

"*Art House* reconnects art with its architectural context, a recurrent theme in the history of art and architecture. Don's work reminds us of the origins of art works within the all-encompassing architectural environment, and *Art House* demonstrates that works of art are not separate from the place in which they originate, even in our modern world."

Jon Ritter, Ph.D.
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ART HOUSE/ A FILM BY DON FREEMAN

Some artists don't just create masterpieces -- they live in them. Photographer Don Freeman's poetic journey through 11 houses artists built for themselves. A love song in film to the places art lives.

Art House traces the trajectory of the American artist-designed home from its 19th-century roots, exploring houses created by 11 artists from diverse disciplines. The film reveals the inventiveness derived from the dialogue between each artist's practice and the construction of their handmade homes. The results range from the romantic (Hudson River School painter Frederic Church's Olana, framing views of the Catskills to echo his paintings), to the futuristic (Urbanist Paolo Soleri's silt-casted structure Cosanti growing out of experiments in bellmaking in the Arizona desert). Commentary from cultural critic Alastair Gordon and a haunting score help to evoke the spiritual dimension of the locations and argue the case that the intuitive vision of artists can create great architecture. Some of the structures are in imminent danger of demolition, while others have already been altered beyond rescue, making study of this previously neglected typology a timely and important contribution to scholarship.

Don Freeman is an American artist, filmmaker and photographer. His work has been widely published in *French*, *German* and *American Vogue*, *The World of Interiors*, *Elle Décor* and *Architectural Digest*, international galleries, private collections, and four books, including *Ted Muehling; a portrait by Don Freeman* (Rizzoli 2008) and *Artists' Handmade Houses*, (Abrams 2011) which evolved into the film *Art House*.