

au•gust art festival

WOMEN'S STUDIO WORKSHOP • ROSENDALE

Internationally Renowned Women's Studio Workshop to Hold Summer Festival; Highlighting Art in Nature and Community

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Rosendale, NY – Since 1974, Women's Studio Workshop has quietly attracted artists from around the world to come and work in its extensive studios. This summer, WSW expands beyond its walls to present **au•gust art festival** - a series of month-long art installations and events in Rosendale.

"A breath of fresh art" - **au•gust art festival** is a free, public outdoor art festival slated for August 7th - 29th. Over 20 selected local, national and international artists will present con[temporary] videos, installations, performance art and sculptures along the mile of the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail that links the WSW studios to Rosendale. The kick-off event takes place on August 7th, with a video festival curated by Dani Leventhal to be presented at the Rosendale Theatre, with a conversation and after-party at the Belltower on Main Street.

"WSW has a long tradition of presenting artists' work in nontraditional spaces," says Ann Kalmbach, Executive Director and co-founder of WSW. "**au•gust art festival** is our most ambitious effort to date, celebrating artists, our fabulous town, and the newly opened rail trail connection between WSW and Main Street." Kalmbach adds that docents and volunteers along the rail trail will assist in bringing art to the community, as the festival is not only about presenting the artists' work itself, but also about contributing to the livability and economic vitality of Rosendale via cultural contributions like these.

au•gust art festival is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. Part of the match for this funding is a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts through the *Our Town* program. Our Town and the NYS funds aim to assist cultural organizations in contributing to the livability and economic vitality of their communities.

WSW has brought over 600 artists to work in residence from around the world, and 6,000 young artists from the Kingston City School District have worked in the studios through the Hands-On Art-in-Education program over the last 30 years. More information at wsworkshop.org.