

# Art in the Post Elmhurst Art Museum reopens with a trio of new fall exhibitions

Submitted by Elmhurst Art Museum

The Elmhurst Art Museum recently announced a trio of new fall exhibitions, including "Art in the Post," and "Wright Before the 'Lloyd,'" both opening Sept. 8, and an installation by Chicago-duo Luftwerk, "Color Code," on display Sept. 15.

"A Space Problem," organized by Chicago designer David Salkin, is now open in the museum's historic McCormick House through Nov. 15.

"We are thrilled we can welcome back visitors to experience the contemporary art and architecture that defines the Elmhurst Art Museum," said Executive Director John McKinnon. "Our successful 'Museum From Home' program was a creative lifeline for our community. We are glad to continue a variety of online programming along with enriching visits to see our new inspiring exhibits."

The museum, 150 S. Cottage Hill Ave., is opening these exhibitions with strict safety guidelines in accordance with the Restore Illinois Plan. Admission is \$15, \$12 for seniors, and free for students or children under 18. The museum encourages non-members to purchase tickets in advance online. Members, children, and students may check-in without an advance ticket purchase. All visitors must wear a face mask and are asked to review the museum's COVID-19 protocols before visiting at [www.elmhurstartmuseum.org/visit/covid/](http://www.elmhurstartmuseum.org/visit/covid/).

architects, which continued to evolve over 70 years until his death at age of 92. In cases where fire and decay left only fragments and shards, cutting-edge technologies have been deployed to make Wright's home designs whole again. This show complements Elmhurst History Museum's upcoming exhibition "Frank Lloyd Wright: Architecture of the Interior," which opens Oct. 23, and will explore the interior spaces and objects found inside Wright's homes.

## "A Space Problem"

The museum's first exhibition to open following the coronavirus shutdown was "A Space Problem," now on display through Nov. 15 in Mies van der Rohe's McCormick House. Organized by Chicago designer David Salkin, the house is reimagined as the home of a design enthusiast featuring iconic mid-century furnishings, ceramics, patterned rugs, photo collages, design objects, and abstract paintings. Featured artists include Marshall Brown (Princeton, New Jersey), Jennifer Hoffmann (Chicago), Sterling Lawrence (Chicago), David Salkin (Chicago), Geoffrey Todd Smith (Westchester, Illinois). "A Space Problem" complements an adjoining installation dedicated to models, historical photographs, and stories about the house's uniqueness as a prefab prototype by the famed modernist Mies van der Rohe.

## "Color Code"

This multi-venue installation, created by Chicago design duo Luftwerk in collaboration with Renata Graw, will be on exhibit Sept. 15 to Nov. 3. It transforms the international distress call SOS from Morse code into colored flags. In solidarity and connectedness, several organizations will each display three flags by the artists as a call for humanity and willingness to help one another. As the world adjusts to new norms in challenging times, "Color Code" helps us reconsider how language, objects and symbols, and even color can help others find stable ground and safety. The outdoor installation of contrasting color flags by Luftwerk investigates color as a system of language and symbols, and a marker of emotion. "Color Code" is created in collaboration with Renata Graw, founder and creative head of Normal — a small, independent team of designers and creative thinkers in Chicago.

For more information, including most up-to-date summer hours, visit [elmhurstartmuseum.org](http://elmhurstartmuseum.org).

Frank Lloyd Wright's 1894 drawing of the Robert W. Roloson House in Chicago will be featured in the "Wright Before the 'Lloyd'" exhibit opening Sept. 8. It offers a look at the architect's earlier work.



Elmhurst Art Museum is still accepting postcards as part of its upcoming "Art in the Post" collaborative project. The deadline to submit postcards is Aug. 30.



"A Space Problem," organized by Chicago designer David Salkin, mixes the 1929 Mies van der Rohe's Barcelona Ottomans at the McCormick House, with the designer's hand-knotted wool "Opal Rug" and "Jealousy Trellis," enamel and gouache on panel, by Geoffrey Todd Smith of Westmont.

