



For immediate release:

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'BIG POLAROID'S', SOLO ART EXHIBIT by FRANC PALAIA

to OPEN AT CO. ON SEPT. 8

RHINEBECK -- CO is pleased to announce the opening of "**Big Polaroids**," an exhibit by noted artist **FRANC PALAIA** from 6-8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 8. The exhibition runs through **Oct 31, 2023.**

"**Big Polaroids**" is a comprehensive solo exhibition of large-scale color photographs based on Palaia's award-winning hand-colored SX-70 Polaroids. Palaia is the recipient of two **Polaroid Sponsorships** for his original technique of hand coloring SX-70 Polaroids with oil-based crayons. He is a painter and photographer who treats his photographs like paintings. The original Polaroids are only 3 inches by 3 inches in size, but after Palaia's hand colors the photographs, they resemble miniature oil paintings. His process continues by scanning the small Polaroids and enlarging them to 3 by 3 feet. The final results are large vibrant and colorful images with the appearance of blended oil paintings with gestural brush strokes and textured pigments.

Palaia's photographic imagery in this show includes Roman and Greek antiquities, urban walls, unusual exotic architecture and by using expired Polaroid film achieves strange coloration and ghostly, unpredictable compositions.

Palaia is an accomplished multi-disciplinary artist who works in photography, painting, sculpture, murals, public art and is an independent curator, lecturer and musician, with more than 45 solo shows and 350 group shows nationally and internationally. He is also a recipient of more than 20 grants, fellowships and residencies which include the prestigious Rome Prize, and L.C. Tiffany grants, several New Jersey and New York State grants, two NYFA grants and a Puffin grant, to name a few. Palaia has exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the L.A. MoCA, O.K. Harris gallery, the Saatchi Museum, London, the White House, MoMA PS1, the High Museum, Newark Museum, Dorsky Museum of Art, Jersey City museum, Vassar College, Fundacio Salvador Dali, in Spain, American Academy in Rome and the New Museum among many others.

His works have been reviewed in the New York Times, Arts Magazine, L'Espresso Magazine, Rome, La Repubblica, Chronogram magazine, Team Celeste, Arts Magazine, Art Byte, East Village Eye, Hudson Valley Magazine, and the Village Voice among many others.

In October, Palaia will participate in an international Mural Festival in London where he will paint a mural in the London Metro and lecture on NY Street art.

About CO.

CO, located at 6571 Spring Brook Ave. (Route 9) *across from the Dutchess County Fairgrounds*, For more information and rental rates please contact the CO Community Manager , Claudia Cooley at hello@coworkwith.co
Hours: Monday - Friday, 9- 5pm and by appt.

