

# Esherick, Maloof, and Nakashima: Homes of the Master Wood Artisans

Tina Skinner

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**Tina Skinner : Esherick, Maloof, and Nakashima: Homes of the Master Wood Artisans** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Esherick, Maloof, and Nakashima: Homes of the Master Wood Artisans:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. A Gallery of Mastercraftsman's Personal NestsBy Fredric QuinnHad always been a fan of the work of Sam Maloof while I was aware of Nakashima's original book The Soul of a Tree: A Master Woodworkers Reflections. However here was a book that caught my attention immediately as it portrayed the highly personal lifetime achievement works , the very structures that made their homes , of 3 recognized master wood artisans. Having always built any home environment I've ever lived in \*first\* around my artist's drawing board , now predominantly digital since 1998 , I know firsthand how extremely important is the artist's personally designated space where the drawing board ( or workbench ) becomes a sacred place, a kind of altar , where the artist reliably courts their muse and recreates the world anew with each project , one after another. With that you can now imagine my enthusiastic interest in the fashioning of the kind of entire living spaces these 3 masters of their craft literally \*built\* for themselves as if composing a symphony or masterwork of literature rendered in the form of their personal expression of what emerges as live-in cabinetry. The actual text of the book is somewhat sparse , but I suspect intentionally so in that that it serves to just give context description while allowing the actual pictures to speak their 1,000 words each. I may predict that one who would be attracted to this kind of book can only grow to love discovering all of the artists' personal touches as their signatures, in most cases crafted and then added by the artist's very hand , as each page takes you further along each of the three tours that speaks for each artist as they reveal themselves in what they have fashioned for themselves their families while welcoming friends and patrons into spaces custom designed with purpose in spirit ,mind heart. So I would recommend this open book tour of these highly

individualized works-of-art as a means of looking into 3 true artists' personal nests the way I would recommend the book *Speed, Style, and Beauty* [SPEED STYLE BEAUTY] [Hardcover]portraying Ralph Lauren's personal collection of 20th century classic sports cars and in reading into that art collection revealing Mr. Lauren's nature. Art is to be lived and what better approach than to be made to be lived in. This book makes that case beautifully.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. "Esherick, Maloof, and Nakashima: Homes of the Master Wood Artisans"By bilscløxGreat pictures, excellent printing and very extensive history of each man. It's not just a picture book, it's a very complete history of the lives and philosophies of three great masters of their art.I would recommend it if you admire these artists.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Too wonderfulBy Mark HineBefore this book, I'd enjoyed spotty access to these three houses and their contents. Nakashima's was the best documented in existing books, followed by Maloof, with Esherick's house a distant third. Now, with this book, there is grand access. But, as a friend used to say, idiosyncratically, it hurts my feelings. This is really too wonderful.

A rich collection of imagery explores the actual homes of three of the most esteemed wood artist/craftsmen of the modern era: Wharton Esherick, Sam Maloof, and George Nakashima. Tour the private homes of these masters and compare their innovations and vision through the medium of their own homes, gardens, and work areas. Step into their environments, where aesthetics are most accurately realized. You'll delight in Esherick's humble mountaintop home where straight lines were purposefully forbidden, and Maloof's sprawling California home that expresses his inexhaustible creativity and industriousness. Nakashima's home is a harmonious marriage of Japanese influences with Pennsylvania's rich natural resources. This book is a must-have for devotees of these artists, as well as aspiring woodworkers who want tutelage from the top.

About the AuthorPhotographer Steven P. Whitsitt travels the United States, documenting the work of top-end designers. Tina Skinner has authored numerous books on home design and architecture.