



**DANNY HELLER**

*Wonderland*

Pictured on cover: RM Schindler, Fitzpatrick House, 2022, oil on canvas, 42x60 inches

# Danny Heller

## *Wonderland*

October 15 - November 12, 2022

GEORGE BILLIS GALLERY 

2716 S. La Cienega Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90034  
310-838-3685 | [www.gbgla.com](http://www.gbgla.com)

## **Danny Heller: Artist Statement 2022**

“Wonderland:” the word instantly conjures images of fantastical worlds; spectacular environments of colors, shapes, and lighting; a menagerie of images both inspiring and disorienting. It is a fitting word to describe the boon of development and architectural innovation that took root in Southern California in the 1920s. The father of American Architecture, Frank Lloyd Wright, would go on to flourish in the warm Mediterranean climate of Los Angeles during this time, bringing with him steadfast principles in design, but adapting them to a new environment. He would also bring with him a group of students that would contribute their own design sensibilities to his philosophies of organizing space and the use of materials. One can trace a common thread from Frank Lloyd Wright through his disciples, ever evolving over time, which defined the look of architecture as the region approached the midcentury’s Modernism style. Altogether, their advancements in the field would forever change how we envision the built space.

In this latest series, I want to trace how these seminal projects in early Modernism adapted to unique parameters, often influenced by the cultural backgrounds of their respective architects, and how they brought about a bold new mindset of design. I cover monumental and lesser-known work starting with Frank Lloyd Wright and trace his design principles through his son Lloyd Wright, and students Richard Neutra, Rudolph Schindler, and John Lautner. My paintings pay close attention to how many of these projects started as a collection of simple shapes, squares and rectangles, jumbled up and cantilevered over hills, in order to create a dynamic living arrangement specific to each client. One can see the strict lines and rigid architectural forms often set against and within the natural world around them. My goal is to evoke how striking these creations are; how they were groundbreaking for the time, but continue to inspire today. They are an astonishing achievement where creativity meets practicality – a daring venture into the improbable. The fact that so many of these homes developed in the same geographical region lends a dreamlike quality to the area. Fitting, as Los Angeles has long been considered the City of Dreams – but I see it more as a “Wonderland.”



Richard and Dion Neutra, VDL House, 2022

oil on canvas

38x58 inches





RM Schindler, Fitzpatrick House, 2022

oil on canvas

42x60 inches

Private Collection





Frank Lloyd Wright, Ennis House, 2022

oil on canvas

38x60 inches



Richard Neutra, Lovell House, 2022

oil on canvas

32x48 inches





Frank Lloyd Wright, Sturges House, 2022

oil on canvas

28x40 inches







RM Schindler, Spec House, 2022

oil on canvas

22x32 inches



John Lautner, Garcia House, 2022

oil on canvas

38x58 inches





Lloyd Wright, Taggart House, 2022

oil on canvas

28x40 inches









RM Schindler, Falk Apartments, 2022

oil on canvas

22x32 inches





Ennis House Profile, 2022

gouache on paper

6 x 10 inches

Private Collection



Fitzpatrick House Profile, 2022,  
gouache on paper  
6 x 10 inches  
Private Collection



