

## **Behind Doors and Through Windows: Reflections on Contemporary Domestic Life**

Organization: The Edward Hopper House

website: [www.edwardhopperhouse.org](http://www.edwardhopperhouse.org)

Location: Nyack, NY

Request for Proposals

Exhibition Dates: August 22-October 18, 2015

Deadline: January 15, 2015

### **DESCRIPTION:**

**Theme:** *Domesticity* is defined as life inside a home and the activities of the family or of the people who share the home. Home is the emotional center of our existence in a somewhat fragmented society. Historically, the events that take place within these spaces have been subject matter for artists, expressing the social themes that impacted their daily lives. Nineteenth Century American artists produced sentimental visions of life portraying the idyllic family. In contrast, contemporary artists' depictions of everyday life are complex reflections of house and home. Today's artists challenge idealized social and familial expectations: relationship tensions, gender roles, rituals, and personal and cultural traditions are seen with layered meanings. Linking artists' approaches to domesticity in the past and present are the dualities that exist between interior and exterior, private and public, secrets and disclosure. Moreover, the significance of Edward Hopper's childhood home to hold this exhibition is of particular note. Hopper opened life in this idyllic life on the Hudson River at the age of twenty eight in perseverance of a life as an artist in New York City.

The Edward Hopper House Art Center proposes an exhibition with domesticity as the departure point for artists. Artists may take the nineteenth century architecture and history of the Hopper House into consideration if they wish. The exhibition will occupy the first floor main gallery and garden. All media are welcome.

**Background:** The Edward Hopper House in Nyack, NY is the birthplace and boyhood home of the American painter, built in 1858 by his maternal grandfather, John Smith. It is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Since 1971, the Hopper House has been a not-for-profit art center. The ground floor is a vibrant exhibition space featuring 20th century through contemporary art. One gallery is dedicated to early Hopper work and memorabilia and rotating exhibits relating to Edward Hopper. Concerts, lectures, and special events take place indoors and out throughout the year.

### **Architecture:**

The exterior of the house and most of the interior were created in the style loosely called "Queen Anne." As you enter, the rooms on the left are part of the original house built in the Federal style, indicated by the classic simplicity of the mantelpiece, the faithfully restored plaster molding, and the wide floorboards. The room to the right, with a

ceiling of polished wood and a tiled fireplace, was added in 1882, the year of Edward's birth. To the right at the back of the house was the kitchen.

## **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Eligibility:** All artists working in any media.

**Fees:** No Fee to enter.

### **Submissions:**

1. Up to 5 images of your work in JPEG or PDF Format. Video artists may include online links.
2. Image list. Numbered to correspond with your image submissions. Include image #, your name, title, date of work, medium, You may include a brief description for each image, however this isn't required.
3. Proposal if work is site specific.
4. Your contact information, email address and website link (optional).

**Notification:** Deadline to submit materials is January 15, 2015. Accepted artists will be notified via email by the end of February. Note: Accepted artists must confirm their participation by April 15, 2015. Artists must meet all deadlines and have work delivered to Hopper House by August 10, 2015

Email Submissions To: [artsinthegarage@gmail.com](mailto:artsinthegarage@gmail.com)

For information and gallery floor plan go to [www.edwardhopperhouse.org](http://www.edwardhopperhouse.org)

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