

Hudson Valley Art & Wine – A Grand Celebration

The Hudson Valley is known as a world-class destination for art and wine. As the birthplace of the oldest existing winery in the U.S. – Brotherhood Winery established in 1839 – and of America's first and oldest art movement (the Hudson River School, 1825) art and wine have co-existed here for nearly two centuries. The best of both will be showcased at the first-ever "Hudson Valley Art & Wine – A Grand

Celebration", on Friday, May 20, 5 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, May 21, 1 to 6 p.m. at the illustrious setting of Lyndhurst in Tarrytown, NY. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the education programs at Lyndhurst, a National Trust Historic Site.

The celebration is curated by the award-winning *Hudson Valley Wine Magazine*, which is dedicated to promoting the region's wineries. The magazine paired jury-selected artists from

the Hudson Valley region with 12 local wineries to create original works inspired by these wineries for its "Year-Long Celebration of Art & Wine in the Hudson Valley." More than 35 of the final works created for the program will premiere at this event, held at Lyndhurst, the picturesque estate overlooking the Hudson River just 40 minutes north of New York City.

The Hudson Valley artists officially "paired" with a local winery for this program are: Jan Horton (acrylics); Crista Pisano (oils); Sasha Chermayeff (oils); Judy Reynolds (oils); Lee Anne Morgan (fine art photography); Barbara Rubin (oils); Virginia Donovan (oils); Patrick Milbourn (oils); Joan Damiani (oil & photography); Anne Gabriele (photography); Susan Togut (mixed media); K. Velis Turan (mixed media fiber); Paul Gould (oils); David Borenstein (mixed media); Sumiko Ports & Sam Winkel (fine art jewelry); Paola Bari (overglaze on porcelain); Robert Breur (sculpture in clay and wood); Vince Natale (oil and graphite); and John Laurenzi (acrylics)

At the beginning of the 19th century, with Americans eager to reduce their dependence on products from Europe, the Hudson Valley became a pioneering region for grape growing. It is now home to more than



"Rows of Baco Noir on a Beautiful Fall Day", oil painting by Sasha Chermayeff

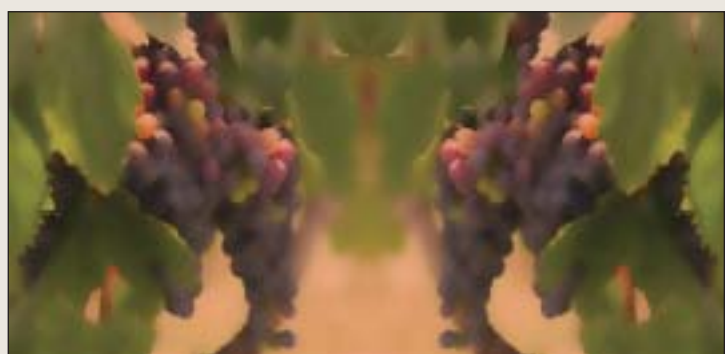
30 wineries. The participating wineries include not only the oldest vines in the country but some also feature the newest technologies; many have won awards. Some wineries are known for classic varietals such as Pinot Noir and Chardonnay; others have developed exceptional Cabernet Francs, Rieslings, and even fruit wines and ports.

The vineyards and farms nestled among the Hudson Valley's picturesque towns have long inspired artists. Following in the footsteps of acclaimed Hudson River School landscape painters such as Thomas Cole and Frederic Edwin Church, the exhibiting artists began working

with their "paired" winery in 2010. Their works are rendered in varied media, from oils and acrylic to photography, sculpture, and jewelry.

The country retreat of New York's noted Gould family, Lyndhurst is a Gothic Revival mansion with elaborately decorated rooms that house Tiffany pieces and paintings by Bouguereau, Gerome, and Daubigny. It was designed "...ensuring that the final structure harmonized with its country surroundings." Gentleman farmer Jay Gould even dedicated part of Lyndhurst's magnificent greenhouse to the growing of grapes.

...continued on page 22



"The Turning of Grapes No. 1", photograph by Lee Anne Morgan

A Walk With Time

By Lee Anne Morgan

It was a cold, rain-drenched day in May almost one year ago when I drove south from my home in Catskill, New York toward a little hamlet – Washingtonville. My journey was taking me to the oldest winery in the United States. It is called Brotherhood. I was conflicted about doing a photo shoot on such a wet, dreary day, but my research told me that Brotherhood's cellars were built in the 1800s and there were bottles of port, perhaps as old, still inhabiting their resting places on racks. So, I knew I would be indoors for most of the work I wanted to do and set about thinking how this all began, watching the rain increase in its intensity as I drove for the next hour.

This photo shoot was the beginning of a year-long project that Hudson Valley Wine Magazine was sponsoring. Nineteen artists, working in various mediums, were chosen to be 'paired' with one of the many, varied wineries of New York's Hudson Valley Region. Each of us was to create two new works inspired by our respective winery culminating in a gala event and exhibit of Art & Wine at Lyndhurst, a National Historic Site in Tarrytown, New York in May 2011. I was honored to have this opportunity, but I had no idea as I finally approached Brotherhood how grateful I would be for the experience ahead.

Before I unpacked my camera equipment from the car, I scouted their cellars for lighting sources. They were, for the most part, dark with little-to-no natural light. Though I prefer using hand-held photography in natural light, making the process more organic for me, I knew when I saw the absence of effective lighting that I would need to use a tripod because of long exposure times. Using a flash was not an option for my personal taste. I hauled my pairs of cameras and tripods down the steps into the cellars and left the pouring rain above. I finally took a breath and stopped to really see what I might be able to capture when I realized I had walked into another time and place with a treasure trove surrounding me.

To see the photos that accompany this journal, visit <http://www.leeannemorgan.wordpress.com>

M Gallery presents 'Hudson Valley Art & Wine - A Grand Celebration!'

A year-long collaboration of art and wine, tourism promotion and select cultural institutions will bring together 18 artists in an exhibition that will travel to four towns along the Hudson. After a kick-off celebration at Lyndhurst Mansion, the show will move to Catskill, New York.

M Gallery will host the juried selection of original paintings, photographs, weaving, sculpture and jewelry – all wine-inspired works by local artists – for one month. M Gallery owner Alyson Milbourn sees this as a great way to highlight the Hudson Valley and its many talented artists by offering art aficionados the opportunity to view the unique works at different times and places.

Artists, hailing from up and down the river, will include Catskill favorites – Sasha Chermayeff, Patrick Milbourn, Kathy Turan and LeeAnne Morgan.

On Saturday, June 11, M Gallery will unveil the work at an Artist Reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Come meet the artists, sip some wine and be inspired by the rich translations of our beautiful fertile lands.

M Gallery is located at 350 Main Street in Catskill, NY. More information is available at 518-943-0380 or www.mgallery-online.com or at www.hudsonvalleywine.com. This is a free event and the exhibition will run through July 10.



"Wine - Glory Days" oil painting by Patrick Milbourn.

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