



Wharton Esherick  
Museum

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 1972 - 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
May 24, 2022

***Home as Self***

**June 2, 2022 – August 28, 2022**

Virtual Opening Reception: Friday, June 3, 6PM

---

**Wharton Esherick Museum Celebrates 50 Year Anniversary with Juried Exhibition  
Exploring Self-Portraits & New Topic Tours!**

**Malvern, PA** – The Wharton Esherick Museum (WEM) is pleased to announce the opening of *Home as Self*, on view beginning June 2, 2022, the second in a series of three installations exploring ideas of “home” in celebrations of the museum’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

*Home as Self* explores the meaning, creation and form of self-portraiture. Wharton Esherick’s remarkable home and studio is perhaps the most complete self-portrait that exists of this iconoclastic artist. For the juried exhibition, we invited artists to share innovative works of art, craft, and design that represent a self-portrait. Each submission had a different approach to what it means to make a self-portrait, just as Esherick’s “self-portraits” took on many diverse forms.

*Home as Self* is a virtual exhibition viewable at [whartonesherickmuseum.org/programs](http://whartonesherickmuseum.org/programs) beginning June 2, 2022. The three artworks selected for First, Second, and Third place will also be on display in the Visitor Center, which is open during the Museum’s tour hours.

**Please note, to enter the Museum you must make advance reservations for a tour.** Details about visiting, open hours, and COVID-19 safety guidelines can be found at [whartonesherickmuseum.org](http://whartonesherickmuseum.org).

**Exhibiting Artists:**

Included in this year’s exhibition were pieces by Virginia Blanchard, Katie Hudnall, Amy Forsyth, Terry Anderson, Hayden Castagno, Paul Castellana, Cecilia Emy, David Fisher, Martin Goebel, David Gootnick, Pato Hebert, Jamie Herman, Joseph Holmes, Bob Ingram, Rebecca Juliette-Duex, Suzanne Bonsall Kahn, Silas Kopf, Gary Kret, Meegan McCaffrey, Bronwen O’Wril, Joel Scilley, Drew Slickmeyer, Mark Tan, Terrence Tougas, and Henry Webb.



First Place: Virginia Blanchard, *Like The Virgin*, 2022  
Mahogany and Rye Straw, 67 1/2" x 26 1/2" x 1 1/2"

**Jurors:**

Finalists for *Home as Self* were selected by jurors Fabio J. Fernández and Keunho Peter Park, along with Emily Zilber, the Wharton Esherick Museum's Director of Curatorial Affairs and Strategic Partnerships. Fabio J. Fernández is an artist, arts advocate, educator, and arts administrator, and the Director of Greenwich House Pottery in New York City. He is the former Executive Director of the Society of Arts + Crafts in Boston and served as the Exhibitions Director at the Society as well as Associate Curator at Cranbrook Art Museum. Keunho Peter Park is an artist, woodworker, and educator, currently teaching woodworking and furniture making at the University of the Arts. Park won the Wharton Esherick Museum Excellence in Wood Award at the Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show in 2015.

**Virtual Programming:**

June 3, 2022 6PM *Home as Self* Opening Reception  
July 12, 2022 3PM Creatives on Esherick: Katie Hudnall

The Museum's *Home As...* series will continue with *Home as Stage* this fall. Updates on these and other 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year programs can be found at [whartonesherickmuseum.org/programs/](http://whartonesherickmuseum.org/programs/).

**Topic Tours:**

The Wharton Esherick Museum (WEM) is pleased to announce a new series of topic focused tours. These special offerings allow visitors to learn about aspects of Esherick's life and work that are beyond the scope of our celebrated hour-long public *Experiencing Esherick Tour*. We are kicking off this programming with the *Architecture Tour*. This 1.5-hour limited offering event delves into the experimental design-build methodologies at WEM, whose campus is a National Historic Landmark for Architecture. This 1.5 hour tour includes the Esherick Studio interior, expanded grounds access, and a rare look into the 1956 Workshop. Visit [whartonesherickmuseum.org](http://whartonesherickmuseum.org) to book a tour.

**About the Wharton Esherick Museum:** The Wharton Esherick Museum, located just outside of Valley Forge Park in Malvern, PA is the handcrafted home and studio of Wharton Esherick (1887-1970), an internationally significant artist and leader of the Studio Furniture Movement. Esherick worked primarily in wood and extended his unique forms to furniture, furnishings, interiors, buildings, and more. His motto, "If it isn't fun, it isn't worth doing," is evident in the joyful expression of his work. A National Historic Landmark for Architecture, his hilltop studio/residence, with more than 300 of his works on exhibition, has been preserved much as it was when the artist lived and worked there.



Wharton Esherick's Studio. Photo by Charles Uniatowski, courtesy of the Wharton Esherick Museum.

---

Wharton Esherick Museum  
P.O. Box 595  
Paoli, PA 19301

**Media Contact:** Larissa Huff  
larissa@whartonesherickmuseum.org  
610-644-5822