

# Alice's Wonderland: The Art of Alice Hudson

## Planning an Exhibition for the Chenango County Historical Society Museum

### Introduction and Context of Alice Hudson's Exhibition



### The Story of Alice Hudson



This summer, as an Upstate Fellow, I worked as the Curatorial Assistant for the Chenango County Historical Society (CCHS). The work of this fellowship included plan and design an exhibition for the recently deceased local artist Alice Hudson, who passed away in 2013.

The exhibition aims to tell the story of Alice Hudson, her art, her life, and her role as teacher and storyteller. It also showcases the local culture and art at Norwich, New York. At the same time, the exhibition commemorates the hundredth years anniversary of the ratification of the nineteenth amendment of the United States Constitution.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, adjustments have been made for the fellowship to continue. They are as such:

- I worked remotely at home for the fellowship, conducting interviews through zoom meetings and phone calls.
- In the process, I have made connections with Alice's friends and relatives such as David Wilson, Sydney Waller, and Elizabeth Bronson.
- I consulted and scrutinized more than ten exhibition catalogs to come up with ideas of designing the exhibition catalogs for Alice's exhibition.
- I also contacted designer Stephanie McClintick and New York State Library for more materials.

Overall, I think this fellowship was productive and successful, given the current situation.

- The story of Alice Hudson (1922-2013) is a fantastical one.
- Her art weaves her role as a creative artist, an art teacher, and a storyteller.
- Alice's works concentrated on making dolls, figures and "floppy."
- She was affectionately known as "Kiko" among her friends and family.
- She created famous artwork pieces such as "A Palace for Wednesday," "Procession," and "Cultural Center with Mysterious Locked Room."
- Alice was politically progressive in her arts. For example, she created a floppy poster with the feminist message "Our Bodies Are Not For Sale."
- She used recycled materials from the garage sales and thrift shops to work on her art.
- One of the highlights of Alice's artwork is her cooperation with her daughter Elizabeth to craft the floppy books.
- Some of the artistic influence of Alice Hudson's work may come from Henri Matisse, Paul Klee and Lavern Kelley.

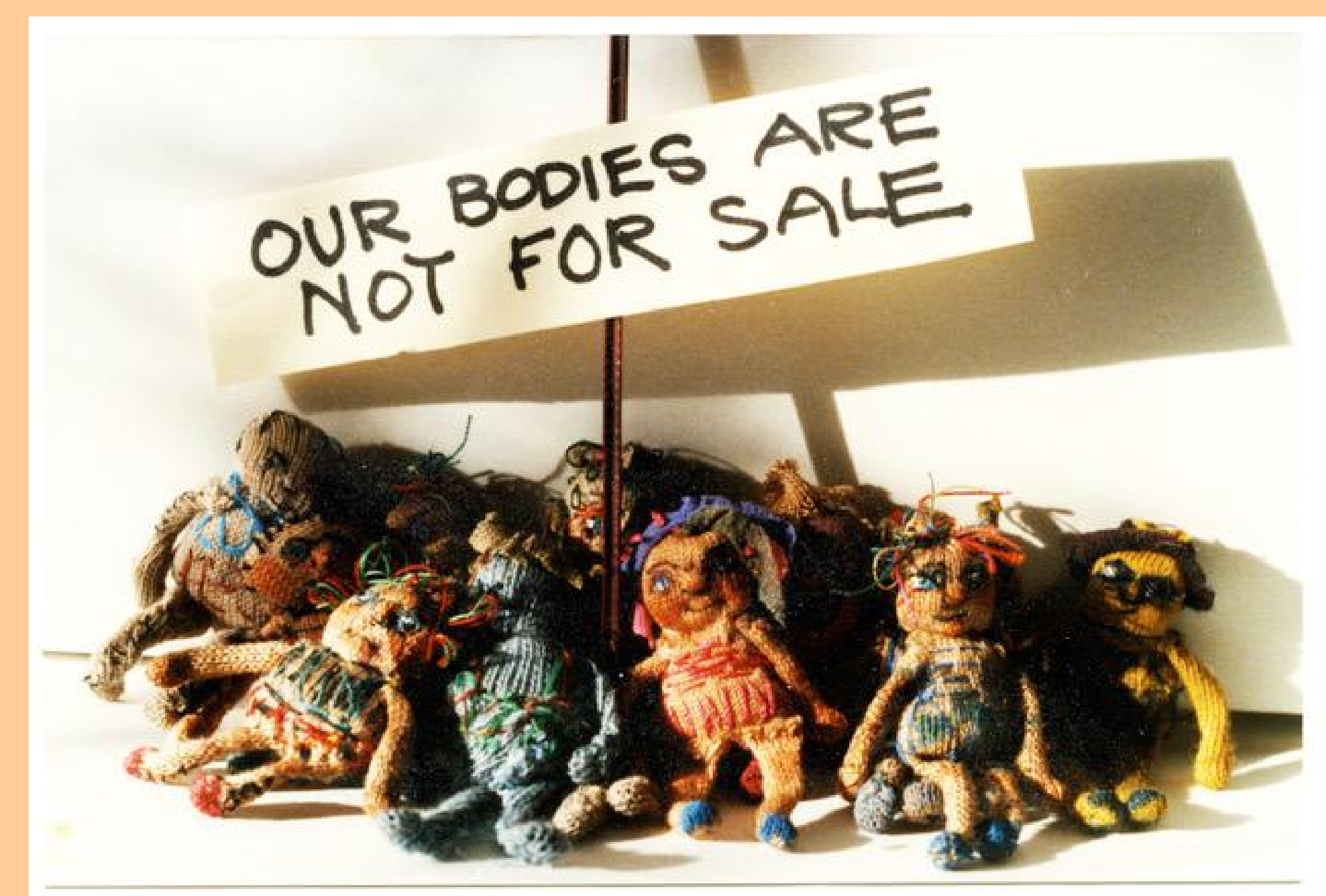


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