

highlights

The Late-Night Works of Artists With Insomnia

As artist Alexi Rutsch-Brock dealt with her insomnia, she discovered that Facebook had become a meeting-place of creative minds. Like her, others were posting artworks that they created in the middle of the night. Rutsch-Brock began to contemplate this late-night practice as she built virtual relationships with these artists. As a result, she curated Pelham Art Center's *insomnia* exhibition through the popular social media platform. Twelve painters, many whom Rutsch-Brock had never met in person, will present artworks inspired by their lack of sleep.

The several hundred works, all created in the dead of night, vary in style, technique and inspiration. John Mitchell depicts what he observes in his apartment, including his partner Anki King – another exhibiting artist – as she sleeps. Incorporated are notations about his surroundings, such as the time, or what movie is playing in the background. Ola Manana often wakes up after dreaming, the narratives of which subsequently make their way into her paintings. Kerry Law paints the same view from his apartment – the Empire State Building – which changes nightly depending on the weather and the colors lit from the building's tower. The works of all twelve artists, displayed in a dimly lit exhibition space that is painted gray to mimic a "late night" feeling, will remain on view until March 26. For more info, visit: pelhamartcenter.org.



insomnia #12-27 by Julia Schwartz (photo courtesy of Pelham Art Center)

Winter Arrives at The Rye Arts Center

In Rye Arts Center's current exhibition, *Winter White: The Absence of Color*, the use of the color white defines and unifies the work of 15 artists. With color absent from the monochromatic show, the focus relies on texture, pattern and shadow to reflect the artists' viewpoints. Established and emerging artists, including the late Irving Harper, approach the theme through a variety of two- and three-dimensional media, including paint, photography, wood, fiber, plaster, encaustic and a site-specific installation. Among these artists, Henry Mandell digitally transforms text into complex patterns until the words are no longer discernible; curator Katharine Dufault reduces her landscape paintings to only their most important elements, creating a sense of abstraction; and David Licata's translucent interlocking glass rings are inspired by Hudson Valley winters, leaving an impression of ice and snow frozen in time. *Winter White* is on view through March 5. For more info, visit: ryeartscenter.org.



Maelstrom 23 by Henry Mandell

Claying in Our Own Backyard

Clay Art Center (CAC)'s regional juried exhibition, *Tristate of Mind*, showcases sculptural, installation and functional works by clay artists within a 75-mile radius of its home in Port Chester. As clay has become more widely-recognized in the world of contemporary fine art, the show explores the culture, trends and theories that surround contemporary art practice in our region. According to the show's juror, internationally recognized curator and gallerist Leslie Ferrin, "this exhibition will highlight emerging artists whose work in clay conveys individual expression without being derivative or technique-dominated." The work of 17 artists will be on view through March 19. *Tristate of Mind* kicks off "In Our Backyard," CAC's year-long focus on New York Metro-area artists who use clay as their mode of expression and make an impact in the field of contemporary art. The program will feature lectures, workshops, a symposium and a catalog, along with five exhibitions. For more info, visit: clayartcenter.org.



Minesite by Adam Knoche