

PARSHAT VAYAKHEL-PEKUDEI
EXODUS 35:1-40:38
HAFTARAH EZEKIEL 45:16-46:18
23 ADAR 5786/12 MARCH 2026



Room to Dream
Emilia Nurmivaara

WISDOM'S HOUSE

1. Let all among you who are skilled (חֲכָמִים-לֵב) come and make all that God has commanded... (Exodus 35:10)
2. One whose heart is wise (חֲכָמִים-לֵב) receives commands..." (Proverbs 10:8)
3. Wisdom (חֲכָמוֹת) has built her house/She has hewn her seven pillars/She has prepared her feast/Mixed the wine/And also set the table. (Proverbs 9:1-2)
4. Chochmah is built of *koach* (ability/potential) and *mah* (what is). It is the potential of what is/to be. It is virtually non-being. (Based on Zohar)
5. וְהִתְחַכְמָה מֵאֵין תְּמַצֵּא (Job 28:12)
Chochmah emerges from nothingness....
6. If I were asked to name the chief benefit of the house, I should say: the house shelters day-dreaming, the house protects the dreamer, the house allows one to dream in peace. (Gaston Bachelard, *The Poetics of Space*)

7. Through my paintings I examine the value of physical objects in a home and the significance they have for our soul space and dreamscape....The childhood home gives us the first experience of a home and is the place where we first dream and bring our imagination to life....To breathe life to the portrayed interiors I use elements of reflections from glass surfaces that turn the paintings into a visual play. I want to create an illusion of a room and try solving the problem between figurative and abstract imagery in a physical space. The image is built as a collaboration between reality and fantasy. I find it visually interesting how the different reflections distort the reality and give the paintings a dreamlike imagery. The space becomes new. (Emilia Nurmivaara)