece is an all-too-rare, fully staged production of *Iris,* a darkly expressionistic forerunner of *Madama Butterfly* by Puccini’s close contemporary Pietro Mascagni. Starring Grammy-nominated soprano Talise Trevigne in an original new staging by James Darrah, *Iris* runs for only five performances between July 22 and 31.

Mascagni’s *Iris* (1898), despite its initial success, has not been seen at the Metropolitan Opera for 85 years. Yet its shimmering, dreamlike score has been called “bewitchingly lovely” (*Independent*, UK). Like *Madama Butterfly,* which it preceded by six years, *Iris* is a product of the “japonisme” movement then sweeping Europe.

Librettist Luigi Illica worked on both *Iris* and *Madama Butterfly,* and the two are thematically linked, alike in depicting tragedies of innocence betrayed in fin-de-siècle Japan. Yet there the similarities end; as director James Darrah explains,

“Iris is surreal, dark, violent and truly expressionistic in tone and rich with imagination. It follows a young woman’s brutal transformation from idyllic isolated youth to exploited maturity as she is stolen from childhood into the erotic underbelly of society. An evocatively abstract libretto pairs with staggering orchestral writing, imbuing the piece with an otherworldly scope.”

Iris is a young girl violently abducted from the home she shared with her blind father, and forced into prostitution in Tokyo’s notorious red-light district. As Paul Griffiths remarked in *The New York Times,* the opera’s many “interesting dramatic points … make one dream about how it might look in the theater.”

Headlining Bard’s first-rate cast is Grammy-nominated soprano Talise Trevigne, who recently proved herself “a Butterfly worthy of mention alongside Maria Callas” (*Voix des Arts*). Bass-baritone Douglas Williams—“the most completely satisfying singer” (*The New York Times*)—portrays the villainous brothel-keeper Kyoto, with Austrian-Australian tenor Gerard Schneider, whose credits include Carnegie Hall and the Salzburg Festival, as Osaka, the rich young man whose treachery spells Iris’s downfall, and Matt Boehler—“a bass with an attitude and the goods to back it up” (*The New York Times*)—as her father, Il Cieco. Rounding out the vocal cast are the “wonderfully appealing” (*The New York Times*) young tenor Samuel Levine, and mezzo-soprano Cecelia Hall, a top prizewinner at the Gerda Lissner International Vocal Competition, while the Dance of the Geishas will be performed by WIFE, the innovative Los Angeles-based dance trio described as “too badass to ignore” (*L.A. Weekly*).

As the *Financial Times* notes, “Some of the most important summer opera experiences in the U.S. are not at the better known festivals but at Bard SummerScape.”

*Iris* runs for only five performances between July 22 and 31. Tickets are available at Fishercenter.bard.edu or by calling 845-758-7900.
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**OPERA** JULY 22–31

**IRIS**
By Pietro Mascagni
American Symphony Orchestra,
conducted by Leon Botstein, music director
Directed by James Darrah

**DANCE** JULY 1–3

**FANTASQUE**
World Premiere
Music by Ottorino Respighi and Gioachino Rossini
Choreography by John Heginbotham
Puppetry and design by Amy Trompetter

**THEATER** JULY 7–17

**DEMONISHING EVERYTHING WITH AMAZING SPEED**
World Premiere
Futurist puppet plays by Fortunato Depero
Translated, designed, and directed by Dan Hurlin
Original music by Dan Moses Schreier

**JULY 1 – AUGUST 13**

**SPIEGELTENT**
Hosted by Mr. Justin Vivian Bond
Cabaret, Jazz, Dancing and Fine Dining

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**27TH BARD MUSIC FESTIVAL**

**PUCCINI AND HIS WORLD**
August 5–7 Puccini and Italian Musical Culture
August 11–14 Beyond Verismo

**FILM SERIES** JULY 21 – AUGUST 14

**PUCCINI AND THE OPERATIC IMPULSE IN CINEMA**

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**Rustic Luxury in the Catskills**

The Mountain Brook is the area's only first class Adirondack style Lodge, featuring comfortable upscale accommodations with spectacular views of the Catskill Mountains.

Rooms include amenities such as flat screen TVs with DVD players, Jacuzzi-style tubs, gas burning fireplaces, free wireless internet, complimentary snacks and beverages, and a gourmet country breakfast cooked to order by a CIA-trained Chef.
“Most heavenly music! It nips me unto listening”… wrote Shakespeare, so over four days, August 4 through 7, you are offered music his genius has been inspiring ever since: in opera and musical theater, choral and solo recitals, comedy, rock n’ roll, and folk music that will nip you unto listening and have you dancing in the aisles.

The Festival takes place in the Village of Phoenicia, New York. All the events take place within easy walking distance and the Town offers food and shopping, some in town, some within easy driving distance. There is parking in Town as well as in nearby lots with bus access. There is also some parking for the handicapped with to-site transportation. For additional information go to www.phoeniciavoicefest.org or phone 845 688 3291.

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 4**

8:00 pm: Opening Gala ROCK THE BEATLES Paul Green Rock Academy

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 5**

10:00 am: Latte Lecture ABOUT KISS ME, KATE Stage Director Lee Roy Reams and music director Jerry Steichen

11:00 am: SACRED HARP Shape Note workshop. You will be singing with a choir in one brief session.

12:30 pm: MASTER CLASS Young professionals work with a master singer. Listen while a vocal piece is refined.

2:00 pm: HAMLET: ONCE AND FOR ALL Director, teacher and actor Carey Harrison explains what Shakespeare was really up to with contradictions and confusions. Learn the real story—once and for all.

3:30 pm: SHAKESPEARE ON THE ESOPUS Peter Schickele in Concert. 17th century lyrics set to decidedly non 17th century music. As always with Maestro Schickele, all bets are off!

5:00 pm: MUSE OF FIRE Eight young actors of New Genesis Productions explore plays you thought you knew.

8:00 pm: KISS ME, KATE Play within a musical, Taming of the Shrew in a Cole Porter classic. On stage with orchestra and soloists, and two wonderful gangsters.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 6**

10:00 am: Latte Lecture ABOUT OTHELLO Conductor David Wroe and stage director Beth Greenberg

11:00 am: SACRED HARP See Friday, 11:00 am.

