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ENTERTAINMENT

Middletown native has photos featured at NYC gallery; opening reception today

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NEW YORK, N.Y. — Middletown artist David LaBella will be featured in an exhibit in New York City that has an opening reception Thursday.

Chelsea's Agora Gallery will feature LaBella's "Altered States of Reality: an Exhibition of Analog and Digital Fine Art Photography" through May 10.

Drawing on a deep appreciation for the natural landscape and the rich artistic traditions that have depicted the world around us since the early 19th century, photographer LaBella produces precise, detailed images with a singular dedication to the craft that has become a hallmark of his work. His careful attention to the elements of form, light, and texture in each of his photographs results in visionary images, each set perfectly in terms of composition, nuance and mood.

LaBella distinguishes himself from those photographers he calls printmakers, who are primarily concerned with the creative printing process.

"I am an image maker, bent on rendering scenes that stand up to rigorous editing," he said, speaking of his images which require no enhancement, manipulation, or cropping.

But the heart of LaBella's work remains centered within his subject matter, amid those last natural vestiges he so devotedly seeks to capture. In the end, his highest goal and greatest achievement is the production of a body of work that depicts the richness and bounty of the wild landscapes that still remain.

Agora Gallery is located at 530 West 25th St., New York City. The opening reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 21. Gallery hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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