



SALLY MANN'S SOUTH

The iconic photographer's first international exhibition opens in D.C.

PHOTOGRAPHER AND WRITER SALLY MANN is familiar to many Virginians. A nearly lifelong resident of Rockbridge County, Mann's earliest works, including *Platinum Prints* and *Still Time*, were first exhibited in the Shenandoah Valley in 1974 and 1987. Even her large exhibitions, *What Remains* (2004) and *Sally Mann: The Flesh and the Spirit* (2010), occurred in Washington, D.C. and Richmond.

Then there are the familiar themes she explores, including Southern identity, the rural land and her immediate family. But a solo exhibition of Mann's work, titled *Sally Mann: A Thousand Crossings*, which opens at the National Gallery of Art (NGA) in Washington, D.C. March 4, considers her legacy not as a Southerner, or a Virginian, or even as a woman-artist, but as an internationally-important photographer who has worked tirelessly on her craft since 1969.

position as an innovator, perfecting many black-and-white and color photography techniques over the years. When she learned wet-plate collodion printing in 1997 and tintype printing in the 2000s, Mann was one of the first photographers to return to these 19th-century processes. Wet-plate collodion was invented in 1881 and tintype predates the Civil War. Both were advances in photographers' quests to capture a more accurate depiction of the human figure in a faster time.

Sally Mann: A Thousand Crossings at the National Gallery of Art will be on view at the National Gallery of Art March 4 – May 28. The exhibition will also be on view later this year at the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, and Houston's Museum of Fine Arts.

—By Amanda Dalla Villa Adams

Sally Mann's *Deep South, Easter Dress, 1986.*

In June, the exhibition will travel to another five museums, including the Jeu de Paume in Paris, making this Mann's first international solo museum exhibition.

A Thousand Crossings has been in the making since 2014, when the NGA was made steward of the Corcoran Gallery of Art's collection of 25 Mann photographs taken between the mid-1970s and the early 2000s. The addition of these works make the NGA the largest public repository of Mann's work.

One thing that surfaces in this exhibition is Mann's

HOTEL WEYANOKE

A Farmville institution gets a second chance.

THE APRIL RE-OPENING of upscale boutique Hotel Weyanoke in downtown Farmville marks another milestone in a city that has seen lots of economic momentum in recent years.

The hotel originally opened in 1925, but closed in the 1980s when it became a Longwood University dormitory. Its new incarnation has 70 guest rooms



and maintains much of the building's original architecture. It also adds four restaurants to Farmville's growing culinary landscape—including Effingham's Coal Fired Pizza and the Cat Bird, a rooftop bar and restaurant.

With a price tag of \$12 million, the hotel is partially funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia Tourism Development Financing program, which helps create growth in tourism areas. It is the latest of several new businesses popping up in downtown Farmville, including a Tru by Hilton and Third Street Brewery. Across the street, Longwood has purchased a six-acre site for a new ballpark that will host the university's baseball team—all signs that Farmville may have arrived to the big league. WeyanokeHotel.com

—By Markus Schmidt and Carolanne Wilson

THE PERFECT PITCH

Baseball star Justin Verlander helps raise money for new animal shelter in Goochland.

JUSTIN VERLANDER claims national fame for playing baseball for the Houston Astros. But it was a different kind of pitch that led to a heartwarming victory at home. The 35-year-old and his wife, model Kate Upton, helped raise money—including making a \$25,000 donation—for a new animal shelter in Verlander's native Goochland County that will open later this year.

"Giving back to animals is a huge passion for both Kate and myself," says Verlander. "We wanted to

contribute to the building of a nice new home for these animals, as well as a welcoming environment in which families are encouraged to adopt their pets rather than shop for them."

The new 14,000-square-foot facility cost \$5 million and will replace the 30-year old, 2,000-square-foot shelter. The project is a joint effort between Goochland County and the non-profit 50-member Goochland Pet Lovers, which raised \$1.5 million; the

county contributed \$3.5 million.

The current facility is over capacity, says Wayne Dementi, president of the Pet Lovers board of directors. The building lacks adequate air conditioning and heating, and volunteers are coping with strong odors.

It was former County Administrator Rebecca Dickson who launched the effort to build a new home for Goochland's rescued animals. But tragically, she did not live to see the



groundbreaking last August—Dickson died from cancer in early 2017.

Among those working hard to make Dickson's dream a reality were Verlander's parents Richard and Kathy. "The generosity displayed by so many in such a short period of time has been amazing," says Richard. GoochlandPetLovers.com

—By M.S.