12:00 pm: CAMBRIDGE CHAMBER SINGERS Music in the time of Shakespeare and Cervantes. A Capella vocal favorite.

2:00 pm: MUSE OF FIRE See Friday, 5:00 pm.

3:30 pm: ENOCH ARDEN Carey Harrison and Justin Kolb dramatize the Alfred Lord Tennyson poem with the music of Richard Strauss.

6:30 pm: THOMAS PASATIERI Compositions on three Shakespeare female roles, Juliet, Lady Macbeth and Desdemona.

8:00 pm: OTHELLO The annual Opera presentation. Verdi’s stirring opera about “one who loved not wisely but too well” Soloists, orchestra and chorus.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 7**

10:00 am: Latte Lecture YOUTH IN ART Brandon Aja, author of Muse of Fire, discusses child and youth performers.

1:00 pm: MUSE OF FIRE See Friday, 5:00 pm.

2:00 pm: HAMLET: ONCE AND FOR ALL See Friday, 2:00 pm.

4:30 pm: GRAND FINALE: FESTIVE CELTIC CELEBRATION Direct from Western Ireland. Young musicians of An Crann Og with soloists Noeleen Ni Cholla and Doimnic Mac Giolla Bhride. A foot-stomping finish to four great days.
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• Hudson Valley town walk
• Lake Peek
• FDR Presidential Library & Museum

Opening July 2016
Witness the Birth of a Nation’s Dance at the Catskill Mountain Foundation Annual Benefit

By Margaret Uhalde

With so much highly skilled, global competition, what do you do to make a real impact on the world of dance? Perhaps with its dance company from K-Arts, South Korea has found the answer. You take the age-old classical style of ballet—the technical standard of the industry—and make it perfect.

This prestigious school has not been around for decades, as some Universities in the U.S. have. K-Arts was founded in 1990; the school of dance was only founded in 1996, and it was the first institution of higher education for dance. Since then, students from K-Arts have risen right to the top of the game, and it seems they just keep rising.

“University level dancers there are guaranteed to be major stars in the near future,” remarks Victoria Rinaldi, former principal dancer for the Metropolitan Opera. “It is the University’s performing group; a company within the school, comprised of the best university level dance students in Asia. They have won awards and accolades all over the world. You have to be the absolute best, and there is nothing like it in the U.S.—the closest thing might be the music department of Juilliard.”

Rinaldi currently teaches a select number of highly talented students from the mountaintop, runs the Catskill Mountain Foundation’s very successful production of The Nutcracker, and served as the first connection between the K-Arts Dance Company and the CMF. “The group will be in Symphony Space the week after the Benefit, and they asked if I could find them another venue nearby.”

“The Catskill Mountain Foundation works to present the arts to the community year-round,” explains Candy McKee, Director of Administration at the Catskill Mountain Foundation. “The funds raised by the Annual Benefit are essential in allowing us to do so.” Past Benefits have welcomed various artists to the stage, such as Steve Katz of Blood, Sweat & Tears, and Cherylyn Lavagnino Dance.

“It’s a pretty rare opportunity,” says Victoria Rinaldi. “It would be like having the graduating class of the Bolshoi coming to Tannersville.” Even aside from the fact that attending this Benefit will support the arts, this is certainly not a performance you should miss. The Benefit also features a silent auction and cocktail dinner.

The Catskill Mountain Foundation’s 2016 Benefit will take place on Saturday, July 9 at the Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center in Tannersville. A silent auction and cocktail supper will begin at 6:00 pm; the performance will begin at 7:00 pm. For tickets and more information, call the Administration office at 518 263 2000 or visit www.catskillmtn.org.
CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION
2016 ANNUAL BENEFIT
Presenting the K-ARTS DANCE COMPANY
Superb young dancers in a fusion of traditional Korean, European ballet and contemporary modern dance

Join us to Celebrate our 19th Year of Bringing World Class Arts to the Mountaintop.

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 2016 @ 6 PM

ORPHEUM FILM & PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
6050 Main Street
Village of Tannersville
Silent Auction & Cocktail Supper
Tickets on sale at www.catskillmtn.org

“...one of the best dance performances I have seen in a very long time. The artists are so strong in their technique, control, and artistry, but above all, I could see and feel their passion. I was completely in awe, and I believe that Korean dancers have much to bring to the world.”

—Diana White, former soloist of the New York City Ballet, ballet teacher, répétiteur with the George Balanchine Trust, and artistic director of the Scarsdale Ballet Studio

Witness the Birth of a Nation’s Dance
fter such a mild winter I think we have all been surprised at what a cool spring and early summer we have had. Not that I am complaining, as the cool sleeping temperatures and low humidity has been great! Mind you, I have probably just shifted the cosmic karma so we will have hot and muggy temperatures the rest of the summer by saying that!

July for me though is a time when I really get to enjoy the great outdoors of the Catskills. The mountains are a deep green, temperatures are mild and those annoying black flies have started to disappear! Not only that, it is just a great time to be outside in the Catskills, whether you are grilling with some friends in your backyard or you are taking in an amazing mountaintop vista on a trail.

It is also a good time to take stock of how lucky we are to be able to live in or visit a place like the Catskills. We have hundreds of thousands of acres of protected lands in the Catskill Park and beyond that preserve and foster the natural beauty and wildness of the region. Within and around those protected lands, are our Catskill communities, offering visitors and residents alike a beautiful, yet sustainable place for us to enjoy for generations to come. It is through the hard work of all of us who love the Catskills, that we have our Catskills of today and we look forward to

New Trail Opens in the Catskills!

On June 4, National Trails Day, the Catskill Center and the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference celebrated the grand opening of the newly constructed Nature Trail at the Maurice D. Hinchey Catskill Interpretive Center (CIC) in Mount Tremper, NY. The CIC is the visitor center for the Catskill Park and offers visitors a unique Catskills experience with visitor information, hiking and walking opportunities, an outdoor art park, picnicking areas and more. “We are thrilled to continue expanding recreational opportunities on-site here at the Catskill Interpretive Center, while giving our visitors a sense of what they’ll encounter while out enjoying the rest of the Catskill Park,” said Jeff Senterman, executive director of the Catskill Center, and board member of the American Hiking Society.

