Nico Muhly: Pastoral (Indoors/Outdoors)

Debut performance Saturday, June 19, 2021 at Planting Fields in Oyster Bay, NY

Planting Fields Foundation’s 2021 Catalyst commission, a two-part sound installation, will play in the Gallery of Coe Hall, and inside and around the 1915 Tea House in the Italian Garden, shown at right. Opening to the general public on June 24 via guided tours of the Everett Shinn exhibition, Nico Muhly’s composition will create an immersive intersection of historic and contemporary art.

About Nico Muhly

The recipient of commissions from The Metropolitan Opera, Carnegie Hall, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Tallis Scholars and St. John’s College, Cambridge and others, Nico Muhly (b.1981) has written more than 100 works for the concert stage, including the opera Marnie (2017), which premiered at the English National Opera and was staged by the Metropolitan Opera in the fall of 2018. His latest piece, Throughline, for the San Francisco Symphony premieres online on November 14, 2021.

“Something that I’ve always felt with Olivier Messiaen, who has been an inspiration for this commission for Planting Fields, is that he’s allowing inside to be outside. Suddenly, it’s like the walls have vanished from the space. You can see things through the glass, and that is what is so magical – that’s what the architecture at Planting Fields does, in its eclecticism. There is access to the outside from everywhere inside, the imagery of birds and nature evokes a sense that outside is being invited in.”

- Nico Muhly

“A brilliant pianist who plays a wide range of repertory superbly but is best known for his commanding performances of contemporary solo and chamber works.”

- Anthony Tomassini

The New York Times
Everett Shinn: Operatics

May 12 - November 14, 2021

Encounter the decorative and dramatic work of Everett Shinn in four "acts" beginning in the second-floor gallery in Coe Hall, followed by Mai Coe’s Dressing Room, the Reception Room and culminating in the 1915 Tea House in the Italian Garden. A member of The Eight – a group of American modernists at the turn of the century dedicated to artistic individuality and a philosophical commitment to creativity – Everett Shinn is best known for his paintings of gritty scenes of urban poor and vaudeville stages. While the metropolitan vision of The Eight and what has become known as the Ashcan School helped to usher in the Progressive era, Shinn’s artistic oeuvre was more complex and varied than the traditional narrative of American modernism has allowed.

This exhibition presents works from the Planting Fields Foundation collection and public and private loans.

"Everett Shinn was a man of many talents, with a love for the dramatic at the core of all his work. In his long and prolific career, he produced illustrations for major Philadelphia and New York newspapers, challenged the artistic status quo with the urban realism of the Ashcan School, wrote and produced his own theatrical plays, designed sets for Hollywood films, and created commissioned paintings and interiors for some of New York’s most exclusive spaces."

- Meredith A. Brown, Director of Museum Affairs and Chief Curator

Visit www.plantingfields.org to reserve exhibition tour tickets. Tours are offered Wednesday through Sunday.