Garcia House Profile, 2022

gouache on paper

6 x 10 inches



Lovell House Profile, 2022

gouache on paper

6 x 10 inches



Taggart House Profile, 2022

gouache on paper

6 x 10 inches

# DANNY HELLER

## EDUCATION

2004 University of California, Santa Barbara; B.A. College of Creative Studies Painting

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2022 Wonderland, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2021 Palm Springs Weekend, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2019 Tiki Modern, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2019 Birth of the Cool, George Billis Gallery, New York, NY  
2018 California Cool, La Fiambrera Gallery, Madrid, Spain  
2017 Modern Society, George Billis Gallery, New York, NY  
2017 Modern Leisure, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2016 Midcentury Manhattan, George Billis Gallery, New York, NY  
2015 City Modernism II, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2014 Vintage New York City, George Billis Gallery, New York, NY  
2013 City Modernism, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2012 Future Perfect, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2011 The LAX Series, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2011 Modernism Revisited, Fullerton Museum, Fullerton, CA  
2010 Palm Springs Exhibition, Terrence Rogers Fine Art, Palm Springs, CA  
2008 Eichlers: A Modern Vision, Terrence Rogers Fine Art, Santa Monica, CA  
2007 Suburbia, Terrence Rogers Fine Art, Santa Monica, CA  
2007 L.A. Visions, Art Rental & Sales Gallery at the LA County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022 Summer Cityscape Group Show, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Art Auction 2022, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, CA  
2021 Summer Cityscape Group Show, George Billis Gallery, Westport, CT  
Art Auction 2021, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, CA  
2020 Cult, Group Show, La Fiambrera Gallery, Madrid, Spain  
Summer Cityscape Group Show, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Art Auction 2020, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, CA  
2019 Villianess, Group Show, La Fiambrera Gallery, Madrid, Spain  
New Releases, WonderGround Gallery, Disneyland, Anaheim, CA  
Summer Cityscape Group Show, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Art Auction XVIII and Exhibit, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA  
Art Auction 2019, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, CA  
2018 Space Oddity Group Show, La Fiambrera Gallery, Madrid, Spain  
The Cityscape Show VIII, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Summer Group Show, George Billis Gallery, New York, NY  
Art Auction 2018, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, CA

- 2017 Punk Group Show, La Fiambrera Gallery, Madrid, Spain  
The Cityscape Show VII, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Summer Group Show, George Billis Gallery, New York, NY  
Art Auction XVII and Exhibit, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA  
Art Auction 2017, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, CA
- 2016 The Cityscape Show VI, George Billis Gallery LA, Los Angeles, CA  
Art Auction 2016, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, CA
- 2015 The Cityscape Show V, George Billis Gallery LA, Los Angeles, CA  
Summer Group Show, George Billis Gallery, New York, NY  
Art Auction 2015, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, CA  
Palm Springs Fine Art Fair, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
- 2014 Artists Council Exhibition, Palm Springs Art Museum, Palm Springs, CA  
California Dreaming: An International Portrait of Southern California, Palazzo della Provincia di Frosinone, Frosinone, Italy; Oceanside Museum of Art, Oceanside, CA;  
Riverside Art Museum, Riverside, CA  
The Cityscape Show IV, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Incognito, Santa Monica Museum of Art, Santa Monica, CA  
Palm Springs Fine Art Fair, George Billis Gallery Booth, Palm Springs, CA  
Art Auction 2014, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, CA
- 2013 The Cityscape Show III, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Palette to Palate, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna, CA  
Kindred, Bold Hype Gallery, New York, NY
- 2012 The Cityscape Show II, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
The New Real Group Show, Tinney Contemporary, Nashville, TN  
Play Me, I'm Your's art installation, LA Chamber Orchestra, Los Angeles, CA
- 2011 La Luz de Jesus 25 Part 2 group show, La Luz de Jesus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
The Cityscape Show, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Perspectives: Selected Artists, George Billis Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Art Auction and Exhibition 14, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA
- 2010 Metro Neighborhoods Poster Contest winner, Metro Transit Authority Los Angeles  
A History of Flight, Terrence Rogers Fine Art, Santa Monica, CA  
Foundation Colas 2010 Acquisitions, Foundation Colas, Boulogne-Billancourt, France  
As They See It, 941 Geary Gallery, San Francisco, CA  
Collector's Circle Acquisitions 1994-2010, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA
- 2009 Los Angeles Currents group show, Couturier Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Art Auction 13, featured artist, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA  
Open Call, Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Art Auction, Gallery 825, Los Angeles, CA  
Everything But The Kitschen Sync, La Luz de Jesus Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
Size Doesn't Matter, Terrence Rogers Fine Art, Santa Monica, CA

