

Catskill Tales of Love and Transformation



Gregson Theater, Barbara Gregson, Eric Porter and the cast (members of the Gathering Place Cobleskill), researched and rewrote three Catskill folk tales during eight rehearsals throughout September. Those tales are “*The Catskill Witch*”, “*Wigglenose & Eyesore*” and “*The Culprit Fey*”.

Barbara Gregson taught the cast mime, acting techniques, improvisation and storytelling. They also worked with masks, which they use throughout the show. Eric Porter created improvisational music and sound effects to accompany their stories as well as played several characters.

LOCATION & TIME:

Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center Cobleskill
Friday, September 26, 2025 at 11:00AM-12:00PM in the Great Room

THE CAST & SOME OF THEIR ROLES:

Carol Ann Siemion: Catskill witch, many animals, May and the tailor’s daughter

Barbara Gregson: storyteller, Wigglenose, Rip Van Winkle and the Culprit Fay

Eric Porter: Silas Burke, Fay King and a character on the bridge

Possible roles for audience participant(s): Eyesore (a naughty troll), the hunter, old man and old hag walking on the bridge

Note from the director, Barbara Gregson: *Our cast is small, but mighty. So here is your chance! I will be asking one or two audience members to join in and play a few non-speaking characters with us. You will have a most creative and fun improvisation experience.*

Thank you to all who participated in this endeavor including the helpful Gathering Place 50 Plus Community Center staff and the energetic participants in the info session and workshop!



To learn more about Barbara Gregson’s and Eric Porter’s work, go to <https://www.gregson.theater> and <http://ericporterstudios.com>, respectively.



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