

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 15, 2014

Women's Studio Workshop
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The Would/Lands: Public art installation opens along the Rail Trail

The Would/Lands: Walk on the Wild Side

Walkkill Valley Rail Trail by the Rosendale Trestle
Opening performance: Saturday, October 4, 4–6pm
Installation will remain on display from October 4 to December 4, 2014
Free and open to the public
Parking at the Binnewater Kiln Parking Lot

Studio visit with Pat Oleszko

CHRCH Project Space
167 Cottekill Road, Cottekill, NY 12149
Saturday, September 27, 2–5pm
Free and open to the public

Rosendale, NY — Women's Studio Workshop invites the public to participate in *The Would/Lands: Walk on the Wild Side*, an opening procession and installation along the Walkkill Valley Rail Trail by internationally-acclaimed performance artist Pat Oleszko. Oleszko's multidisciplinary work interweaves social commentary with eccentric presentations that include elaborate costuming and linguistic jests. As WSW's first Rosendale Cultural Crossroads Public Art resident, she responds to the local history and environment during her two-month residency.

The Would/Lands is an installation and performance by Oleszko a-dressing Nature along the Rail Trail with sculptures in the trees and featuring an opening day event that includes a swat team of poseurs and soundmakers. Installed high amidst the forest bower by the Walkkill are a color-fool series of costumed characters; part escaped scarecrows, part flying circus, the eclectic selection of airborne sculptures are caught in mid-act. This is no ordinary autumnal turning of the colors. Trees are now bedecked with a presence formally unnatural to remain as a diversion until early winter.

For the opening of the installation, Oleszko will happily lead residents starting at the Rosendale Trestle Bridge on Saturday, October 4th from 4 to 6pm. Participants and onlookers should park at the Binnewater Kiln Parking Lot. The procession will feature tableaux vivant along the path, animated by a loose band of talent, including stars from the local art populace, art-terns, stew-dense, plenty o' flora, and some indige-nuts wild things.

Before the opening performance, Oleszko invites the public to visit her studio at the CHRCH Project Space, Cottekill, NY, on Saturday, September 27th from 2 to 5pm. Inspired by the CHRCH itself and Oleszko's recent entry into the Kingston Artist's Soapbox Derby, people may witness *Bride's Heads Revisited: JEST MERRIED*, an eleven-person wedding party created for that downhell event. Participants can even become part of the photo staging of the nuptials in the stained glass chapel. Wedding pix at 3pm.

Pat Oleszko, a mixed media and performance artist, has been making a spectacle of herself and using the world as a stooge since the 1960s. Oleszko has created work at the Museum of Modern Art, King Tut's Wah Wah Hut, Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, as well as worked internationally throughout Europe and South America. For her diverse efforts, she has been awarded a Guggenheim, the Rome Prize, the DAAD (Berlin), and many others, including the occasional evening in jail.

Rosendale Cultural Crossroads Public Art Residency has been supported with funding through the *Our Town* program of the National Endowment for the Arts. *Our Town* funding aims to assist cultural organizations in contributing to the livability and economic vitality of their communities. WSW seeks to draw diverse audiences to Rosendale to celebrate and participate in the arts.

CHRCH Project Space is a multi-purpose art space in Cottekill, NY, dedicated to wide-reaching, inclusive community-based public art projects and collaborative exhibitions with regional arts and education institutions.

Women's Studio Workshop (WSW) is a visual arts organization in Rosendale, New York. Since 1974, WSW has brought over 5,000 artists from across the globe to work in their printmaking, hand papermaking, letterpress printing, photography, book arts and ceramics studios. Over 6,000 Ulster County youth have participated in WSW's art-in-education program. WSW's artists' book grant program has published more than 200 artists' books, collected by special collections of major libraries and museums including The Library of Congress, New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, London's Tate Modern, among others. www.wsworkshop.org

Women's Studio Workshop programs are made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. Additional funding comes from the National Endowment for the Arts, Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Ulster County Community Foundation Community Response Fund, The Cowles Charitable Trust, Edwards Foundation Arts Fund, Eileen Fisher, Inc., Agnes Gund, Klock Kingston Foundation, Joan Mitchell Foundation, Ora Schneider Residency Grant, Stewart's Holiday Match, Tides Foundation and Ulster County Cultural Services & Promotion Fund administered by Arts Mid-Hudson.

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