

# Tuesday Talks

PRESENTS

Lauren Zito

Communication Studies Department

Speaking on

“Rockwell Kent – from Asgaard to Newfoundland – a New Journey”

Asgaard Farms, as it is appropriately named, is nestled in the northern part of the Adirondacks. This farm was Rockwell Kent’s studio and home, and is now his final resting place. Thus, my beginning of this journey starts at his end. What finally brought him to Asgaard after wandering so many far regions for most of his life? Raised in the city, he found himself traveling to the harshest and farthest areas over and over. What was he looking for, putting himself through these trials?

In the spring of 2023 I made the journey to explore Newfoundland and Labrador, and embarked on a three week road trip beginning in Maine. I explored Gros Morne, touched (too briefly) upon Labrador, journeyed to the northern peninsula into Raleigh, feeling the wind the Vikings may have felt, then traveled east to Saint John’s and Brigus. My visit to the Kent Cottage in Brigus was both a profound and mundane experience. I could feel the history, not just from Rockwell Kent’s time, but from all of the other occupants over the years, both artists and non-artists alike. The Kent Cottage felt like a rich hodge-podge scrapbook that spanned eras, styles, times, and thoughts. I was pulled into the simple, yet elegant layers of wallpaper, both hidden and exposed, along with the notes from past visitors scrawled on the walls marking their brief moments in the cottage. I, too, wanted to leave my mark.

My road trip to Newfoundland left an indelible mark on me. These journeys, writings and shooting aren’t to recreate the travels of Rockwell Kent. Like mentioned before, it’s already been documented many times, many ways. I look to dive deeper under the visual surface, looking at the quiet forms, patterns and dances of light that don’t always make the final cuts in a traditional biography documentary, biopics or other “art films”.

This talk is a first look at what I experienced in Newfoundland - from the mundane (just how many "best fish in Newfoundland" restaurants are there?) to the more sublime (the ancient icebergs that drift on Labrador and Newfoundland beaches to twinkle away in the sun and fade away). I'll be sharing my journey through photos, videos and stories, and with audience participation, help me parse through this beautiful part of the world that captivated not only Rockwell Kent but many before and many after him.

LIGHT  
REFRESHMENTS  
TO BE SERVED

**Tuesday, November 28, 2023**

**4:30pm-6pm**

**Cardinal Lounge, Angell College Center**

OPEN TO ALL

FREE OF  
CHARGE



