



Giving Voice to Vision

Building community for women artists since 1974

AU•GUST ART FESTIVAL

This summer WSW premiered au•gust art festival, a month-long celebration of contemporary video, installation, and performance art. We are pleased to report that the festival attracted 9,000 visitors to the mile-long section of the Wallkill Valley Rail Trail that connects our studios to the Rosendale Trestle. In addition to the sculptural work installed along the trail, our programming featured presentations of performance and video art during each weekend of the festival. We were honored to receive support for the festival from the Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council granted through NYSCA and an NEA Our Town grant. Both sources are looking to engage the public in art activities that help communities thrive and grow their creative economies.

More than 30 regional, national and international artists were supported to present work during the festival. Participating artists include: Kristen Rego, Joy Taylor, Matthias Neumann, Melissa Jay Craig, Chris Victor, Sue Horowitz, Toisha Tucker, Margot Walter, Emily Speed, Cave Dogs, Raheleh Saneie, Barbara Westermann, Matthew Friday, Emily Putoff/Elena Sniezek, Nancy Andrews, Sadie Benning, Carolyn Lambert, Deirta Thompson, Jeanne Liotta, Peggy Ahwash, Addie Russell, Jan Nagle, Carmen Lizardo, Keiko Sono, Tona Wilson, Spark Media, Flickbook Studio, Tatana Kellner, Susan Chute and Next Year's Words Poets.



RESIDENT'S CORNER

Artist's Book resident Wei Jane Chir is no stranger to WSW. After two previous residencies with us, Wei returned to Binnewater this Fall to edition *Buddha's Tears*. Wei's book provides information through diagrams, maps, and text about the organ harvesting trade in China, a practice has been ignored for decades by global governments and human rights groups. "I'm grateful for WSW for letting me tell this important story," Wei says. "Without this residency, without the support here, I would not have been able to create this book. The subject was hard and the bookmaking itself was hard, but with the help of the staff I was able to fully immerse myself in the work."

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- December 5:** Friends Explore the Studios
- February 27:** Chili Bowl Fiesta
- March:** Women's History Month On-Line Art Auction

Women's Studio Workshop envisions a society where women's visual art is integral to the cultural mainstream and permanently recorded in history. Our **Mission** is to operate and maintain an artists' workspace that encourages the voice and vision of individual women artists, to provide professional opportunities for artists at all stages of their careers, and to promote programs designed to stimulate public involvement, awareness, and support for the visual arts.

WSW extends our profound gratitude to our program funders:

New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, National Endowment for the Arts, Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Windgate Charitable Foundation, Cowles Charitable Trust, Edwards Foundation Arts Fund, Joan Mitchell Foundation, Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Agnes Gund, Klock Kingston Foundation, the Ora Schneider Residency Grant, Sustainable Arts Foundation, Ulster County Cultural Services & Promotion Fund administered by Arts Mid-Hudson, Dyson Foundation, Stewart's Holiday Match, and the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts.

WSW programs are also made possible through sponsorships, memberships, sale of artists' books, and the contributions of individual donors.



GALA 2015

WSW will be honoring **Lara Giordano** at this year's Gala Dinner and Auction, to be held on November 15 at the Mohonk Mountain House. Lara was an early teacher in our Hands-On Art education program with the Kingston City School District, and went on to become an integral part of the Art Department at Kingston High School. She is an accomplished artist and works with the new Kingston Arts Commission.

Lara believes that her classes are successful because she's able to expose students to WSW's professional artistic environment. "I've always taken my kids to the Workshop," she explains, "so that they can see real artists work, the materials they use in their work, and how they grow an idea through craft and experimentation."

Tim Sweeney, a longtime friend of the Workshop, will be our guest auctioneer for this year's gala. **Ellen Alexander**, WSW Board President, will join him as MC. The Gala Committee has focused on gathering an excellent array of goods and services to feed your mind, body, and spirit.



Growing Our Creative Community EXPANSION UPDATE

Since moving here 30 years ago, WSW has rehabilitated three historic buildings in our Rosendale hamlet of Binnewater. This investment, valued at over \$700,000, has helped to revitalize our neighborhood which was a center of the natural cement industry at the end of the nineteenth century.

