



“Art is Home: Art House” Returns to East Hampton for Columbus Day Weekend

October 1, 2017

by Pat Rogers

Hudson art returns to The Hamptons for its second annual Columbus Day Weekend pop-up show. Already feeling like an annual occurrence of the Hudson art scene arriving in The Hamptons, “Art is Home: Art House” puts a twist on its upcoming exhibition as equal parts weekend event, curated art show and a chance to see art in a relaxed residential setting. Held in a private residence in East Hampton, the two-day show features three different events. With the new sizzle, three times the amount of artwork and a new name, “Art is Home: Art House” is an art show the organizers believe shouldn’t be missed.

“Even if people were at the previous shows, they should come back and see this one,” said Dave Schwing, one of the exhibition organizers and an owner of [46 Green Street Studios and Gallery](#) in Hudson, NY. “We’re taking this to another level. There will be a deejay, a food truck, lots of artists with a lot of art. We want this show to have a lot of energy and the art is being installed in new ways.”

“Art is Home: Art House” will take place Saturday, October 7, 2017 and Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 1 Cobblers Court, East Hampton, NY. The exhibition presents works by 15 artists who are connected to either Hudson, NY, New York City or The Hamptons. The one-weekend-only show kicks off on Saturday with a Preview from 1 to 3 p.m. An Opening Reception follows from 4 to 7 p.m.

In addition to unveiling more than 150 art works, the Opening Reception features music spun by a DJ and wine by North Fork Project, courtesy of [Race Lane Liquors](#) of East Hampton. [Elegant Eats](#) gourmet food truck will provide food for purchase that’s fit for a Hamptons audience.

On Sunday, a Second Chance Reception takes place from 2 to 6 p.m. At 6 p.m. an Artist Panel Discussion will explore “Art and Place.” Exhibiting artists are likely to discuss the ways location and context can impact art as well as the creative process itself. Panelists include Tom McGill, Keith Batten, Sasha Sicurella, Marco Santini, Joseph Stabilito, Tracy Morgan, Elizabeth Jacobsen and Adam Scott Umbach. The talk wraps up the day and the pop up exhibition.



“Pears” by Sean Russo. Oil on panel, 11 x 8 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

"Art is Home: Art House" is presented by 46 Green Street Studios and Gallery of Hudson, NY, located in the Hudson Valley. Part gallery and part artist studio space, 46 Green Street focuses on fostering emerging artists and discovering artists new to the commercial exhibiting scene.

In the East Hampton show, there is a liberal mix of established artists, emerging ones and artists who are getting their start. Established artists include Tom Hill and Joseph Stabilito; both have exhibited extensively nationally and internationally. Artists who have exhibited nationally include Elisabeth Jacobsen, Eli Merritt and Tom McGill, among others.

The show also features artists who divide their time with careers in creative fields. Exhibiting artist [Tracy Morgan](#) is a set designer for J. Crew, who has also hand painted [one of the company's clothing lines](#). Keith Batten is an [award-winning theater director](#) who has brought 80 productions to the stage in 13 countries, according to his [website](#).



"#38" by Tracy Morgan,
2015. Acrylic on wood, 15 inch diameter. Courtesy of the artist.

The full roster of exhibiting artists includes [Joseph Stabilito](#), [Keith Batten](#), [Tim Ebneeth](#), [Tom Hill](#), [Colly Honaw](#), [Elisabeth Jacobsen](#), [Tate Klacsmann](#), [Eli Merritt](#), [Tom McGill](#), Sam Miesch, [Tracy Morgan](#); [Sean Russo](#), [Marco Santini](#), [Sasha Sicurella](#) and [Adam Scott Umbach](#).



"House Gate, Mongolia #1" by Sasha Sicurella, 2013. Plexi Face Mount Digital Print, 12 x 12 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

Much of the art on view is couched in contemporary abstraction but this edition purposely included art that was not, said Schwing. Sean Russo exhibits traditional still life paintings and Elisabeth Jacobsen presents minimalistic sculptures. Eli Merritt's sculptures are figurative assemblages adopting the form of fantastical animals or insects.

Amongst the abstraction, there is plenty of variety. Morgan's paintings marry florals with abstraction. Umbach's abstract paintings reveal his classical training in the juxtaposition of people or objects rendered in realism in fields of abstraction of both color and texture. McGill's paintings draw on the recognizable to add mystery to everyday objects and animals inhabiting a wash of abstraction that helps to alter the ordinary into something new and fraught with mystery.



“Lawn Decor” by Adam S. Umbach, 2017. Oil on panel, 24 x 24 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

Tripling the art complements the organizer’s decision to infuse the exhibition with plenty of energy. It also gave rise to the chance to do something different. Set in the same East Hampton home as previous exhibitions, the gallery invited exhibiting artist Keith Batten to curate the show. He had recently curate a pop-up show in the Catskills this summer located in a former commercial garage. Pleased with the results, Batten was invited to curate the East Hampton show as well.

The first and second floors will continue to feature art installed to harmonize with a home setting, Batten said. Installed among couches, bedroom furniture and kitchen accoutrements, the art on these floors will have a natural and relaxed feel. It will also help visitors imagine what the art might look like in their own homes, he said in a recent phone interview.



“SOUL OF LIFE” by Keith Batten. Enamel and acrylic on canvas sheet, 72 x 108 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

To add some visual excitement to the show, Batten decided to curate two separate areas to conjure a gallery experience. Unrelated visually from the first and second floors, the lower level and a detached garage proved perfect places to create distinctions, he said. There’s even a secret passage, of sorts, that throws a bit of fun into the art viewing.