## About the McCormick House

In 1952, the renowned modern architect Mies van

der Rohe designed a home for Robert Hall McCormick III, a member of Chicago's most prominent families, and his wife, the poet Isabella

Gardner. The home is a rare and important example of Mies van der Rohe's mature style, incorporating elements

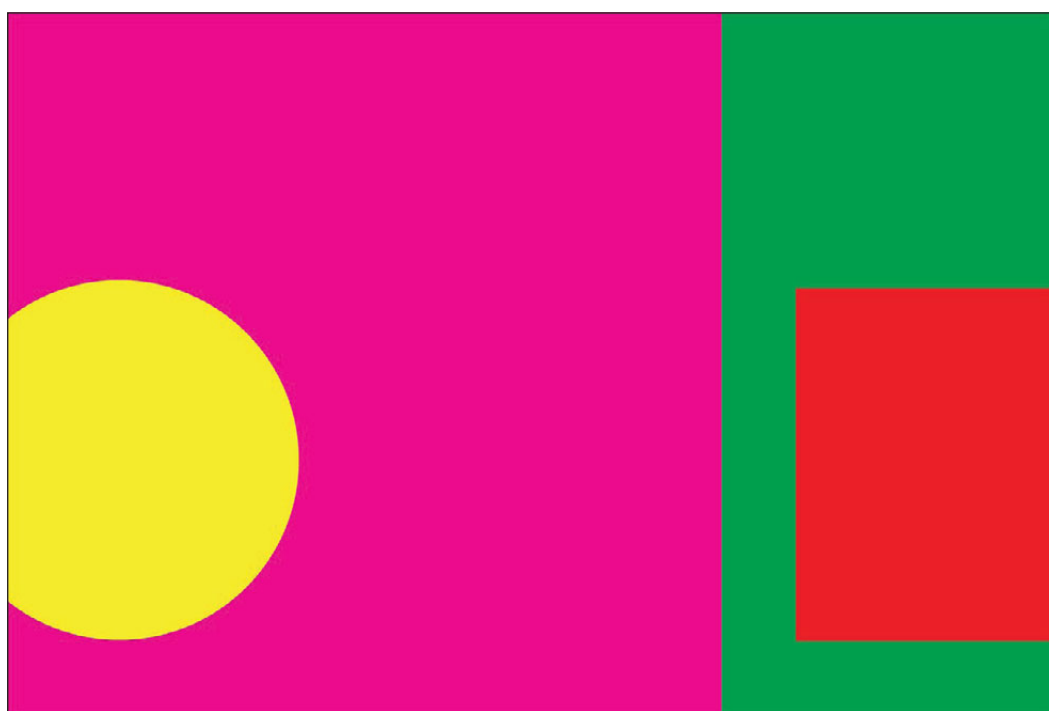
of his celebrated designs for the Farnsworth House (1951) and 860-880 Lake Shore Drive (1951). The McCormick House — one of only three single-family homes designed by Mies in the United States — originally served two purposes: it was a home for the McCormick family and a prototype for a proposed group of smaller, affordable mass-produced modular homes in the western Chicago suburbs that McCormick and co-developer Herbert S. Greenwald were hoping to build. However, the cutting-edge, high-end buildings were not met with enough buyers to begin construction.

## About the Elmhurst Art Museum

The museum is both an international destination for Mies van der Rohe scholars and fans and a regional center where people from Chicago and the western suburbs learn to see and think differently through the study of the art, architecture and design of our time. The museum is one block from the Elmhurst Metra station.



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The Elmhurst Art Museum's "Color Code," opening Sept. 15, is a multi-venue installation transforming the international distress call SOS from Morse code into colored flags. It is created by Chicago design duo Luftwerk in collaboration with Renata Graw,

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## Ethan Olson