

***Home as Stage***  
**September 15, 2022 – December 30, 2022**

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### *Home as Stage* Opens September 15th

*Exhibition features contemporary artworks on view in Esherick's Studio,  
a National Historic Landmark for Architecture*

**Malvern, PA** – The Wharton Esherick Museum (WEM) is pleased to announce the opening of *Home as Stage*, on view beginning September 15, 2022, the final exhibition in a series of three installations exploring ideas of “home” in celebrations of the museum’s 50th anniversary. Featuring the work of four Philadelphia-based contemporary artists – **Emily Carris-Duncan, Kay Healy, Colin Pezzano, and Stacey Lee Webber** – complemented by a selection of textile objects on loan to WEM from The Fabric Workshop and Museum, *Home as Stage* asks visitors to consider Esherick’s home and Studio not only as the set on which the artist’s ambitions played out, but also as a stage that hosted players – often other artists – whose conversation, collaboration, and connection made Esherick’s life that much richer and more profound.



*Home as Stage* artist Emily Carris-Duncan. Photo courtesy of the artist.

To honor that legacy and create new opportunities, WEM invited Carris-Duncan, Healy, Pezzano, and Webber to spend time in the Studio, which is the centerpiece of the Museum and a National Historic Landmark for Architecture, and with its archives, developing connections with aspects of Esherick’s life, the players in his story, and the physical nature of the site. The works created and selected for the exhibition are on display in Esherick’s iconic space, existing as both material demonstrations of that connection across time as well as discreet works of art imbued with each artist’s distinctive voice and vision.

The contemporary artworks on view are complemented by a selection of textile objects on loan to WEM from the Fabric Workshop and Museum (FWM). Produced by four artists and architects of Esherick’s era

with compelling connections to the artist's life, career, and experiences – **Viola Frey, Toshiko Takaezu, Lenore Tawney, Robert Venturi** – their placement in Esherick's Studio explores ideas around the artist's networks and connections on an intimate, inviting stage. Furthermore, the story of the FWM as a space that invites creatives who may not work with textiles to push beyond the assumed boundaries of their practice is one that resonates with Esherick's own interdisciplinary approach to art making and collaboration.

**Related Programs:**

**9/15/22**      **6:00 pm**      [Home As Stage Virtual Opening Reception](#)

**10/9/2022**      **12:00 - 8:00 pm**      [A Song Well Sung: Celebrating 50 Years at the Wharton Esherick Museum](#)

**Home as Stage** is an onsite exhibition open **September 15, 2022 – December 30, 2022**, with artworks on display in Esherick's Studio. Please note, all visitors must have advance tour reservations to enter the Studio. **Details about visiting can be found at [whartonesherickmuseum.org](http://whartonesherickmuseum.org).**

Learn more about the previous installations in our 50th Anniversary series, *Home as Site* and *Home as Self*, as well as past and upcoming programs at <https://whartonesherickmuseum.org/programs>.

**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 has been preserved much as it was when the artist lived and worked there.



Wharton Esherick's Studio dining room. Photo courtesy of the Wharton Esherick Museum.

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