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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIRST-EVER CONTEMPORARY ART FAIR IN THE HUDSON VALLEY -- THE "BREAK-OUT" OMG ART FAIRE -- DEBUTED TO EAGER CROWDS

Painting, sculpture, photography, mixed media and digital represented at exhibition in creative upstate community, along with performances by musicians, dancers and artists

KINGSTON, NEW YORK - (October 6, 2021) - The [OMG Art Faire](#) (OMG) debuted this past weekend to great fanfare and buzz in Kingston, one of the primary art centers of the Hudson Valley. Featuring a curated selection of fine art galleries, including artists working in photography, painting, sculpture, mixed media, video, and digital, attendees were treated to a wide range of art. Attendance was large and constant throughout the 3-1/2 days of the fair.

"Hosting an art fair in Kingston has long been a dream of mine, and the OMG Art Faire exceeded all of my dreams. Bringing together old and new friends to enjoy art in a gorgeous, unique space was a delight," said **Janet Hicks**, who in addition to being the Founder of OMG and owner of the One Mile Gallery, is Vice President and Director of Licensing at the [Artists Rights Society](#) in New York City. "I was overjoyed that the weekend's events were well attended and thankful to hear positive feedback from both attendees and artists. I'm already planning for next year's fair!"

Galleries showing at the fair included the [Jane Lombard Gallery](#), [Jim Kempner Fine Art](#), [Field Projects](#), [One Mile Gallery](#), [Kenise Barnes Fine Art](#), [11 Jane Street](#), [Jane Deering Gallery](#), [High Noon Gallery](#), [Theodore Art](#), [BK Projects](#), [Ver Sacrum Fine Art](#), [Cade Tompkins Projects](#), [Soapbox Arts](#) and Alabama artist collective [Gee's Bend Quilters](#). Artists included [Samantha French](#), [Aaron Hauck](#), [Kyle Meyer](#), [Mike King](#), and artist/filmmaker [Guy Maddin](#).



"The show had a comfortable, friendly atmosphere without the usual high-pitched anxiety of New York City art fairs," said **Jim Kempner** of Jim Kempner Fine Art. "There was a lot of room to talk and mingle with local patrons who seemed thrilled to have a high-quality fair in their neighborhood. We made a number of nice sales and met many new collectors. Janet did a great job putting it

together."

Throughout the fair, there were performances by artists, musicians, and dancers. On the opening night, artist [Jim Watt](#) performed his multi-dimensional project, [1000W](#), with jazz musicians. Watt painted as the musicians played, all working off each other. The resulting paintings are sold, with much of the proceeds going to jazz musicians who have suffered during the pandemic. Additional works by Watt were shown at the Jim Kempner Gallery booth.

Modern dance routines were performed by [Olivia Palacios](#) and on Saturday, Ed Potokar's "Sound Dart," an ensemble of musicians/instrument inventors performing original music on artist-made instruments, entertained the crowds. Brooklyn-based printmaker and designer Mike King live screen printed a limited-edition poster throughout the weekend as an ode to the musical history of the venue. Attendees were gifted posters free of charge.

For centuries, the Hudson Valley has served as an inspiring enclave and creative retreat for artists and that trend continues through the present. The venue for OMG, the Wall Street Music Hall, was built in the early 1900s. It originally served as a vaudeville and movie house for Kingston residents and tourists who came up the Hudson River by ferry. The expansive space boasts much of the historic ornamentation and features of entertainment halls from this time period.

"It was a pleasure to present work at the OMG Art Faire in the Hudson Valley. I was inspired to curate my gallery space "Arcadia ~ Real and Remembered" as a reflection of the rich history of 19th century American painters in the Upstate area. It is fascinating that over 100 years later, contemporary artists still consider the sacred spaces and beloved vistas of nature preserves creating emotive works of art from both life and memory," said **Cade Tompkins**, of Cade Tompkins Projects. "We had such a wonderful response to our gallery artists and met so many collectors from the area. I hope to return to the OMG Art Faire next year."

Photos from the fair can be found [here](#).

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ABOUT

OMG ART FAIRE debuted in 2021 as the Hudson Valley's first contemporary art fair. The brainchild of Janet Hicks, the fair brought together painting, sculpture, photography, mixed media and digital, along with performances by musicians, dancers and artists and was held in Kingston's historic Wall Street Music Hall.

JANET HICKS is the founder of OMG Art Faire, and the Director of [One Mile Gallery](#) in Kingston, New York. Since its opening in 2011, One Mile has become an icon of the Hudson Valley's creative scene. The gallery shows both local and New York City-based artists in its unique gallery space in a historic building in the Rondout area of Kingston, New York. Hicks is Vice President and Director of Licensing at the [Artists Rights Society](#) in New York City.