



Dorsky Museum hosts valley artists

Published 12:37 p.m. ET June 29, 2016



(Photo: Courtesy photo)

The annual Hudson Valley Artists exhibit organized by the State University of New York at New Paltz's Samuel Dorsky Museum of Art provides an opportunity for our mid-Hudson regional artists to have their work selected by a curator, exhibited in a museum and possibly be purchased for the permanent collection.

This year, curator Corinna Ripps Schaming, associate director and curator at the University at Albany Art Museum, organized the exhibit around the theme of playful exploration during summer. She received more than 170 submissions and selected 14 artists for the exhibit, "CAMPSITE: Hudson Valley Artists 2016."

Reflecting on the Hudson River Valley's long history as a place to be out in nature, to relax and decompress from the urban environment that many visitors seek, the exhibit is a creative approach to put us in the mood to explore summer and all the memories that this holds. Memories of childhood's sleepaway camps and the posh summer resorts for adults surface in this exhibit in a variety of artistic disciplines and mediums, including performance, textiles, painting, drawing, installation, video and photography.

Jessica Baker's "Circle of Change" might bring back memories of sitting around a campfire on splintery logs. Using the common campsite organization of sitting in a circular formation around a fire, the artist takes it a step further with a play on words, using coins to create patterns reminiscent of creations made during arts-and-crafts time.



Jeff Starr's "Muchmore" is done in acrylic and ink on linen. *(Photo: Courtesy photo)*

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Jeff Starr's "Muchmore" presents a summer fantasy created with patterning and color. Viewers will note the person heading out to summer vacation in the upper left quadrant of the artwork. The layered colors and shapes might represent an overburdened life in chaos. Some recognizable forms surface here and there, but the eye returns to the man painted in cartoon style and exiting the picture plane with suitcase and hobo bag on a stick.



"Beaver Lake House," ink on paper, is by Amy Talluto. (Photo: Courtesy photo)

Amy Talluto's traditional ink painting, "Beaver Lake House," brings back romantic summer memories of traveling to spend summer in a cabin by the lake. Talluto uses water-based ink to create a fresh approach in describing a place, which is a small structure that sits back among grasses and trees, affording a cool place to linger by water.

Chris Victor also remembers the summer cabin using a sculptural approach. "Shed" is instantly recognizable as a symbol of a cabin with all the details, including the window, door, porch and roof. Yet, having all the parts of a cabin doesn't make it habitable – the importance of this structure is line, angles and design.