

Inka Essenhight

Born 1969, Belfonte, Pennsylvania, Lives and works in New York

EDUCATION

1988-1992 BFA, Columbus College of Art & Design, Columbus, Ohio

1992-1994 MFA, School of Visual Arts, NYC

SOLO AND TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Inka Essenhight: The Greenhouse, Victoria Miro, London, UK
- 2023 Inka Essenhight: Landscapes and Still Lifes, Baldwin Gallery, Aspen, USA
Inka Essenhight, Miles McEnery Gallery, New York, USA
- 2021 *Inka Essenhight*, Victoria Miro Gallery, Venice, Italy
- 2020 *Inka Essenhight*, Miles McEnery Gallery, New York, NY
- 2019 *Inka Essenhight: Uchronia*, Kavi Gupta, Chicago, IL
Other Worlds: Inka Essenhight, Susquehanna Art Museum, Harrisburg, PA
- 2018 *A Fine Line*, Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art, Virginia Beach, VA; Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, Kalamazoo, MI
Inka Essenhight, Miles McEnery Gallery, New York, NY
Manhattanhenge, The Drawing Center, New York, NY
- 2016 *Between Worlds*, Frist Centre, Nashville, TN
New Work, Honolulu Gallery, Zurich
- 2015 *Stars and Flowers*, Baldwin Gallery, Aspen, CO
- 2014 *Comet Dust & Crystal Shards*, Jacob Lewis Gallery, New York; Columbus College of Art & Design, Canzani Center, Columbus, OH
- 2012 *The Natural and the Man-Made*, Tomio Koyama Gallery, Tokyo
Project Room: Inka Essenhight, Pace Prints, New York, NY
- 2010 *The Old New Age*, 303 Gallery, New York, NY
- 2008 Victoria Miro, London, UK
- 2006 303 Gallery, New York, NY
- 2005 Victoria Miro, London, UK
DA2 Domus Artium 2, Salamanca, Spain
- 2004 Sint-Lukas Galerie, Brussels, Belgium
Etchings, Michael Steinberg Fine Art, New York, NY
- 2003 Museum of Contemporary Art, Miami, FL
Galleria Il Capricorno, Venice, Italy
Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2002 Victoria Miro, London, UK
303 Gallery, New York, NY
- 2001 *Works on paper*, Victoria Miro (Project Room), London, UK
Works on paper, Mary Boone Gallery, New York, NY
- 2000 Victoria Miro, London, UK
Mary Boone Gallery, New York, NY
- 1999 *New Paintings*, Deitch Projects, New York, NY
American Landscapes: Recent Paintings by Inka Essenhight, New Room of Contemporary Art, Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY
- 1998 *Recent Paintings*, Stefan Stux Gallery, New York, NY
- 1997 *Wallpaper Paintings*, La Mama La Galleria, New York, NY

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Victoria Miro: 40 Years, Victoria Miro, London, UK
- 2024 All Bangers, All The Time: 25th Anniversary Exhibition, Miles McEnery Gallery, New York, USA

