



Wharton Esherick
Museum

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS • 1972 - 2022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 27, 2022

Newest Episode of PBS Series Craft in America, HOME, Features Wharton Esherick Museum, Syd Carpenter, and Helen Drutt English

HOME Episode Digital Release: November 1, 2022

PBS Broadcast Premiere: December 16, 2022

Free Public Screening at [CraftNOW Public/Private Symposium](#): November 11, 2022, 11:15am

[View Trailer](#)

Malvern, PA – The Wharton Esherick Museum (WEM) is excited to announce the premiere of Craft in America’s newest episode **HOME** which features Wharton Esherick’s iconic home and studio alongside Philadelphia-based sculptor Syd Carpenter and craft icon Helen Drutt English.

A Peabody Award-winning series, Craft in America explores “America’s creative spirit through the language and traditions of the handmade.” **HOME**, which takes on the intimate topic of home from many angles – as architecture, personal objects and effects, and as the site of our familial relationships -- premieres on PBS on December 16, 2022. A free public screening of **HOME** will be hosted by CraftNOW Philadelphia at their *Public/Private Symposium* on November 11, 2022, followed by a panel discussion with WEM Executive Director Julie Siglin, Curatorial Director Emily Zilber, Research Director Holly Gore, artist Syd Carpenter, and craft icon Helen Drutt English moderated by Josephine Shae, Art Bridges Terra Foundation Initiative Curatorial Coordinator at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.



Wharton Esherick’s Studio dining room. Photo by Charles Uniatowski, courtesy of the Wharton Esherick Museum.

“Through the artists and stories represented in this episode, **HOME** honors the significance of our surroundings, while also acknowledging the challenging histories that have shaped our ideas of it,” shares Carol Sauvion, Executive Director of Craft in America. Executive Producer Patricia Bischetti adds, “**HOME** offers a nuanced exploration of the environments we make and the personal, historical, and creative influences that shape them.”

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“As we celebrate our 50th anniversary as a museum, we are delighted to share Esherick’s highly individual hand-built studio with new audiences through the Craft in America series,” says WEM Executive Director Julie Siglin. “Esherick considered his home to be his autobiography. Anyone who walks through the doors of his studio can feel the unconventional and joyful creative impulse he brought to every aspect of his life.”

[View the Craft in America Press Release: Philadelphia Artists in PBS Premiere HOME](#)

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[CraftNOW Public/Private Symposium](#)

Friday, November 11, 2022, 10:00am – 5:00pm EST

Moore College of Art & Design

20th and the Parkway, Philadelphia

or Attend Virtually

Throughout 2022, a series of exhibitions and programs at the Wharton Esherick Museum explore the idea of “home” in order to celebrate WEM’s 50 year history and to think creatively about the next fifty years – and beyond. [Learn more about our current exhibition, Home as Stage, open September 15, 2022 – December 30, 2022.](#)



CRAFT IN AMERICA

About Craft in America: Craft in America is the Peabody Award-winning series on PBS exploring America’s creative spirit through the language and traditions of the handmade. With 14 seasons produced since 2007, the series takes viewers on a journey to the artists, origins and techniques of American craft. Each episode contains stories from diverse regions and cultures, blending history with living practice and exploring issues of identity, ritual, philosophy and creative expression. Craft in America’s organizational efforts include educator guides that adhere to national standards, and the Craft in America Center in Los Angeles. Learn more at craftinamerica.org



About CraftNOW: CraftNOW Philadelphia unites the leading institutions and artists of Philadelphia’s community in a celebration of the city’s rich legacy in the field, its internationally-recognized contemporary

scene, and its important role as an incubator for arts based in wood, clay, fiber, metal and glass. Through both creating and spotlighting events during the week of the Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show, CraftNOW invites locals and visitors alike to explore Philadelphia's innovations in the world of the handmade. With its inaugural events of 2015, CraftNOW began its mission to showcase the city's craft community and create opportunities for the public to engage directly with the art of craft. Learn more at craftnowphila.org



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

About the Wharton Esherick Museum:

The Wharton Esherick Museum (WEM) is the home and studio of Wharton Esherick (1887-1970), an artistic polymath and foundational figure in twentieth-century contemporary craft and American Modern design. Wharton Esherick is widely credited as the founder of the Studio Furniture Movement and was present at many of the landmark events which shaped the field of contemporary craft on an international level. 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.

In addition to private commissions, Esherick's work is represented nationally in the permanent collections of more than 20 major museums and galleries, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Museum of Fine Art, Boston, and the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

Please note, to enter the Museum you must make advance reservations for a tour. Details about visiting can be found at whartonesherickmuseum.org.

Wharton Esherick Museum
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