



***NEW DOCUMENTARIES EXPLORE
ART, AGING, AND THE CATSKILLS***

***'Peggy Guggenheim – Art Addict'
'Almost There'
'Welcome to Kutsher's'***

September 18 – 20 in Narrowsburg, NY

The **Fourth Annual Big Eddy Film Festival** will showcase several new documentaries exploring those who make art and those who make art happen, including art collector Peggy Guggenheim, local artist and arts facilitator J. Morgan Puett, and aging outsider artist Peter Anton. A new documentary on the last surviving Jewish resort in the Catskills. Many filmmakers will be in attendance for talkbacks following their films. The festival takes place September 18 to 20, 2015 in Narrowsburg, NY.

2015 Big Eddy Film Festival Documentary Official Selections:

Peggy Guggenheim – Art Addict

Director: Lisa Immordino Vreeland

“Peggy Guggenheim – Art Addict” delves into the bohemian life and storied loves of the black sheep of the Guggenheim family, the notorious art collector Peggy Guggenheim. A fascinating woman who championed her era's most important artists, writers, and filmmakers, Guggenheim assembled the premier collection of 20th century modern art.

Making ample use of audio tapes that were recorded in the late 1970s shortly before Peggy's death, and never heard since, documentary filmmaker Lisa Immordino Vreeland has an engaging soundtrack of interviews to illuminate a museum's worth of images. The documentary plays like a history of 20th Century New York City and Europe, and of the modern art movement's major figures like

Jackson Pollock, Jean Cocteau, and Samuel Beckett, to name a few. At the same time the film is a portrait of a woman, a mother, a sister who by her own estimation “lived a very sad life,” while bravely making her own rules.

J. Morgan Puett: The Art of Be(e)ing

Director: Roderick Angle

J. Morgan Puett, the founder of the ground-breaking artists’ haven Mildred’s Lane in Beach Lake, PA is known locally and internationally for her facilitation of the arts as a “rigorous re-thinking of the everyday.” This short documentary shines light on her southern upbringing, the role of beekeeping in her family and creative life, and her belief in the home as a site of change. World Premiere screening.

Almost There

Directors: Dan Rybicky and Aaron Wickenden

ALMOST THERE is a coming-of-(old)-age story about 83-year-old Peter Anton, an “outsider” artist living in isolated and crippling conditions whose world changes when two filmmakers discover his work and storied past. Shot over eight years, the film documents Anton’s first major exhibition and how the controversy it generates forces him to leave his childhood home. Each layer revealed reflects on the intersections of social norms, elder care, and artistic expression.

ALMOST THERE Trailer here:

Welcome to Kutsher’s

Directors: Caroline Laskow & Ian Rosenberg

BEFF is proud to show the Catskills Premiere of the new documentary on the final years of Kutsher’s Country Club, the last surviving Jewish resort in the Catskills. One of the legendary Borscht Belt hotels during its heyday, Kutsher’s was family-owned and operated for over 100 years. This film provides unprecedented eye-witness documentation of Kutsher’s from its 100th anniversary season through the next 7 years until the hotel was sold and demolished in 2014 to make way for a health and wellness resort. The story of Kutsher’s is uniquely American, unexpectedly moving and a vital chapter – previously unexplored – of the modern Jewish experience. Catskills Premiere screening.

WELCOME TO KUTSHER’S Trailer here:

Individual film tickets are \$10. All-Access Festival passes are \$100, and include admission to a Saturday evening cocktail party and a guaranteed seat at all screenings, including opening night. Six-Packs of tickets are available for \$40 (which does not include opening night), or Six-Pack Plus for six films, plus opening night and the Saturday evening cocktail party.

All screenings take place at the Tusten Theatre, 210 Bridge Street in Narrowsburg, NY. For more information and tickets, visit BigEddyFilmFest.com or call 845-252-7576.

About the Big Eddy Film Festival

Produced by Delaware Valley Arts Alliance of Narrowsburg, NY (DVAA), the Big Eddy Film Festival aims to advance the traditional art of storytelling by showing the newest and best independent films from around the world and our own backyard. Visit www.BigEddyFilmFest.com.

About the Delaware Valley Arts Alliance

Delaware Valley Arts Alliance, founded in 1976, serves as Arts Council for Sullivan County, NY. DVAA's mission is to advance the arts in the region through support and encouragement of artists; innovative programs; advocacy; and alliances with arts organizations, business, and government. Visit www.DelawareValleyArtsAlliance.org.

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Filmmakers and Big Eddy Film Festival director available for interviews.

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