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- 2022 American Art Collector Magazine, "Wonder to Behold," October issue
- 2021 Dominic Bradbury. The Secret Life of the Modern House. Ilex. 2021. Cover art  
Atomic Ranch Magazine, "Cool Stuff," Spring issue
- 2020 Shoutout LA Online, "Danny Heller – Fine Artist," June 22  
CA Modern Magazine, cover art, Summer issue

- 2019 American Art Collector Magazine, "Midcentury Spaces," November issue  
 American Art Collector Magazine, "Hit The Road," October issue  
 American Art Collector Magazine, "California Dreamin'," August issue  
 American Art Collector Magazine, "Tiki Modern," July issue  
 Luxe Magazine, "Modern Take," May/June issue
- 2018 Architectural Digest Spain, "Vida De Barrio," June issue  
 Cosmopolitan Magazine Spain, "Arte," May issue  
 Yorokobu Magazine Online, "Danny Heller retrata el Mid-century Modern, la cara optimista y yanqui de la Bauhaus europea," April 24  
 Arquitectura y Diseño Magazine Online, "El cool californiano en Madrid," March 27
- 2017 Car Kulture DeLux Magazine, "Curbside Culture," Fall issue  
 American Art Collector Magazine, "Architectural Aesthetics," December issue  
 LA Weekly, "Modern Love," January 6-12
- 2016 Menrad, Chris, and Heidi Creighton. William Krisel's Palm Springs: The Language of Modernism. Gibbs Smith. 2016. Pg 184  
 California Home + Design Magazine, "Portraits of Summer," Summer issue  
 American Art Collector Magazine, "Midcentury Design," March issue  
 Society6 Art Quarterly, Winter issue  
 Palm Springs Style Magazine, "Danny Heller's Palm Springs," Vol.2 Issue 1
- 2014 American Art Collector Magazine, "Vintage New York City," October issue  
 Coachella Valley Weekly, "Danny Heller - Retro/Modernism Painter," May 1-7
- 2013 Fine Art Connoisseur Magazine Online, "California Painter Pictures Mid-Century L.A.," Oct. 17  
 CA Home + Design Magazine, "The Art of Suburbia," Summer issue  
 Dwell Magazine, "Dwell Scenes," June issue  
 The Desert Sun, "Sunnylands Family Day Highlights Estate's Modernist Design," Feb. 19  
 Coachella Valley Arts Scene, "Meet Artist Danny Heller at Hotel Lautner," Feb. 14
- 2012 Dwell Magazine Online, "The Architectural Paintings of Danny Heller," Dec. 6  
 Juxtapose Magazine Online, "Danny Heller Paints Midcentury Architecture Now," Nov. 27  
 The Desert Sun, "Artist: Painting midcentury homes is like opening a time capsule," Nov. 3  
 KCET Artbound, "Future Perfect: The Midcentury Modern Paintings of Danny Heller," Oct. 15
- 2011 Gore, Janice S. La Luz de Jesus 25: The Little Gallery That Could. La Luz de Jesus Press. 2011. Pg 118  
 McCallum Theatre Program, cover art, 2011/2012 season  
 L.A. Daily News Newspaper, "Valley Scenes," Nov. 19, pg. A4  
 Atomic Ranch Magazine, "Town & Country," Winter issue
- 2010 Southwest Art, "City Scenes," May issue  
 CA Modern Magazine, cover art, Spring issue
- 2009 CA Modern Magazine, "Art Imitates Life," Fall issue

2008 CA Modern Magazine, cover art, Fall issue  
Southwest Art, "Artists To Watch," October  
Atomic Ranch Magazine, "Cool Stuff," Summer issue  
CA Modern Magazine, "Inside Tracts," Summer issue

2007 New American Paintings #73

## **COLLECTIONS**

Hilbert Museum of California Art, Chapman University, Orange, CA  
Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Palm Springs, CA  
Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, CA  
Foundation Colas, Paris, France  
Arquette Collection, Los Angeles, CA

Copyright 2022 George Billis Gallery LA INC. All rights reserved.  
All artworks Copyright Danny Heller.