



Standing beside artist Will Ryman's towering *LongHouse 6* sculpture at LongHouse Reserve in East Hampton.

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Full Bloom

This past summer, I had the pleasure of visiting LongHouse Reserve, a 16-acre reserve and sculpture garden in East Hampton founded by the brilliant textile designer, Jack Lenor Larsen. Amongst the more than 60 contemporary sculptures, I was particularly taken with artist Will Ryman's colossal, and fanciful *LongHouse 6*, an improbable, exaggerated 24-foot-tall cluster of six roses and fallen petals rendered in stainless steel, resin and painted in cadmium red light. The rose remains an idealized symbol for romance, natural beauty and perfection. Yet, Ryman designed his petals with bumps and irregularities. You can clearly detect its hand-worked quality, and his hint to embrace fading beauty, ephemera and the temporary nature of all things. As we forge ahead into the end of another "strange" year for the world, I hope that you will seek out and embrace beauty in all its forms. For artistry and design will always be in bloom, one way or another.

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PHOTO: LENA YAREMENKO