

GOMEZ MILL HOUSE c.1714



Museum and Historic Site

The History of Our Nation is Embedded in These Walls



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GOMEZ MILL HOUSE OPENS 2013 SEASON MAY 5 Drawings by **susan c. dessel** -- New Exhibit at *Gallery G*

Marlboro, NY (April 2013) The Gomez Mill House opens its 2013 season after 18 months of limited public access due to devastating storm damage by Hurricane Irene in August 2011. Beautifully restored public spaces and repaired historic buildings will welcome visitors back for general tours at 10:15, 1:30, and 2:45 daily Wednesday to Sunday from opening day on Sunday May 5 through November 10, with other offerings of enlightening, and entertaining Sundays at Mill House programs throughout the season.

The season opens on May 5th with a new exhibit at *Gallery G at Gomez Mill House*, a solo show of award-winning NYC artist **susan c. dessel's american samplers, series 3 (the chicken chronicles, nos. 1-14)**.

The suite of fourteen drawings are inspired by the food traditions of the Jewish community in New York from the arrival of the first Jewish refugees from Recife, Brazil, who arrived in Nieuw Amsterdam in 1654, to the Jewish and immigrant communities of today. The works convey visually particulars in the challenges faced by women responsible for meeting the requirements of traditions and laws of food preparation and in the continuity of their concerns and dreams as shared among subsequent immigrant groups. The visual language of Dessel's allegorical tale also celebrates the lives of these women by honoring the traditional sampler. Her repetitive pattern of playful lobsters represents the bounty of non-Kosher and is a play on the restrictions experienced by the minority Jewish community in the New World.

The drawings present historical realities that continue to impact our national dialogue on diversity, reflecting the artist's belief that "art gives people freedom to contemplate things they might not feel comfortable talking about in today's charged environment." With humor, the drawings highlight fears and cultural differences, intermingling, intermarriage, and eventual assimilation, and the xenophobia that has marked the maturing of immigrant communities in the U.S.A. for the past 350+ years.

For more information about the artist go to her website: <http://desselstudio.net>

The mission of the Gomez Foundation for Mill House is to preserve the 299 year old Gomez Mill House—the oldest standing Jewish dwelling in North America and home to Patriots, Preservationists, Artisans and Social Activists—as a significant regional- and national-ranked museum, and to educate the public about the contributions of its former owners to the multicultural history of the Hudson River Valley

The Gomez Mill House and Historic Site is located at 11 Mill House Road off 9W, in Marlboro, NY. General admission to the Museum (which includes Gallery admission) is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors 65 or older and for groups of 10 or more (reservations required), and \$3 for students with ID and children age 5 to 18; children under age 5 are admitted free.

The Gallery is open 10am – 4pm Sundays through Wednesdays. Gallery admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors, & \$1 for children/students.

For more information contact: Gomez Mill House and Historic Site at (845)236-3126 or via Email: gomezmillhouse@juno.org. Meet the Artist is scheduled for Sunday, June 23, 2013. For Sundays at Mill House Calendar go to: <http://www.gomez.org/sundays.html>

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