

AUSTEN RIGGS CENTER  
Erikson Institute for Education and Research

# In a Child's Room

## Reflections on Space and Childhood

**Dr. Ellen Handler Spitz**

Noted Art Theorist, Lecturer and Scholar whose abiding interest is the cultural lives of young people

**9:30am-12:00pm, Saturday, Dec. 6**  
**Austen Riggs Center**  
**25 Main Street, Stockbridge**



Thomas Eakins  
*Baby at Play, 1876*

Children's early spatial experiences and experiments--their play spaces and secret hiding places, forts, tree houses and other constructed spaces--can teach us about ways of moving through space in our culture, of feeling it, of ignoring it. Through many illustrations, Dr. Spitz will take us on a journey through modern culture and how it teaches children to move through and internalize a sense of space. If you are engaged with children, and have questions of how space is used developmentally and what meanings it takes on, join Dr. Spitz for this lively presentation and discussion.

Dr. Spitz currently holds the Honors College Professorship of Visual Arts at University of Maryland, where she has been teaching interdisciplinary seminars in aesthetics, literature, psychology, and the visual arts since 2001. She is widely published and has taught/lectured worldwide on aesthetics, literature, psychology, and the visual arts.

**\$15 / Call (413) 931-5236** to reserve space or register online at [www.austenriggs.org](http://www.austenriggs.org)

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