- 2023 A Particular Kind of Heaven , Karma, Thomaston, Maine, USA
Rounding The Circle, Speed Art Museum, Louisville, USA
Farnsworth at 75: New Voices from Maine in American Art, Farnsworth Art Museum, Rockland
- 2022 *Disruption: Works from the Vicki and Kent Logan Collection*, Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO
New Time: Art and Feminisms in the 21st Century, Berkeley Art Museum And Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA
- 2020 *Really.*, Miles McEnery Gallery, New York, NY, curated by Inka Essenhigh and Ryan McGinness
Do You Think It Needs A Cloud?, Miles McEnery Gallery, New York, NY
The Figure in Solitude, online exhibition, Kavi Gupta
Evolve: A Changing Exhibition of Work From the Collection, Bates College Museum of Art, Lewinston, ME
Radical Optimism, online exhibition, Kavi Gupta
Life During Wartime: Art in the Age of Coronavirus, online exhibition, USF Contemporary Art Museum, Tampa, FL
Skirting The Line | Painting Between Abstraction and Representation, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, ME
Early Summer, Baldwin Gallery, Aspen, CO
- 2019 *Invitational Exhibition of Visual Arts*, The American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York, NY
FIXED CONTAINED, Kotaro Nukaga, Tokyo, Japan, curated by Tomokazu Matsuyama
Not All Doors Are The Same, Booth Gallery, New York, NY
- 2018 *Parrallel Lives*, Kavi Gupta | Washington, Chicago, IL
Belief in Giants, Miles McEnery Gallery, New York, NY
Selections, Pace Prints, New York, NY
- 2017 *Le Nuove Frontier Della Pittura*, Fondazione Stelline, Milan, Italy
Summer Group Show, Jacob Lewis Gallery, New York, NY
Another Place, Shrine, New York, NY
- 2016 *Dead Among The Dead!*, Ellis King, Dublin, Ireland
Imagine, Brand New Gallery, Milano, Italy
Introductions, La MaMa La Galleria, NYC
Women in Print, Pace Prints, New York, NY
Now and Then, New York Academy of Art, New York, NY
- 2015 *Eden, éden*, curated by Timothée Chaillou, Galerie Torri, Paris
The Ukrainian Diaspora: Woman Artists 1908-2015, The Ukrainian Museum, NYC
The Sound of Painting, Palazzo Saluzzo Paesana, Turin, Italy
Distrubing Innocence, The FLAG Art Foundation, New York, NY
- 2014 *Sargent's Daughters*, Sargent's Daughters, New York, NY
- 2013 *Cinematic Visions*, Victoria Miro, Venice, Italy
- 2012 *Fairy Tales, Monsters, and the Genetic Imagination*, First Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, TN
- 2011 *Inka Essenhigh & Richard Van Buren: Un/Natural Splendor*, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, ME
Inside the Painter's Studio, Stephen D. Paine Gallery, Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston, MA
Creating the New Century: Contemporary Art from the Dicke Collection, Dayton Art Institute, Dayton, OH
Counterpoint, Center for Maine Contemporary Art, Rockland, ME
- 2010 *Between Picture and Viewer*, Visual Arts Gallery, New York, NY
- 2008 *ambivalent figuration;people*, Samson Projects, Boston, MA
- 2007 *Counterparts: Contemporary Painters and Their Influences*, Contemporary Art Centre of Virginia, Virginia Beach, VA
The Play of Multiple Meaning: Symbolism and the Art of the Present, Von der Heydt Museum, Wuppertal, Germany
Comic Abstraction, Museum of Modern Art, New York
COMIX, Kunsthallen Brandts, Odense, Denmark
Imagination Becomes Reality, ZKM / Museum Fur Neue kunst, Karlsruhe, Germany

