

Chronogram

Upstate Art Weekend 2024 Recap

Another Dose of Art Overload

By Taliesin Thomas

Last year was a blissed-out Upstate Art Weekend (UAW) adventure: this year I doubled down on the annual art-overdose opportunity in our region and managed to visit 25 of the 145 participant listings included in the UAW 2024 program. My three-day art-bender was fueled by an all-out obsession with the region's cheerful art scene. How did it go?



The “Upstate Gnarly” exhibition in East Chatham

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From there I dashed over to Front Room Gallery on Warren Street in Hudson to encounter “Symbolic Convergence,” a group show including outrageous futuristic patterns and color combinations in paintings by Linda Ganjian, reconfigured musical instruments-as-sculpture by Ken Butler, and a series of lonely basketball court photographs by Sean Hemmerle. A pretty drive down Route 9 to East Chatham brought me up a steep hill to land upon one of the most gorgeous studios anywhere in the world and the exhibition “Upstate Gnarly”, featuring sensual, surrealist-inspired paintings and bright sculptures by Gracelee Lawrence, Brian Wood, Courtney Puckett, and Ashley Garrett.

From there I drove to Kinderhook to see “Taylor Davis: Until the Sun Goes Dark” at September, including her large wood sculptures sprawling around the gallery and a series of politically provocative works on paper resembling ripped up American flags. The ever-focused Kristen Dodge drifted around the show, smoothly welcoming her revolving fan club (including this fan girl).