

Anton Kern Gallery

Nicole Eisenman *Incelesbian*

For Immediate Release

February 20 – March 28, 2020

Opening reception: Thursday, February 20, 2020 from 6-8pm

Nicole Eisenman's fourth exhibition at Anton Kern Gallery presents 24 paper pulp drawings from a body of new works created in collaboration with renowned Dieu Donn  workshop in Brooklyn. Dieu Donn  is a non-for-profit institution that has long served the artist community through a collaborative approach to creating artworks using the process of hand papermaking.

The term paper pulp drawing doesn't describe the full range of the process. These flat images are hybrids of drawing, painting and sculpting. Each work was painted with pigmented linen pulp directly into a cotton substrate during the papermaking process. Eisenman manipulated their materials in free-flowing skeins, painting with liquid pigment into the surface of the wet paper pulp while draining and drying, creating an image that is inseparable from its support. In addition, the artist added the occasional collage element to the surfaces.

Eisenman's images are instantly legible and serve quite a punch, and it comes as no surprise to hear the artist refer to this body of work as "posters." The immediacy of the image, the relationship between image and text, the contemporaneity of the subject matter, and Eisenman's profound sense of humor demonstrate this point. Their inspiration evidently includes the language of movie posters, advertisements, the drawings of William Blake, and internet memes. Like posters, these works convey complex and oftentimes humorous thoughts through a simple image and concise phrase. Regardless of the intricacies of the paper pulp process, Eisenman has created images of crystal-clear immediacy and impact that push past any temporary promotion of an idea or event into the realm of more nuanced reflection.



Nicole Eisenman, *Incelesbian*, 2019, paper pulp drawing, paper dimensions: 24 1/4 x 18 1/2 in (61.6 x 47 cm)

Concurrently with the exhibition *Incelesbian*, Dieu Donn  and Anton Kern Gallery are publishing a catalog of the complete set of Nicole Eisenman paper pulp works created over the past two years. The fully illustrated, 92-page book will include a text by Matt Longabucco.

Eisenman's work was prominently featured in the Venice Biennale, the Whitney Biennial (both 2019), and in the decennial *Skulptur Projekte M nster* in M nster, Germany (2017). Recent solo exhibitions include *Baden Baden Baden* at Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Baden Baden, Germany (2018); *Dark Light* at Secession, Vienna, Austria (2017); a mid-career retrospective, *Al-Ugh-Ories* at the New Museum, New York (2016); and their traveling survey exhibition, *Dear Nemesis, Nicole Eisenman 1993–2013* at The Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (2015), The Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia (2014), and the Contemporary Art Museum of St. Louis (2014). The upcoming solo exhibition *STURM UND DRANG* will open in late February 2020 at the Contemporary Austin in Austin, Texas.

Eisenman is the 2018 recipient of the Suzanne Deal Booth/FLAG Art Foundation Prize, a 2015 MacArthur Foundation fellow, and winner of the 2013 Carnegie Prize. Their work is featured in the permanent collections of the Ludwig Museum, Cologne, Germany; Museum of Modern Art, New York; Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles; Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; SF MOMA, San Francisco; Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; and the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, among others.

Gallery Hours

Tuesday through Saturday
10am – 6pm

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