

Philosophy in Literature: HAUNTING HOUSES

Harvey Hix
MWF 12-12:50

This course takes as its hypothesis Wendell Berry's assertion that "[a] house is not simply a building, it is also an enactment." Through careful readings of several notable philosophical and literary works in which houses enact especially important roles, we will ask what philosophy and literature might reveal to us about houses, what houses might reveal to us about philosophy and literature, and what either might reveal to us about ourselves. What happens to me when I enter a house? What happens to me when I leave one? How is my identity shaped by my home? How are my interactions with others shaped by the places in which they occur? What is it to *inhabit* a house? Can a house inhabit me? That is to say, we'll plan to haunt, and expect to be haunted by, a few philosophical and literary houses.

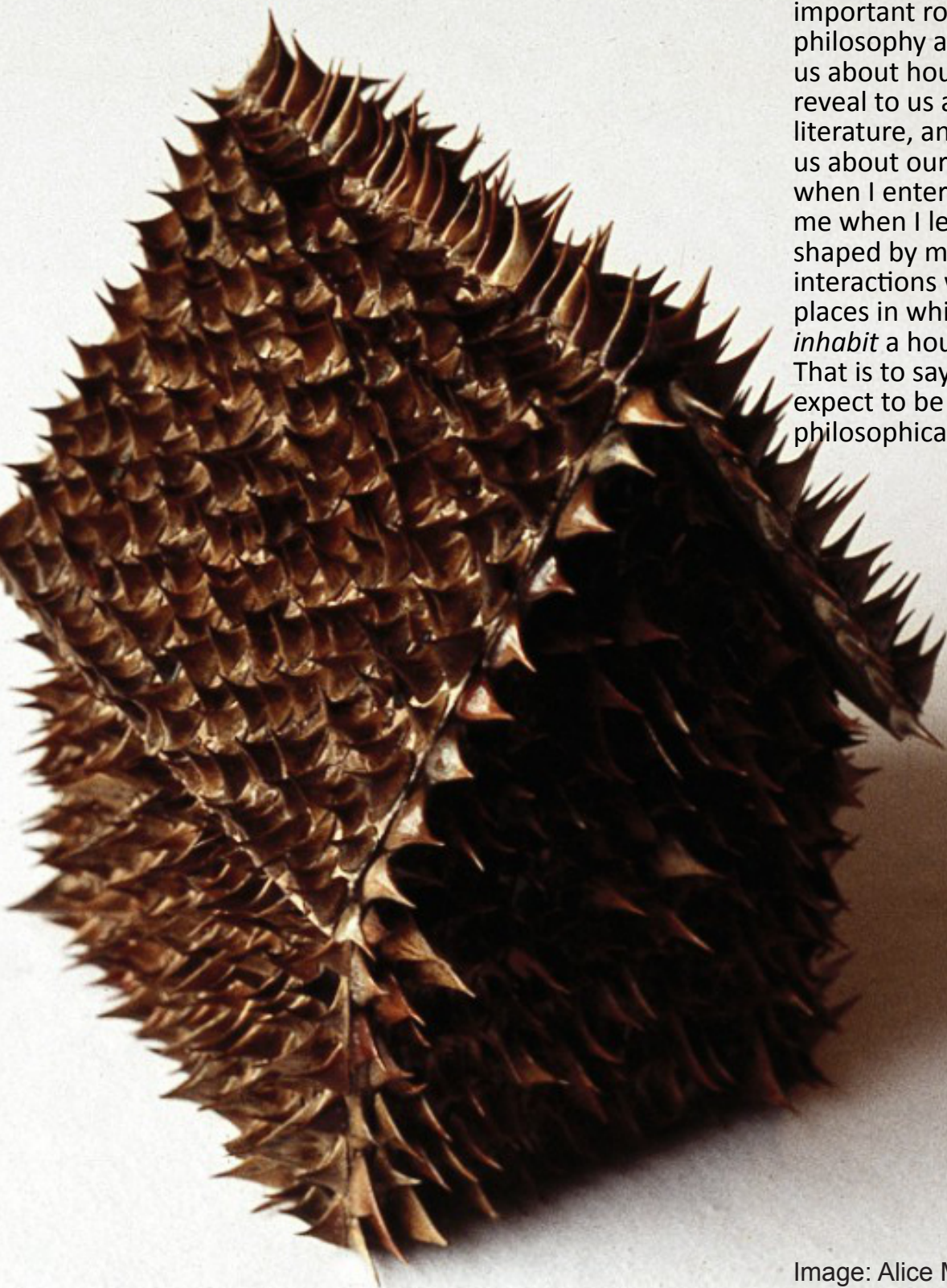


Image: Alice Maher, "House of Thorns"