National Trails Day* is the country’s largest celebration of trails and a program of the American Hiking Society. On June 4, National Trails Day events took place in every state across the country and included hikes, biking and horseback rides, paddling trips, birdwatching, geocaching, gear demonstrations, stewardship projects and more.

“The Catskill Park has over 200 miles of trails traversing its vast and beautiful mountains. The Catskill Center and New York-New Jersey Trail Conference built the trail at the Catskill Interpretive Center to give visitors a taste of the larger trail net-

At the Nature Trail Opening at the Maurice D. Hinchey Catskill Interpretive Center. Left to right: Jeff Senterman, Catskill Center; Jeff Ryder, NYS DEC; Doug Senterman, NY NJ Trail Conference; Ian Dunn, NYS DEC. Photo by Rosalind Dickinson

work and the confidence to explore it,” said Ed Goodell, executive director of the New York-New Jersey Trail Conference.

Outside at Hanford Mills

Free Family Saturdays

Hanford Mills, located in East Meredith has some summer fun planned for this July. First up are the “Free Family Saturdays!” The Museum will hold three Free Family Saturdays on July 16, August 6 and September 3. Free Family Saturdays at Hanford Mills offer special hands-on activities for families as well as tours and demonstrations of the Mill’s historic water-powered sawmill, gristmill and woodworking shop. Up to two adults will be admitted free of charge when accompanied by a child (preschool through high school). Students aged 13-18 will be admitted free of charge as well.

Celebrate the 4th of July at the Mill!

Ready for a frog-jumping Fourth of July? Hanford Mills Museum’s annual Independence Day Celebration on Monday, July 4 features old-fashioned fun, with two frog jumping contests, a fishing derby on the Mill Pond, tug o’ war, and sack races. Visitors also can tour the historic Mill and woodworking shop and see water- and steam-power demonstrations featuring the 1926 Fitz Overshot waterwheel, the steam boiler and steam engines. The Independence Day Celebration runs from 10 am to 5 pm. Children 12 and under, Museum members, and active duty military and their families, receive free admission.

On the 4th Mill staff and volunteers will be making vanilla ice cream on a steam-powered churn, chilled with ice harvested
from the Mill Pond in February. Free ice cream samples will be available while supplies last. “The ice cream is the sweet reward of last February’s successful ice harvest,” said Hanford Mills Museum executive director Liz Callahan. The ice is kept frozen in the Museum’s traditional ice house, packed with sawdust from the Mill.

The 4th also features some unique steam power demonstrations. “We are one of the few places in the country that features steam power,” explains Liz Callahan. “Firing up the steam boiler and operating it is demanding and labor intensive. Staff and volunteers make up the ‘steam team,’ whose experience, training and dedication enable us to run the boiler and steam engines just as the Hanfords did a century ago.” She noted that while the Museum operates the waterwheel during tours offered every Wednesday through Sunday, steam power demonstrations occur only a few times a year. Visitors on July 4th can see both power sources.

Hanford Mills Museum operates an authentic water- and steam-powered historic site. The Museum, which is listed on the National and New York State Registers of Historic Places, is open Wednesdays through Sundays from 10 am to 5 pm. Hanford Mills Museum is located at 51 County Highway 12 in East Meredith. For more information, visit www.hanfordmills.org or call 607 278 5744.

Taking Flight: Birding in the Catskills, a Unique Bird Conference

Held this past June and sponsored by the Catskill Center, Taking Flight offered to the dozens of attendees a chance to see and learn more about the birds of the Catskills. The first Catskill birding conference of its kind for the Catskills, Taking Flight was not your typical birding weekend. It was a combination of the best of a birding conference with a birding festival. Events included a keynote presentation by Bicknell’s Thrush expert Chris Rimmer, an early (early) morning
The Geology of the Devonian: In the Heart of the Catskills
Robert & Johanna Titus with Art Murphy
opens at the Erpf Gallery

A new show, The Geology of the Devonian has opened at the Erpf Gallery and will run through July 30.

At The Geology of the Devonian, come journey into the heart of the Catskills through an engaging merger of science and art. Discover the history of the Devonian period, some 400 million years ago, when tropical seas and primitive forests left the wonderful fossils we find today. Learn through the narrative of science, the beautiful photos, and fossil displays of this diverse exhibit why New York is known worldwide for its fine exposures of the Devonian strata.

Including exhibits by Robert and Johanna Titus, along with amazing photographs of Catskill fossils by Art Murphy, this show at the Erpf Gallery is a must for anyone who loves the rocks, fossils and geologic history of the Catskills!

The Erpf Gallery is located at the Catskill Center at 43355 New York 28 in Arkville, NY. The gallery is open daily from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm weekdays and on Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm. For more information visit www.catskillcenter.org or call Katie Palm at the Catskill Center at 845 586 2611.

Invasive Species Awareness Week

The week of July 10-16 is the third annual Invasive Species Awareness Week here in New York. As part of that week, the Catskill Center and the Catskill Mountain Foundation are screening Chris Foito’s invasive species documentary entitled The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid: A Film About the Loss of an Ecosystem, followed by a Q&A session with forest health experts Mark Whitmore (Cornell University) and John Thompson (Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership Coordinator for the Catskill Center). The screening and Q&A session will be held on Wednesday, July 13 at 2:00 pm at the Mountain Cinema, Doctorow Center for the Arts, 7971 Main Street, Village of Hunter. Watch a trailer for the film at www.youtube.com/watch?v=yBh73RlQ2U&noredirect=1

Also during the Invasive Species Awareness Week, the New York City Department of Environmental Conservation and Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership will be at the Pakatkan Farmers Market with an informational table on aquatic and terrestrial invasive species that threaten the Catskills on Saturday, July 16 from 9 am to 2 pm. For more information on visiting the market visit www.roundbarnmarket.org.

What’s Happening At Kaaterskill Falls
This Summer?

Projects to enhance public safety and provide additional access to the popular Kaaterskill Falls area have entered their second year of construction. Because of safety risks associated with the construction, public access to the falls area will be restricted throughout this summer hiking season.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) anticipates construction activities will be conducted during the remainder of the summer hiking season. Construction zones will be delineated with temporary fencing, signs and/or flagging along access points. The public will not be allowed to enter construction zones for their own safety. Individuals found trespassing in construction areas will be ticketed by law enforcement personnel.