On the lower level, lighting was added to infuse drama and emphasis into the art on view, he said. Art in these areas was selected to create a visual conversation among the work established through complementary or contrasting color, composition, energy or overall tone, he said. All the works are abstract but pull from different traditions. The first grouping features paintings by Batten, Joseph Stabilito and Sam Miesch. An adjacent space, visible from the first, hosts a dramatic installation of a grid of 24 paintings, all from Tom McGill’s “Coffee Cup” series. The installation reveals the art, which has never been seen this way previously, in a new light, Batten said.



“3 am cup” by Tom McGill from the “Coffee Time” Series, 2016. Acrylic and enamel on masonite, 24 x 24 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

A second room in the lower level was also thoughtfully curated with details cloaked until visitors arrive, he said. To discover the next curated space—set in a detached garage located on the grounds—a winding outdoor staircase located steps from the sliding door allows visitors to embark on a fun journey towards art, he said.

“The whole place is like a maze,” he said. “It was a fun discovery to find this outdoor passageway that people can go from the basement to the back yard and to the garage. I’m planning to install art along the way in places that people might not expect to find it.”



“Crossfire/Barn” by Tim Ebneith. Oil, acrylic on canvas, 40 x 40 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

For 46 Green Street, East Hampton provides a logical connection between artist communities where a simpatico vibe was anticipated and it was gratifying to find that the expectation holds true, said Robert Bacigalupi, one of the business owners.

“Hudson was like East Hampton was 50 years ago,” he said. “There’s such a growth of new artists there and a converging of emerging artists. East Hampton is synonymous with a lively art scene and we’re really glad to be able to bring new artists from Hudson. Clement Greenberg had a role in helping artists to decide what to do. This is valuable for artists and galleries should play a part. In the ’50s, Ab-Ex critics and galleries had a huge impact on what they were doing. It was happening here in East Hampton during those times. I think Dave [Schwing] has the same effect on artists in Hudson. The critic-artist-gallery relations are important ones.”



“Pink Shower” by Tom Hill, 2017. Acrylic and glitter on wood panel, 16 x 20 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

With many of the Hudson artists working in contemporary abstraction, the connection to the Hamptons feels like a close one, he said. The Hamptons also has a close connection with the New York City art scene, so broadening this exhibition to invite artists from New York and continuing to extend invitations to Hamptons artists creates an exhibition that resonates with all three communities, he said. Staging pop-up shows helps broaden exposure for the art and allows the artists to make new connections with collectors.

Bacigalupi said he’s looking forward to the East Hampton exhibition to see how the art changes

when moved from the artist studio to installation in the home, now offered as a near artist showcase for 46 Green Street Gallery.

"I'm looking forward to people's feedback," he said. "People have such different reactions to art. I'm interested to see 'How do people respond to this art?'"



"New Palestine, Indiana" by Colly Honaw, 2016. Acrylic on paper, 18 x 24 inches.
Courtesy of the artist.

For Umbach, it's a strange twist that a Hudson-based gallery is helping him break into the Hamptons art scene. A transplant from Chicago and then Maine, Umbach has been living, working and painting in East Hampton for several years. Classically trained and exploring the ways his visual voice can be amplified, his experience exhibiting in the 46 Green Street pop-up shows has been a positive one. Ordinarily, his art sells through referrals and word of mouth, he said. The pop-up shows give his art the chance to be seen by a broader audience, he said.

Hoping to break into the Hamptons gallery scene and then a New York one, he feels lucky to be living and working here. To Umbach, the community feels welcoming and he enjoys the vibrant art scene. He cited both Guild Hall and the Parrish Art Museum as places he enjoys. Although he paints in his studio, he appreciates having the ocean nearby and experiencing the golden light the area is known for, Umbach said. The proximity to NYC is another boon.

"I'm making the best body of work here since 2009, when I was in school," Umbach said.

"Art is Home: Home as Art" will present 14 of his works plus a vibrant realistic painting of a peacock feather from 2009. The 5' by 6' artwork has never been exhibited before.

"This is their fourth show and I've been involved in each one," Umbach said. "They have some really great people. Each show has gotten more successful and is more recognized. That's encouraging me and influencing my decision to partake. The reactions from the gallery and the people seeing my work are giving me reasons to paint. It's inspiring and motivating me to keep making art."



"Peacock Feather" by Adam S. Umbach, 2009. Oil and Enamel on Canvas, 72 x 60 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

BASIC FACTS: “Art is Home: Art House” will take place Saturday, October 7, 2017 and Sunday, October 8, 2017 at 1 Cobblers Court, East Hampton, NY. The show kicks off on Saturday with a Preview from 1 to 3 p.m. An Opening Reception follows from 4 to 7 p.m. The Opening Reception features music spun by a DJ and wine by North Fork Project, courtesy of Race Lane Liquors of East Hampton. Elegant Eats gourmet food truck will provide food for purchase. On Sunday, a Second Chance Reception takes place from 2 to 6 p.m. At 6 p.m. an Artist Panel Discussion will explore “Art and Place.”

For a preview, click [here](#). For information, email gallery@46greenstreetstudios.com.

46 Green Street Studios and Gallery at 46 Green Street are located in Hudson, NY at 46 Green Street. For information, visit www.46greenstreetstudios.com.

Copyright 2017 Hamptons Art Hub LLC. All rights reserved.