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Community > Arts & Culture

First large-scale installation of The Chibok Project on view at The Apple Barn

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By: CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Apple Barn art exhibit in Callicoon will be the first large-scale installation of “the girls” as Fremont calls the dramatic unglazed ceramic sculptures that she has been making for over five years.

CALLICOON - Recognizing National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, this event will spotlight violence against women internationally as well as in the Sullivan and Orange Counties. In the summer of 2014, after the Boko Haram kidnapped 276 school girls in Chibok Nigeria, North Branch artist Angela Fremont began working on a project about these girls. Moving from drawings to ceramics, Fremont has been making clay and textile figures to represent each of the 276 girls, both to individualize their humanity and demonstrate the scale of the horrific abduction.

The Apple Barn art exhibit in Callicoon will be the first large-scale installation of “the girls” as Fremont calls the dramatic unglazed ceramic sculptures that she has been making for over five years. The Chibok Project exhibition will be on view October 23-25 from 1-6 p.m.

at The Apple Barn on 51 Creamery Road in Callicoon. Admission is free, and wearing a mask is required for entry. The opening event is October 24 from 3-6 p.m.

Sexual violence against women and girls is a global tragedy, and bucolic upstate New York is not exempt. Fremont explains, “my own first-hand experience with domestic violence as a child is the source of my identification with the girls. As a feminist and artist, The Chibok Project is a continuation of themes I have explored in my work in many mediums over decades.”

The opening event will include remarks by Dr. Theodora Kay-Njemanze, a Nigerian doctor who works at Montefiore Hospital in the Bronx, while continuing to support education for girls in Nigeria. Kellyann Koystal-Larrier, Executive Director of Fearless Hudson Valley, will also speak and representatives from that organization will be on hand with information about domestic violence in Orange and Sullivan counties and available resources for support. The event will also include a video presentation, live music and refreshments.

While admission to the exhibition and its opening event is free, Angela is hoping that people will be moved to make donations to The Chibok Project and its goal to build art-making tents in a refugee camp, a safe space where an artist will guide both adults and children in art making activities.

For those who can't attend, donations can be made at chibokproject.angelifremont.com/page-10.