New Trails

DEC staff and contractors are constructing a new foot trail from the end of the marked Kaaterskill Falls trail at the base of the falls to the Escarpment trail at the top of the falls. This 0.2-mile trail will include construction of a new, approximately 260-foot tall bluestone staircase, with at least 200 stone steps.

In addition, an approximately 300-foot spur trail will lead from the staircase to a point above the middle pool of the falls. At the end of this trail, DEC and its contractors will install another shorter set of stone stairs to provide access to the middle pool area. The stone staircase will be designed to blend in with the natural stone of the area at a location that will limit its visibility from below. DEC has already opened an accessible trail that leads to an accessible viewing area and overlook platform at the top of the falls from the Laurel House parking area.

The new trails and stone staircase will accommodate the public’s desire for access to a better view of Kaaterskill Falls and the middle pool area, while also protecting public safety. In recent years, DEC has taken additional steps to prevent people from continuing past the end of the marked Kaaterskill Falls trail, including an increased number of signs warning of potential risks, but some people ignored the warnings and put themselves in danger by continuing past the fence at the end of the trail.

DEC is also partnering with the Kaaterskill Rail Trail to complete a 1.8-mile trail connection between the hamlet of Haines Falls and the existing hiking trail system in the Kaaterskill Wild Forest and North/South Lake Campground. DEC will complete the linkage by repairing an additional 0.2 miles of trail on an abandoned town road and installing a new bridge that will cross over Spruce Creek to connect Haines Falls to the Escarpment Trail and North South Lake State Campground beyond.
Alternatives to Kaaterskill Falls
While the improvements are being made, visitors may wish to avoid the area. The Catskill Center has created a short guide to alternative hikes, waterfalls, swimming holes and more for visitors to enjoy throughout the Catskills. You can view that guide at www.catskillcenter.org/news/2015/7/10/kaaterskill-falls-alternatives.

Happenings at the Mountain Top Historical Society
The Mountain Top Historical Society (MTHS) in Haines Falls is home to a restored train station, visitor center and the start of the Kaaterskill Rail Trail. The MTHS also organizes events at its Haines Falls headquarters and throughout the Catskills to help visitors understand and learn about the region’s history. Learn more about the MTHS by visiting their website at www.mths.org.

Explore the Geology of Thacher State Park on July 9
NYS Museum geologist Chuck Ver Straeten and Thacher Park naturalist Nancy Engel will co-lead a three-hour hike through John Boyd Thacher State Park in Voorheesville. Meet in the Paint Mine parking area, south side of Rt. 157 at 10:30 am for an 11:00 am start. If that lot is full, the Mine Lot parking area is across the street. The hike will follow the Indian Ladder Trail and Mine Lot Creek through scenic glens, past impressive sinkholes, and other beautiful views and geological features. Bring a lunch, water and wear good hiking shoes. NO dogs please. Register with the MTHS at mthsdirector@mths.org or call 518 589 6657.

Discover Woodland Valley History and Geology Hike on July 23
Paul Misko and Bob Titus team up once again for a great hike in Woodland Valley. Along the way to a great view we will check out some geological features, and examine some remains of human activity. We might even find some wild orchids too. This is a moderate/difficult bushwhack of about 4 miles total, and goes from 10-4 p.m. NO Dogs Please. More details will be sent upon registration at woodvalleybear@gmail.com.

Save the Date! 2016 Catskills Lark in the Park!
The 13th Annual Lark in the Park will offer exciting hiking, paddling, cycling, fishing, nature walks and lectures as well as cultural and educational events throughout the entire Catskill Region. From Saturday, October 1 through Monday, the October 10, you can enjoy dozens of outdoor activities during the 10-day Lark celebration! Help mark the anniversary of the creation of the Catskill Park by hiking to a Catskill fire tower, paddling the Pepacton Reservoir, cycling on the Catskill Scenic Trail, learning about the region’s ecology, and much more. Lark in the Park group activities are typically free of charge—everyone is welcome! Learn more at www.catskillslark.org or follow Catskills Lark in the Park on Facebook (www.facebook.com/CatskillsLarkinThePark). As we get closer to October, events will be added to the on-line schedule so be sure to check back frequently.

Lark in the Park was originally celebrated in 2004 when the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) called on the CMC to help them mark the 100th anniversary of the Catskill Park’s founding. The NYSDEC is again a key supporter of this important anniversary.

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.

Protect, Preserve and Foster the Catskills
The natural beauty, the majesty of the mountains, 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 their work in: Catskill Park Advocacy; Invasive Species Control; Land Protection; Catskill Arts, Culture and Education; and the continued operation of the Catskill Interpretive Center, the Gateway to the Catskill Park. Celebrating 47 years of collaboration, stewardship and education across the Catskills, the Catskill Center is where Conservation Creates Opportunity in the Catskills!

You can support the work of the Catskill Center by becoming a member or donating online at www.catskillcenter.org/donate or by mail with a check made out to the “Catskill Center” and mailed to Catskill Center, PO Box 504, Arkville, NY 12406.

Catskill Park Information and Visitor Services
Trail Conditions
Conditions can change quickly in the Catskill Mountains and on the trails. For more detailed information on the condition and status of trails and trailheads in the Catskills, the Trail Conference offers a page on their website with regularly updated conditions at www.nynjtc.org/content/catskill-trails-updates.

Catskill Park Visitor Center
Be sure to visit the Maurice D. Hinchey Catskill Interpretive Center during your visit to the Catskills! The Center is now open seven days a week from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm. While there you can explore the interpretive exhibits, gather information and speak with knowledgeable staff about the recreational opportunities that are so abundant in the Catskills. You can also visit www.catskillinterpretivecenter.org or call 845 586 2611 for more information. The Catskill Interpretive Center is located at 5096 Route 28 in Mount Tremper, NY and is a program of the Catskill Center.

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.

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The 2016 Season is made possible in part with foundation support from the Winding Springs Charitable Trust Foundation, the Peter B. & Cynthia K. Kline Foundation, the Windham Foundation, the David G. Whitcomb Foundation and public funds from the Greene County Legislature through the Greene County Council on the Arts.
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EXTREME HIKING

By Heather Rolland

Every activity has its lunatic fringe. From parcour to ultramarathons, runners certainly know about taking a sport to the limit and beyond. But what about hiking in the Catskills? In our region of “little” mountains, what are some of the biggest challenges?

