

*Von Rydingsvard in
her sculpting loft.*



Wood for Thought

Art lovers perusing the Storm King Art Center's outdoor sculpture collection in its four-hundred-acre park in the Hudson River Valley are in for a surprise this month. That's when four monumental wood sculpture installations by Ursula von Rydingsvard—as well as a retrospective of her work during the last fifteen years—go on view. Chopping, hacking, and chipping her way across the surface of her assembled cedar tree trunks, von Rydingsvard leaves her indelible mark and metaphorically tells her own story. Born during W.W. II to Polish parents taken as prisoners by the Reich, she spent her childhood laboring on collective farms and in refugee camps. “I consciously stay away from the cute, crafty aspects of wood sculpture—you know, the home-and-hearth number.” Indeed. —CARLOS ROSAS

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