

# Artists Ask the Public to Peek In

BY SUSAN HODERA  
May 27, 2010

**W**HEN the current series of Open Studios in Peekskill began, back in 1998, about a dozen artists invited the public into their work spaces, according to Larry D'Amico, an artist who is the president of the Peekskill Arts Council's board of directors.

This year, the 13th annual Open Studios, on June 5 and 6, includes work by more than 100 artists on display in about 40 studios, along with 17 exhibitions at galleries, restaurants and the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art. The event is organized by the Arts Council with support from the City of Peekskill and the Peekskill Business Improvement District.

The art ranges from ceramics and sculptures to paintings and drawings, photographs, videos and installations.

"People will be amazed by how much is going on here,"

said Jo-Ann Brody, the Arts Council's secretary and a sculptor whose studio will be open and whose work will appear in three exhibits. "We run the gamut from serious artists to those who make art for fun."

Visitors can pick up self-guided tour maps at sites along the way, and there will be two guided tours each day. Most of the studios are within a six-block area of downtown. For sites farther afield, a free shuttle bus will make stops at key locations, including the Metro-North station, the Jan Peek Gazebo, the Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art and the Hat Factory, a mixed-use center where eight studios and three exhibitions will be open.

One of those exhibitions is "Transformations," a show by 14 clay artists that celebrates the opening of the Peekskill Clay Studios in the factory on July 1. The 2,000-square-foot building will house five private studios and rent shelves to ceramic artists who do not want to rent a whole studio; a common area will have state-of-the-art equipment.

A reception to be held in the Clay Studios' permanent gallery on June 5 is co-sponsored by Yamet Arts, which is showing prints by modern and old masters, and the Inner Group, an advertising company, another tenant.

The third exhibit in the Hat



Howard Goodman

**COME IN** About 40 Peekskill art studios will be open to the public.

Factory is "Sneak Peek," a group show of fine art and functional objects by local artists, including Lorraine Gregus and Brian Beaton. It inaugurates a new gallery space in Studio No. 9, a fine art and custom furniture services business owned by Ms. Gregus and Mr. Beaton.

Other Open Studios shows include small works at the Upper Gallery at the Paramount Center for the Arts and exhibits by Peekskill artists at the Westchester Community College Center for the Digital Arts Gallery and the new Innovative Arts gallery downtown. Participating downtown restaurants are offering specials, music and exhibits of their own, and Brown Street will be closed to traffic for musical performances.

Weather permitting, there is public art to be seen: sculptures on the waterfront, new murals at Field Library and

the City Spaces Project, which was introduced this year with five installations in downtown storefronts.

The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art kicks off the weekend on Friday with a reception and the unveiling of a new sculpture, "Water Works," by the Dutch artist Job Koelewijn at Annsville Preserve Park.

Another Dutch-born artist, Daan Padmos, of Montrose, will play the saxophone on June 5 in front of his sculpture "Time Sharing" at Riverfront Green Park, and his son Daniel J. Padmos, a clarinetist, will perform at the center. The performances illustrate "what often happens in immigrant families," said Livia Straus, the center's president and co-founder. "The father hangs around the riverfront, clinging to his roots, while the son has already made his way inland."

## Schedule

**Open Studios 2010** is on June 5 and 6 from noon to 5 p.m. Guided tours leave Jan Peek Gazebo at 1 and 3 p.m. More information: peek-skillartists.org;

Larry D'Amico at (914) 734-1292 or larrydamico@verizon.net; Jo-Ann Brody at jabrody@verizon.net or (914) 737-1646.

"**Transformations**" runs from June 5 to 19 at the Hat Factory, 1000 North Division Street; peekskillhatfactory.com. Hours are 12:30 to 6 p.m.; closed Sundays except on June 6. Reception on June 5 at 6:30 p.m. More information: peekskillclaystudios.com.

**The Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art will hold a reception for "Water Works"** on Friday at 7:30 p.m., at Annsville Preserve Park. Daan Padmos performs at Riverfront Green Park on June 5, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the hour. (Brunch at the park is 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) His son Daniel J. Padmos performs the same day from 1 to 4 p.m. on the hour at the center, 1701 Main Street, Peekskill. More information: hvcca.org or (914) 788-0100.