Day Hikes of Epic Proportions

Setting aside backpacking adventures or trail running as separate categories, let’s just focus on plain Jane day hiking. What are some of the longest, toughest, most challenging day hikes that extreme (AKA crazy) hikers have completed in the Catskills?

The Devil’s Path

This approximately 25 mile trail is famous (or infamous) for being deliciously difficult. Rocky, rooty, steep, and craggy for much of the eastern half, this trail offers some of the most challenging hiking in the region. Each individual peak along the Devil’s Path makes for a satisfying and fun day hike. Backpacking the trail should comfortably take a fit and experienced backpacker three days. Disregard those articles that suggest it can be done in a weekend—three days is a much better estimate for most backpackers. And yes, some hikers complete the entire trail in one day.

The Escarpment Trail

Also close to 25 miles, the Escarpment Trail is neck-in-neck with the Devil’s Path for earning superlative accolades. Incredible views, history galore, and some seriously tough ascents—the Escarpment Trail might be more varied than the Devil’s Path, with some very popular and heavily hiked sections and some profoundly remote areas as well. A myriad of shorter hikes combining this trail with connecting trails offers wonderful day hiking options. But some hikers choose to complete the entire trail in a single day.

The Nine

Nine peaks—four of them untrailed and five on trails—makes for a wonderful three or four day camping trip into some of the most beautiful wilderness in the Catskills. Completing this loop in one day is a shorter hike at only 20 miles, but adding the off trail navigation adds time and a level of focus and concentration that following a trail does not.

Custom Blends

Once you become comfortable and adept at bushwacking, designing your own hike with or without trails is another way to craft an extreme hike. Pore over a map (the NYNJTC Catskills trail map set is the best resource for detailed route planning) to explore an

“It always seems impossible until it is done.”
—Nelson Mandela

View of Wittenberg Mountain from Romer Mountain, part of “The Twelve”. Photo by Carol and David White
entire new area; just be sure to settle on a plan and share it with someone before you leave home.

The Twelve
I admit it: I am one of those nuts who on occasion will push myself past what any normal person would consider prudent. I have hiked the Escarpment Trail in a day, and done The Nine twice. The first time, encouraged by friend and fellow Catskill 3500 Club board member, we hiked what we call “The Twelve”—the Nine plus Mounts Romer, Cross, and Pleasant. This day hike exceeded 26 miles and took us 16 hours and 44 minutes. I got up at 4:30 a.m. to get on the trail by 6:30. We did this hike in September 2014, and completed it by headlamp, barreling down the last seven miles in total darkness.

To prepare for this hike, we did a warm up hike several weeks prior, to get a feel for the distance and effort. Our prep hike was 18 miles and included six peaks. We declared it “pretty easy” and thought we were ready for The Twelve. We weren’t. The full loop of Friday, Balsam Cap, Rocky, Lone, Peekamoose, Table, Slide, Cornell, and Wittenberg was tough, maybe even tough enough to call it a day. But after completing nine summits, we had nine miles and three more mountains to go. Maybe halfway down that last stretch, I caught a porcupine in my headlamp’s glare. Huge, and equally startled, the porky turned its back to me and puffed up. The porcupine looked like a Sioux war bonnet—huge and full and completely intimidating. That jolt of adrenaline is probably what kept me going for another few miles!

Why? It’s probably easier to provide a list of reasons why this type of extreme hiking is a bad idea than to explain why we do it. “Don’t you miss all the cool things to look at?” is one question I hear frequently. Another is “isn’t it dangerous?” I could probably come up with a pretty good set of reasons why NOT to engage in extreme hiking, and the first one is impact. I will only hike in a way that allows me to be an ethical hiker. Even on a 25 mile journey, I practice every Leave No Trace principle on the list—I pick up litter left by other hikers, and take care to minimize my own impact just as I do on a shorter hike. And I urge all hikers, extreme or not, to do the same. Never undertake a hike that prevents you from hiking ethically.

I asked other hikers, friends and acquaintances, why they hike the long hikes. There’s a little bit of me in each of their responses:

“The Twelve” — Mall Aldi

“To push our body and mind to the limits. To endure such great pain but such great pleasure!”

— Mall Aldi

“There’s nothing better than being in the woods alone taking it all in, having an experience that’s all your own. A long hike or run adds an element of challenge that forces you to go even deeper within. It’s a mini journey that’s equal parts physical and spiritual.”

— Tim Luby

“I love the long hikes and high altitudes because I can and have it that ‘second wind’ (same in running long distance) when your body clicks into auto-pilot and a rhythm is set with your pulse, respiration rate and pace of your walk!”

— Katie Noir

“For me, hiking long days comes down to two things: challenging myself and acknowledging the practicality of doing ‘big’ days. … [P]ushing myself to see what I can do is enjoyable and rewarding in some kind of odd, sadistic way. I like seeing how much I can climb, how far I can go, how I can stand up to outdoor challenges both physically and mentally. Few people will ever experience their limits, yet I have, and it’s a great feeling.”

— Erik Schlimmer

“So over the past year and a half, my idea of long hike went from 10 miles to 20+ miles. I no longer ‘fear’ long hikes or tell myself I cannot do them. I now tell myself to ‘suck it up, buttercup, it’s just walking.’ … [F]or me, hiking a long marathon hike is not about the physical aspect. I know that given enough time I can hike an unlimited amount of miles. For me, it’s about the psychological aspect. But here’s the kicker: if you know you’re doing a 10-mile hike, at the end of the hike, you’re tired and ready for it to end. When you’re doing a 15-mile hike, at the end, you’re tired and ready for it to end. When you’re doing a 20+ mile hike, at the
end, you’re tired and ready for it to end. Your mind tells your body when you’re nearly done, and THEN it gets tired. I’ve proven this theory with unofficial experiments and I can guarantee you that’s true.”

—Rob Stewart

“Ultimately, because it’s there. In attempting a marathon hike I want to know that I physically can do it. When I actually manage to reach the goal, it is such a huge sense of accomplishment. I feel proud of myself for weeks, months, maybe years later. At the end of the day I know that I can do something that most other people cannot. Completing a marathon hike is an accomplishment that no one can take away from me, and there is no subjectiveness about what I just did. The numbers on my GPS unit don’t lie. The 150+ likes I receive on my Facebook page are kind of a nice bonus.”

