EXPLORING THE HUDSON RIVER VALLEY

September 28–October 2, 2015
$2,925; $360 single supplement

Registration: (312) 443-3115

Experience the art, architecture, and fall foliage of the Hudson River Valley with Lisa Hahn and Alan Neumann.

Monday, September 28

Arrive independently at New York’s LaGuardia Airport and transfer by private motor coach to the Hudson River Valley, enjoying box lunches en route to Lyndhurst. Filled with Victorian antiques and beautiful stained glass, Lyndhurst sits high above the Hudson and features panoramic views extending to the north and south. Built for former general and mayor of New York William Paulding, the mansion, originally known as Paulding Manor, is an outstanding example of Hudson River Gothic style. After a visit to a private collection of American art, continue to Rhinebeck and check into the Beekman Arms, the oldest landmark inn in America. In the evening, gather for a welcome dinner at Market Street restaurant.
Tuesday, September 29

Begin the morning at the Polich Tallix Fine Art Foundry. Over the years, metallurgist and foundry owner Dick Polich and his team of craftspeople have turned concepts, models, and digital files into bronze, steel, aluminum, iron, and silver works of art. They have worked with renowned artists from across the globe including Jeff Koons, Roy Lichtenstein, Isamu Noguchi, Martin Puryear, and Frank Stella. Upon leaving the foundry, head to Garrison to visit an artist’s home and studio set on a beautiful garden estate with rolling hills. Bridging the gap between abstraction and representation, this artist uses luscious colors, biomorphic shapes, and repetitive pictographic forms in layers upon the canvas. After a tour of the studio and spectacular gardens, enjoy lunch among the paintings. Then depart for a visit to a second artist’s studio, located in Beacon, NY. Both artists are primarily known for working conceptually with photography for the past two and a half decades, although they have branched out into large-scale installations using various materials, including bamboo. Later, tour the spectacular Dia:Beacon. A renovated Nabisco box factory, the museum features galleries bathed in reflected light under 40,000 square feet of glass. Dia:Beacon’s impressive size allows it to present large-scale masterpieces that most institutions are unable to accommodate, including Richard Serra’s massive steel *Torqued Ellipses* and Andy Warhol’s *Shadows*. Dinner and the balance of the evening are at leisure.

Wednesday, September 30

Depart by bus on a trip to an outstanding private antiques collection in Barrytown. Visit a 1820s waterfront villa known for its important collection of original Duncan Phyfe furniture (made for the home when it was originally built) and decorative arts of the Federal era. Continue by bus for Olana in Hudson. Conceived and created by Frederic Edwin Church, Olana offers spectacular vistas and carefully landscaped grounds. The estate is a three-dimensional extension of ideas expressed in Church’s canvasses, and many of the artist’s paintings remain in the home. The 37-room mansion was built between 1870 and 1874 and stands on a hill 500 feet above the Hudson River Valley, offering spectacular views of the river and the Catskill Mountains. After visiting Olana, head across the river to Catskill, NY. Enjoy lunch at a nearby private home with stunning views of the Hudson River. Next, tour the house, grounds, and Old Studio building at Cedar Grove, the Thomas Cole National Historic Site. Widely considered the founder of the Hudson River School, Cole first gazed upon the picturesque Catskill Mountains from the porch of this Federal-style home. The Old Studio is where Cole worked with his young pupil Frederic Church and completed the great series *The Voyage of Life*. The surrounding scenery inspired Cole and numerous proceeding generations of American artists living and working in the Hudson Valley. Later, return to Rhinebeck. Dinner and the balance of the evening are at leisure.

Thursday, October 1

Enjoy a visit to the home of renowned painter and sculptor Martin Kline. His abstract works all originate from wax, whether encaustic paintings in high relief or sculptures cast in stainless steel. Kline’s studio is located on an expansive estate, and his private collection consists of ancient, modern, and contemporary art that includes works by Braque, Picasso, Rodin, Cezanne, and others. Next, arrive at the Storm King Art Center in Mountainville, NY. Storm King is devoted to the acquisition and exhibition of works of modern and contemporary sculpture. Take a guided tour across grounds comprising 500 acres of landscaped gardens and rolling fields. Reflect upon a roster of contemporary sculpture that includes nearly every major artist of the 20th century and a selection of 21st century artists as well. Enjoy a box lunch en route to the next destination. Then set off on a private tour of the Rockefeller estate, Kykuit, which has a wonderful 20th century sculpture garden and art collection. Kykuit is a 40-room National Trust house in Westchester County built by oil tycoon, philanthropist, and family patriarch John D. Rockefeller. Largely conceived by
his son, John D. Rockefeller Jr., and enriched by the art collection of third-generation scion, Governor of New York, and Vice President of the United States Nelson A. Rockefeller, it has been home to four generations of the family. Tour the first floor of the house, the five-chamber art gallery, the sculpture garden, and the coach barn, which houses a collection of antique horse-drawn carriages and automobiles. Enjoy a festive farewell dinner on your last night in the Hudson Valley.

**Friday, October 2**

In the morning, take a guided tour of the Union Church in Pocantico Hills. Marvel at the colorful rose window created for the church by Henri Matisse and at the many other windows designed by Marc Chagall. The rose window commission, Matisse’s last work before his death in 1954, was spearheaded by Nelson A. Rockefeller, who helped found the Museum of Modern Art. The glorious Good Samaritan window by Marc Chagall is a memorial to Abby Aldrich Rockefeller’s husband, John D. Rockefeller Jr. Their son, David Rockefeller, masterminded the windows in the nave of the church. Chagall and members of the Rockefeller family carefully selected the subject matter for these windows from biblical texts. The windows illustrate the story of relationships among distinguished patrons and collectors of modern art, two great 20th-century artists, and leading connoisseurs and tastemakers of the day. Following the tour, enjoy box lunches en route to LaGuardia for your return flight home.

**Terms and Conditions**

Cost: $2,925 per person based on double occupancy; single supplement is $360. Full payment is due at time of reservation and indicates acceptance of all group arrangements. COST INCLUDES: Four nights’ accommodations at the Beekman Arms; breakfast daily at the hotel, five lunches, two dinners; all activities described in the itinerary; transportation by private motor coach; airport transfers in New York for those meeting designated group transfers; all taxes, gratuities, fees, and porterage; services of Lisa Hahn as tour manager and local docents and guides. NOT INCLUDED: Airfare to and from New York (contact the Member Travel department at (312) 443-3115 for suggested flights); meals, or beverages not specifically mentioned as included; items of a personal nature.

Upon registration, each participant will be provided with an Art Institute of Chicago Waiver and Release form that must be signed and returned to the Member Travel department prior to program departure.

**Cancellation Policy**

The Art Institute of Chicago (“AIC”) and Art Horizons International reserve the right to withdraw the tour or any part of it and to make such alterations in the itinerary as it deems necessary and desirable. In the event of the cancellation of the tour prior to departure, a full refund will constitute full settlement between all parties. No refund shall be due from AIC in conjunction with changes in rates or itineraries or substitution of suppliers. No refund will bemade for any unused portion of the tour. AIC reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour if AIC determines that the participation of that individual is objectionable and, in the event such authority is exercised, the participant waives any right and all claims for damages. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of owners at all times. Cancellation notification must be in writing. Participants may cancel on or before August 3, 2015, with a cancellation fee of $200 plus any nonrefundable costs and cancellation fees incurred by hotels and other venues at the time of cancellation. After August 3, 2015, there will be no refund. Trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended; an application will be sent with reservation confirmation.

Image credit: The grand facade of Kykuit, the Rockefeller estate. Photo © Mick Hales.