

# Museum preps for exhibit

Ward Pound Ridge Reservation readies for 'Color of Light'

Chris Serico  
The Patent Trader

White Plains artist Susan Stillman has many reasons to be excited about her upcoming exhibition at the Gallery in the Park at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, but one comes to mind immediately.

"It's always great to see the work outside of the studio," Stillman said of her exhibition, which will be at the Cross River gallery Sept. 30 to Dec. 31.

She said the title of her exhibit, "The Color of Light," reflects her fascination with the way that light tweaks color in otherwise ordinary scenes.

"(The Color of Light) really is a good explanation for what my focus is and has been for many years: taking scenes that might be somewhat ordinary but, when the light is in a very specific place, things start to glow and the color gets very saturated," Stillman said.

Beth Herr, who shares unofficial gallery duties with Rick Rogers, said she first fell in love with Stillman's work in June 2004 at the Northern Westchester Center for the Arts.

"These were not your typical house portraits," said Herr, who has picked gallery artwork for three years. "I was really taken with the way she plays with light."

Commissioned to paint pictures of local houses through her Home Portraits business, Stillman earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in fine arts from the Rhode Island School of Design and Brooklyn College, respectively. She has been a member of the Parsons School of Design faculty since 1983.

## If you go

**Who:** White Plains artist Susan Stillman.

**What:** The opening of her exhibit, "The Color of Light."  
**When:** 5 to 7 p.m. Sept. 30.

**Where:** Gallery in the Park at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, routes 35 and 121, Cross River.

**Cost:** Admission is free. Parking costs \$8; \$4 with a park pass.  
**Call:** 914-864-7317.



Susan Stillman's "Red House, Block Island," above, and "Autumn Twilight," below are on view at the Gallery at the Park at Ward Pound Ridge Reservation.

**"... scenes that might be somewhat ordinary but, when the light is in a very specific place, things start to glow and the color gets very saturated."**

Stillman was selected to illustrate a centennial edition of James Joyce's "Ulysses" for Book of the Month Club, according to a Sept. 8 Westchester County press release. Her previous work has been published in "hundreds of magazines, newspapers, posters and books since 1978," with clientele ranging from The New York Times to Esquire, according to the release.

Although she primarily travels in Westchester to find artistic inspiration, Stillman has traveled the Northeastern shores as well



Susan Stillman

as to England, Wales and Italy, painting her surroundings along the way.

Herr and Stillman were expected Sept. 10 to select and position more than 30 pieces of artwork to appear at the upcoming exhibit, whose Sept. 30 opening will feature jazz music by the Sweatshop Band, four John Jay High School students who won the county's Battle of the Bands contest earlier this year.

Herr said residents should come with high expectations.

"They should expect a huge palate of color that enhances the ordinary scenes and highlights architecture and nature."

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Photos courtesy of Susan Stillman