—Eric Ortner

“For me it’s all about accomplishing something big and seeing as many different places while you are able to. I already know of SO many events I will look back on someday and think “Wow, I actually did that, what was I thinking, but I’m glad I did it!” Way too many beautiful places out there to explore so go big and see more!”

—Bruce Hadley

Yes, there’s ego in it for me, and a certain sense of pride. I love to joke that I excel at hiking—a sport whose main skill is one mastered by most human beings before our second birthday. It’s hard to feel impressive when basically it’s just walking. But it’s a lot of walking, and at least half of it is uphill. Pushing oneself to the absolute limit and then a little bit beyond that is not for everyone, but it is a journey that some of us feel compelled to take.

“It is not the mountains we conquer, but ourselves.”

—Sir Edmund Hillary
MOUNTAIN CINEMA
At the Doctorow Center for the Arts • 7971 Main Street, Hunter

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

MILES AHEAD
(RATED R, 100 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY DON CHEADLE
Miles Ahead is a wildly entertaining, impressionistic, no-holds barred portrait of one of 20th century music’s creative geniuses, Miles Davis, featuring a career defining performance by Oscar nominee Don Cheadle in the title role. Working from a script he co-wrote with Steven Baigelman, Cheadle makes his bravura directorial debut. 7/1-7/7. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15; Monday 7:15; Wednesday-Thursday 7:15

“… an invigoratingly bold attempt to structure [a] film about Miles Davis as an extended visual and narrative equivalent of modal jazz.”
—Graham Fuller, Screen International

ISAW THE LIGHT
(RATED R, 123 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY MARC ABRAHAM
The story of the legendary country western singer Hank Williams, who in his brief life created one of the greatest bodies of work in American music. The film chronicles his meteoric rise to fame and its ultimately tragic effect on his health and personal life. 7/8-7/14. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15; Monday 7:15; Wednesday-Thursday 7:15

“Hiddleston’s intense performance lends a little frisson to an otherwise familiar, if gorgeously-mounted tale about a troubled musical genius who is inevitably, gruellingly, felled by his demons.”
—Fionnuala Halligan, Screen International
HOW HE FELL IN LOVE
(UNRATED, 107 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY MARC MEYERS
Travis, a young struggling musician, crosses paths with Ellen, an older married yoga teacher who is trying to adopt a child with her husband. Travis and Ellen begin an affair that slowly deepens into something more intimate and profound. As their encounters continue, Ellen is confronted with her failing marriage while Travis must face the consequences of his actions. 7/15-7/21. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15; Monday 7:15; Wednesday-Thursday 7:15

“The type of mature drama that’s rarely seen in American movies.”
—LA Daily News

THERE IS A NEW WORLD SOMEWHERE
(UNRATED, 102 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY LI LU
Sylvia returns to her Texas hometown for a friend’s wedding. There she meets Esteban, an electrifying stranger. He dares her to join him on a road trip through the Deep South. 7/22-7/28. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15; Monday 7:15; Wednesday-Thursday 7:15
Winner, Special Jury Award, Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival

MAGGIE’S PLAN
(RATED R, 98 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY REBECCA MILLER
In this witty modern romantic comedy, Greta Gerwig portrays Maggie Hardin, a vibrant and practical thirty-something New Yorker working in education, who without success in finding love, decides now is the time to have a child on her own. But when she meets John Harding (Ethan Hawke), an anthropology professor and struggling novelist, Maggie falls in love for the first time, and adjusts her plans for motherhood. 7/29-8/4. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15; Monday 7:15; Wednesday-Thursday 7:15

“Witty, observational, and hilarious, Maggie’s Plan is the kind of richly complex dramedy that proves to be the rare picture that serves both halves of that genre description fully, equally, and satisfyingly.”
—Kevin Jagernauth, The Playlist

TICKLED
(RATED R, 92 MINUTES)
DIRECTED BY DAVID FARRIER & DYLAN REEVE
Journalist David Farrier stumbles upon a mysterious tickling competition online. As he delves deeper he comes up against fierce resistance, but that doesn’t stop him getting to the bottom of a story stranger than fiction. 8/5-8/11. Friday 7:15; Saturday 4:15 & 7:15; Sunday 2:15, 4:45 & 7:15; Monday 7:15; Wednesday-Thursday 7:15

“Tickled is unexpectedly compelling, alternately painful and funny and deeply sad.”
—Lee Marshall, Screen International

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
We show the best Hollywood films available each week
Below are some films that we will show during the months of July and August.

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

ORPHEUM FILM & PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
6050 Main Street
Village of Tannersville

THE MEDDLER (RATED PG-13, 100 MINUTES)
An aging widow from New York City follows her daughter to Los Angeles in hopes of starting a new life after her husband passes away. 7/1-7/7. Friday 7:30; Monday 7:30; Wednesday-Thursday 7:30. 7/10-7/14. Sunday-Monday 7:30; Wednesday-Thursday 7:30

SING STREET (RATED PG-13, 106 MINUTES)
A boy growing up in Dublin during the 1980s escapes his strained family life by starting a band to impress the mysterious girl he likes. 7/15-7/21. Friday 7:30; Sunday-Monday 7:30; Wednesday-Thursday 7:30. 7/22-7/28. Friday 7:30; Sunday-Monday 7:30; Wednesday-Thursday 7:30

THE LOBSTER (RATED R, 119 MINUTES)
In a dystopian near future, single people, according to the laws of The City, are taken to The Hotel, where they are obliged to find a romantic partner in forty-five days or are transformed into beasts and sent off into The Woods. 7/29-8/11. Friday 7:30; Saturday 4:00 & 7:30; Sunday-Monday 7:30; Wednesday-Thursday 7:30

LOVE & FRIENDSHIP (RATED PG, 92 MINUTES)
Lady Susan Vernon takes up temporary residence at her in-laws’ estate and, while there, is determined to be a matchmaker for her daughter Frederica—and herself too, naturally. 8/12-8/25. Friday 7:30; Saturday 4:00 & 7:30; Sunday-Monday 7:30; Wednesday-Thursday 7:30