WSW is now renovating a fourth 19th century building as part of a three phase, \$1.5 million expansion. This expansion will support WSW's growing Artist in Residence (AIR) and Summer Art Institute programs that attract artists from around the world.

Currently, WSW is able to offer 30 AIR positions each year, yet we receive more than 500 applications for those 30 slots. The new facility will allow us to double the number of artists we serve by expanding studio space and adding more resident housing. Our offices will move next door to the new building, and our current office space will be renovated to function as artist housing. The new building will also feature a first floor gallery, a book arts studio, an artists' books archive and a comfortable room for artists' presentations and community events.

The building exterior for the first two phases of the expansion is complete. WSW's focus has now turned to installation of electrical and heating/cooling systems. We are incorporating a number of innovative energy technologies that will reduce both operating costs and energy consumption.

To date, we have raised \$500,000 of the \$1.5 million expansion budget through private and public funds, and the generosity of individual donors. There is nothing better than a tour of the building project to help you envision how the new facilities will better serve our visiting artists, students, and the public. We need and welcome your support to help move this project forward, so please call WSW to schedule a visit and tour.

NEW STAFF



We are pleased to welcome two new staff members to the WSW community! **Chelsea Campbell** came to WSW as our new Digital Content & Communications Manager after graduating from University of Rochester this spring. Chelsea's domain is the blog, where she'll be interviewing and writing about each new Artist In Residence. She will be working closely with the marketing team to promote these artists on social media and continue to cultivate a digital network of alumnae by featuring their current work on our website.

Julia Hickey has joined WSW as the new Development Associate and Grant Writer. She is working with Anita Wetzel, one of WSW's co-founders, and our chief grant writer for over 30 years. As Anita transitions to a new part time role, she is helping Julia get up to speed with all of our funders. Julia grew up in Cooperstown, NY and earned her bachelor's in Creative Writing at SUNY New Paltz. While traveling around the US, she fell into grant writing with a small nonprofit in New Mexico, and continued writing grants in Nashville. She has relocated to Binnewater to carry on Anita's great work.

FUNDING NEWS: GIVING TUESDAY

As we approach the holiday season, be sure to include Women's Studio Workshop in your plans for charitable giving. We're participating in **#GivingTuesday**, an international celebration of giving back. Observed on Tuesday, December 1, following Thanksgiving, Black Friday, and Cyber Monday, **#GivingTuesday** kicks off our end-of-year fundraising campaign. WSW relies on your support to keep our programs lively and growing.

SUMMER ART INSTITUTE 2015



Summer Art Institute 2015 was one of our very best, with 96% enrollment. International artists came from Australia and New Zealand, nationally from 16 states as well as our local community. New courses in experimental drawing, shifu, and sculptural papermaking augmented the regular series of printmaking, book arts and papermaking courses. Planning is just beginning for SAI 2016, which will be the first time WSW will be able to offer college credit in conjunction with Parsons School of Design — the New School.

ARTISTS' BOOKS



In September, Tana and Ann travelled to Utah and Colorado to talk with students and faculty about all of WSW's programs and to market our artists' books. They made stops at the University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library in Salt Lake City, where an exhibit of WSW's books was on display; the University of Colorado at Boulder's Norlin Library; the Tutt Library at Colorado College in Colorado Springs; the Special Collections Library at the University of Colorado in Denver; and the Denver Public Library. All of these libraries have added WSW titles to their collections, increasing WSW's presence in the western half of the U.S.

ART IN EDUCATION



This fall, students from Kingston High School joined us for two exciting programs: Chemistry & Art and Hands-On Art. During Chemistry & Art, students worked with our studio manager, Chris Petrone, to pull sheets of paper. They also explored ArtFarm fibers with Art-in-Education Coordinator, Tara Hagen. For the multi-session Hands-On Art program, the young artists visited the studio four times, rotating through papermaking, silkscreen, etching, and bookbinding. The students were joined by their KHS art instructors, Lara Giordano and JoAnna Ruisi.