

# ART BEAT

**HEY TONIGHT 3rd Thursdays**, a monthly celebration of arts, music, and food, returns to beautiful downtown Pittsfield, Mass., beginning tonight (Thursday, May 15) from 5-8 PM ("and beyond"). This month's theme is "south of the border," so expect a lot of "Latin flavor." The art galleries and shops will stay open late; there will be live music and plenty of family friendly fun; and the trolley—trackless, no doubt—will be providing rides "up and down the street." The Web address is really long, so we're going to suggest using the Google to find all your **Cultural Pittsfield** info.

**THERE'S ALWAYS TOMORROW** Celebrate the first anniversary of **Art Night Schenectady** tomorrow (Friday, May 16) from 5 to 9 PM in beautiful downtown Schenectady. There will be "23 art openings, 7 bands, great food and shopping," all in one night . . . er, four hours. The events range from locations on the Union College campus to the cozy confines of Jay Street to bustling State Street and all around the town. For complete info, visit [www.artnightschenectady.com](http://www.artnightschenectady.com).

**WE THOUGHT THIS SORT OF THING ONLY HAPPENED IN TROY** This weekend, "a two-week long, city-wide multimedia arts project" titled **Plugged In** will open in Hudson with a (you guessed it) party. Held at 330/336 Warren St. (the

PARC Foundation buildings), the party will be happening from 6 to 10 PM and feature entertainment by **Eclectic Method, Lukomski/Majer/Lail** and **DJ ESE + Mikey Palms**. And yes, that Lukomski is

**Bob Lukomski**, a fine musician old-timers like me remember from ye goode olde days. Anywho, the exhibit—**Plugged In**, remember?—will run the gamut from interactive video and video projections to



**VJs from the UK: Eclectic Method will rock Hudson's *Plugged In* opening night party.**

sound-and-music making machines. And you'll find them in storefront windows, on the sides of buildings and where you least expect them around Hudson. Participating artists include **Mark Gregory, Kathe Izzo, Ingrid Ludt, Greg Locke, Jesse Matulis, Michael Oatman** and more. I'll let curator **Melissa Stafford** have the last word: "I believe the marriage of technology and new medias with the historically rich spaces in and along Warren Street will provide a challenging environment in which people can have adventures. . . . Visitors can make their own journeys and their own decisions. Artists will not just be providing a particular piece of work to be heard, seen and enjoyed in one way, but supply a collage of materials for people to play with, explore and create something for themselves." The exhibit runs through May 31.

**ANOTHER GOOD CAUSE** Earlier Saturday (May 17)—from noon to 4:30 PM, to be exact—there will be a benefit concert for the great and wonderful **Arts Center of the Capital Region**. This will be held in front of the **Beat Shop** (197 River St., Troy) and will feature **Kate Pittman, Molly Durnin, Simple Theory, Ramblin Jug Stompers** and **Jonesville**. Now, they are going to charge you for wandering down River Street on a Saturday afternoon. You'll have to mosey over and make what's called a "free-will donation." So do it, eh? For more info, call the Arts Center (265 River St., Troy) at 272-0433.

—**SHAWN STONE**  
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