DOCTOROW CENTER FOR THE ARTS
7971 Main Street
Village of Hunter

INDEPENDENCE DAY: RESURGENCE (RATED PG-13, 120 MINUTES)
Two decades after the first invasion, Earth is faced with a new extra-Solar threat. 7/1-7/7. 2D: Friday 7:00; Saturday 4:00; Sunday 2:00. 3D: Saturday 7:00; Sunday 4:30 & 7:00; Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 7:00

FINDING DORY (RATED PG, 103 MINUTES)
The friendly-but-forgetful blue tang fish reunites with her loved ones. 7/1-7/7. Friday 7:30; Saturday 4:30 & 7:30; Sunday 2:30, 5:00 & 7:30; Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 7:30

MONEY MONSTER (RATED R, 98 MINUTES)
A financial TV host and his producer are taken hostage by an irate investor. 7/8-7/14. Friday 7:00; Saturday 4:00 & 7:00; Sunday 2:00, 4:30 & 7:00; Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 7:00

GHOSTBUSTERS (NOT YET RATED)
The beloved franchise makes its long-awaited return. 7/15-7/21. 2D: Friday 7:00; Saturday 4:00; Sunday 2:00. 3D: Saturday 7:00; Sunday 4:30 & 7:00; Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 7:00 7/22-7/28. 2D: Friday 7:30; Saturday 4:30 & 7:30; Sunday 2:30, 5:00 & 7:30.

STAR TREK: BEYOND (NOT YET RATED)
The USS Enterprise crew encounters a mysterious new enemy. 7/22-7/28. 2D: Friday 7:00; Saturday 4:00; Sunday 2:00. 3D: Saturday 7:00; Sunday 4:30 & 7:00; Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 7:00
CLASSES ARE NOW OPEN FOR REGISTRATION!

WEEKLY CLASSES

Basics & Beyond: June 29-August 31
Susan Beecher, nationally recognized potter & teacher

Clay for Seniors: June 29-August 31
Susan Beecher

WORKSHOPS through August

Sensational Salt Firing: July 1-3
Susan Beecher

Salt of the Earth: July 7-12
Jack Troy, potter, teacher and writer

Exciting and Formidable Soda Firing!
Making Lively Pots and Working Soft on the Wheel: July 14-19
Gay Smith, studio potter & teaching artist

Creative Print Making,
Using Gelli Plate Techniques: July 16-17
Patti Ferrara, multi-media artist

Flashing & Fuming:
Special Effects in Raku & Salt Firing: July 21-26
Randy Brodnax & Don Ellis, master Raku potters

Pots for the Table: July 28-August 1
Caroline Cercone, independent studio potter

Chinese Brush Painting: August 6-7
Linda Schultz, master painter

Making with a Master: August 28-22
Shiro Otani, visionary ceramic leader

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.
THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION’S KAATERSKILL FINE ARTS & CRAFTS GALLERY representing artists & artisans of the Northern Catskills is proud to present

FUGUES: A SOLO EXHIBIT BY ILONA SOCHYNSKY THROUGH AUGUST 7

Opening Reception: Saturday, July 2, 1-3 pm
Light refreshments • Public invited

Ilona Sochynsky is a prolific fine artist, graphic designer, and educator. A graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design (1969) and MFA from Yale (1972), Sochynsky has been exhibiting her works in a multiplicity of media since the early 1980s in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware, Chicago, Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Rhode Island. She successfully ran a graphic design firm, Ilona Sochynsky Associates until 1979, at which time she decided to devote energies to painting full time. Her initial paintings of this period address the concerns of Pop Art and Photorealism, particularly the work of James Rosenquist. By the mid-1980s, she shifted towards more internalized personal concerns integrating relationships, pop culture, into images with psychological and emotional intensity. In the 1990s, she turned towards formalism, exploring color and design elements, often in works made up of small-scale canvases. Of late, these interests have become manifest in large-scale, shaped canvases, which are almost playful in their vibrant colors.

Currently Sochynsky has embarked on a new series of circle paintings titled “Fugues”. Using the circular form she attempts to interweave fragments and textures into a contrapuntal composition which aspires to a state of harmony, and which provokes a dreamlike state of altered consciousness in the viewer.

Spanning a career of over forty years, she exhibited widely in the U.S. and abroad. Her most recent exhibitions include Back to the U.S.S.R., Art Basel Miami (2015); A Singular Vision: Ilona Sochynsky, Retrospective of Painting, the Ukrainian Museum (2012); and Ilona Sochynsky: Abstract Intrigue, the Noyes Museum, NJ (2008). Her work is found in numerous public and private collections, including the Zimmerli Art Museum at Rutgers University, the Noyes Museum of Art, the Ukrainian Museum, and Morris Propp Foundation.
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NEW YORK BLUES HALL OF FAME

CONCERT & CEREMONY
Saturday, July 16, 2016 @ 8:00 pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center
6050 Main Street, Village of Tannersville

2016 INDUCTEES
Rory Block
John Platania

FEATURING
PERFORMANCES BY
Professor Louie & the Crowmatix
Michael Packer Blues Band
Larry Packer • Greg Dayton

Tickets Purchased Ahead: $30
(Price valid until 5 hours before the performance)
Tickets Purchased At Door: $35
Tickets: www.catskillmtn.org • 518 263 2063

Catskill Mountain Foundation is funded in part by the New York State Council on the Arts, the Jarvis and Constance Doctorow Family Foundation, the Samuel and Esther Doctorow Fund, The Greene County Legislature through the Cultural Fund administered by the Greene County Council on the Arts, Bank of Greene County, Greene County Youth Fund, Marshall & Sterling, Stewart’s Shops, Windham Foundation and by private donations.
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www.catskillcenter.org

Greene County Soil & Water Conservation District
www.gcswcd.com

Mount Utsayantha Regional Arts League (MURAL)
www.muralartgallery.org

Mountain Top Arboretum
www.mtarboretum.org

Writers in the Mountains
www.writersinthemountains.org

Kaaterskill Actors Theater, Petite Productions and the Schoharie Creek Players present

Friday & Saturday, July 1 & 2 @ 7 PM
Sunday, July 3 @ 2 PM

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7971 Main Street, Village of Hunter

Tickets: $15 cash at the door
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Catskill Mountain Foundation is supported in part by the Bank of Greene County, Jarvis & Constance Doctorow Family Foundation, Greene County Council on the Arts, Greene County Youth Fund, Marshall & Sterling, NYS on the Arts and the REDC initiative with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, Stewart’s Shops, Windham Foundation, and by private donations.

Catskill Mountain Foundation • 7971 Main Street, Village of Hunter
518 263 2001 • www.catskillmtn.org
### JULY 2016 MOVIES & EVENTS AT A GLANCE

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#### Schedule subject to change: please call 518 263 4702 or visit our website 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!

*In some cases, Screen One films will run in a combination of 2D and 3D showtimes. SHOWTIMES IN RED INDICATE 3D SHOWTIMES (HIGHER TICKET PRICES APPLY). SHOWTIMES IN BLACK INDICATE 2D SHOWTIMES.*

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### July 2016 • GUIDE 37
Art Explorers 2016

Adventures that allow your children to explore their creativity through:

- Arts & Crafts
- Scrapbooking
- Weekly Theater
- Draw & Sketch
- Cartooning

Ages 5-12

Program location:
34 County Route 56
Maplecrest, NY

Six session dates, July-August
For more information or to register please call 518 263 2001
BECOME A MEMBER OF THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION!
Support The Arts in Our Community!

EACH YEAR, THE CATSKILL MOUNTAIN FOUNDATION

• Presents and hosts more than 20 performances and lectures.
• Offers free or subsidized arts programs that are enjoyed by hundreds of local children.
• Offers works of over 40 regional artists, along with the a hand-curated collection of over 4,000 books.
• Hosts arts residencies bringing many artists to our community for extended stays.
• Is the home of the Piano Performance Museum, a rare collection of historic playable pianos.
• Runs a dozen studio arts programs, with students from around the U.S.
• Shows more than 100 films on our four screens in Hunter and Tannersville.
• Publishes the monthly Guide magazine, distributed throughout the Catskill Region and at New York State Thruway rest stops.

MEMBER BENEFITS

Per Membership Year
All members are listed in our playbills and receive our weekly e-mail updates.

FRIEND $40
• Two movie passes

SUPPORTER $100
• Two movie passes
• Two $5 discounted adult tickets to a performance in the CMF Performing Arts Season

SPONSOR $250
• Two movie passes
• Four $5 discounted adult tickets to a performance in the CMF Performing Arts Season

PATRON $500
• Two movie passes
• Six $5 discounted adult tickets to a performance in the CMF Performing Arts Season

ANGEL $1,000
• All Benefits of Patron Membership
• Complimentary book from our choice selections
• Four free tickets to one performance in the CMF Performing Arts Season

BENEFACTOR $2,500
• All Benefits of Patron Membership
• Complimentary book from our choice selections
• Six free tickets to one performance in the CMF Performing Arts Season
• Two complimentary tickets to the annual CMF fundraiser

PARTNER $5,000
• All Benefits of Patron Membership
• Complimentary book from our choice selections
• Eight free tickets to one performance in the CMF Performing Arts Season
• Four complimentary tickets to the annual CMF fundraiser

Check Enclosed
Visa
Mastercard
AmEx

Questions/More Information: Call 518 263 2001

Catskill Mountain Foundation is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit corporation. All gifts are tax deductible as allowable by law.
2016 PERFORMING ARTS SEASON

BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER THROUGH THE ARTS

TICKETS NOW ON SALE AT WWW.CATSKILLMTN.ORG

January
Common Ground on the Mountain: Folk, Bluegrass and Acoustic Music
Saturday, January 16 @ 8:00pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

February
Concert Celebrating Black History Month
Alexis P. Suter Band & The Ray Blue Organ Trio
Saturday, February 13 @ 8:00pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

March
Red Herring Puppets: “Little One-Inch”
Tuesday, March 15 @ 3:45 pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

April
Poetry at 1600 Feet Festival
Friday, April 15 @ 7:00 pm
Saturday, April 16
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Twyla Tharp Dance
Saturday, April 16 @ 7:30 pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

American Dream
Wednesday, April 20 @ 1:00 pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

May
Enchantment Theater: “Peter Rabbit”
Saturday, May 7 @ 3:30pm
Orpheum Film & Performing Arts Center

Pianos in Vienna and London around 1800: Reconcilable Differences?
Saturday, May 14 @ 8:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Concerts & Conversations
Concert: La Veneziana:
Music of Barbara Strozzi
With Pre-Concert Lecture
Saturday, May 28
Lecture @ 7:30 pm; Concert @ 8:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

June
The Kamikaze Fireflies
Saturday, June 4 @ 3:30pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Vladimir Feltsman, Solo Piano
Saturday, June 11 @ 8:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Playing Mozart as Mozart Would Have Played Mozart
Saturday, June 18 @ 2:00pm
Doctorow Center for the Arts

Left to right: Alexis P. Suter, Walt Michael, Igudesman and Joo, Vladimir Feltsman, New York Theatre Ballet
Tickets now on sale! Check www.catskillmtn.org for updates

While there, sign up for our weekly newsletter so you can have updates delivered to your e-mail box each week.
Mountainside Residential Care Center

Top-rated facility accepting new-resident applications


Received five-star quality rating from Medicare six years in a row.

Among the top 10% of nursing homes nationwide.

New Home, New Friends, New Family

Compassionate Care

- Quality person-centered care
- Skilled medical services
- Diverse activity programs and pet therapy
- Delicious, nutritious dining
- All in the beautiful Catskill Mountains

Call the Mountainside Admissions
Office 845-586-1800, ext. 3312 or 3314

WMC Health | Margaretville Hospital
Westchester Medical Center Health Network

Your local choice for healthcare is a top-performing hospital

Margaretville Hospital is a fully accredited critical-access hospital. It’s dedicated to providing the highest quality, most compassionate care and service to patients and their families.

High Quality, High Service

- All private rooms
- Emergency services and telemedicine
- Rehabilitation
- Radiology, including a 16-slice CT technology and digital mammography
- Physical/occupational/speech therapy
- Medical laboratory
- Endoscopy/colonoscopy
- Cardiology
- Respite and hospice

Call Margaretville Hospital
845-586-2631

Healthy Starts Here
hahv.org