- 2006 *Painting Codes*, Galleria Comunale d'Arte Contemporanea ,Monfalcone
The Complusive Line: Etching 1900 to Now, Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
 USA Today, The Royal Academy of Art, London, UK
Imagination Becomes Reality, Part III. Talking Pictures, Goetz Collection
Motion on Paper, Ben Brown Fine Arts, London, UK
Art on Paper 2006, Weatherspoon Art Museum, Greenboro, NC
- 2005 *Life and Limb*, curated by David Humphrey, Feign Contemporary, New York, NY
Neobaroque, Centro de Arte de Salamanca, Spain
- 2004 *Disparities and Deformations: Our Grotesque SITES* Santa Fe 5th International Biennial (curated by Robert Storr), Santa Fe, NM
 26th Bienal de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
Funny Cuts – Cartoons and Comics in Contemporary Art, Staatsgalerie Stuttgart, Germany
Perspectives at 25, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, TX
- 2003 *Painting Pictures; Painting and Media in the Digital Age*, Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg
Comic Release: Negotiating Identity for a New Generation, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh; travelling to Contemporary Arts Center, New Orleans and University of North Texas, Denton (January 2003 – mid 2005)
Supernova: Art of the 1990's from the Logan Collection, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
Reverie: Works from the Collection of Douglas S. Cramer, The Speed Art Museum, Louisville, KY
Drawing, G Gallery, Washington D.C.
Heaven & Hell, Barbara Mathes Gallery, New York, NY
- 2002 *The Galleries Show*, The Royal Academy of Art, London, UK
Pertaining to Painting, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston and Austin Museum of Art,
Jay Davis, Inka Essenhigh, Christian Schuman, Angstrom Gallery, Dallas, TX
La Part de l'Autre, Carre d'Art -Musée d'art contemporain de Nimes, France
art in the 'toon age', Kresge Art Musuem, Michigan State University, MI
- 2001 *My Reality: Contemporary Art and the Culture of Japanese Animation*, Des Moines Art Center, IA; travelling to Brooklyn Museum of Art, Brooklyn (July - October); Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH; Tampa Museum of Art, Tampa, IL; Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago; Akron Art Museum, Akron, OH; Museum of Glass: International Center for Contemporary Art, Tacoma, Washington (July -September 2003); Huntsville Museum of Art, Huntsville, AL (October – January 2004)
Hybrids, Tate Gallery, Liverpool, UK
braille, Angstrom Gallery, Dallas, TX
 2nd Berlin Biennale, Berlin, Germany
Works on Paper: from Acconci to Zittel, Victoria Miro, London, UK
Casino 2001, 1st Quadrennial of Contemporary Art, SMAK Stedelijk Museum voor Actuelle Kunst, Ghent, Belgium
- 2000 *Greater New York: New Art in New York Now*, PS1 Contemporary Art Center, New York , NY
The Figure: Another State of Modernism, Newhouse Center for Contemporary Art at Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Staten Island, New York, NY
Deitch/Steinberg New Editions, Deitch Projects, New York, NY
Emotional Rescue, Center for Contemporary Art, Seattle, WA
To Infinity and Beyond, Brooke Alexander, New York, NY
- 1999 *Pleasure Dome*, Jessica Fredericks Gallery, New York, NY
A room with a view, Sixth @ Prince Fine Art, New York, NY
- 1998 *Blade Runner*, Caren Golden Fine Art, New York, NY
The New Surrealism, Pamela Auchincloss Project Space, New York, NY
Wild, Exit Art/The First World, New York, NY
Pop Surrealism, The Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, CT
Summer Review, 98, Stefan Stux Gallery, New York, NY
Celebrating Diversity: Contemporary Women Painters, Hillwood Art Museum, Long Island

- University, Brookville, New York, NY
ANATOMY/INTELLECT, Stefanelli Exhibition Space, New York, NY
 1997 *Sex/Industry*, Stefan Stux Gallery, New York, NY
The Art Exchange Fair, with Stefan Stux Gallery, New York, NY
Girls! Girls! Girls!, Tricia Collins' Grand Salon, New York, NY
 1996 *Set Off: Inaugural Group Show*, View Room Exhibitions, New York, NY
Underexposed: Nine Young American Painters, André Zarre Gallery, New York, NY
Set Off: Inaugural Group Show, View Room Exhibitions, New York, NY
Anatomy Intellect, Stefanelli Exhibition Space, New York, NY
Night of 1000 Drawings, Artists' Space, New York, NY
Featured Web Page Artist for December, Artists' Space, New York, NY
 1994 *Juried Group Show*, School of Visual Arts, FirstFloor Gallery, New York, NY
 1993 *Young Ukrainian American Painters Group Show*, Ukrainian Museum, New York, NY
Work-Play; Picture Thinking and the Analogical Imagination, Visual Arts Gallery, New York, NY
Group Show, School of Visual Arts, Wooster Street Gallery, New York, NY

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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 2021 Schwabsky, Barry, "When the Painting Has Really Begun", The Nation, Online, January 2021
 2020 Wichman, Natalie, "Surrealism Reloaded. On the slippery notion of Identity", Schirn Mag, June 2020
 2019 Archambeau, Robert, "A Refreshing Vision of the Future," Hyperallergic, 20 August 2019
 Barcio, Phillip, "Picturing Our Possible Futures," Tikkun, 16 August 2019
 2018 Jovanovich, Alex, "Inka Essenhigh," Artforum, 6 June 2018
 Malone, Peter, "Deciphering Inka Essenhigh's Blurred Vision," Hyperallergic, 17 May 2018
 Johnson, Paddy, "You'll Want to Crawl Into This Artist's Surreal Paintings," Garage, 20 March 2018
 Watson, Denise M, "The Mystical Worlds of Artist Inka Essenhigh to Open at MOCA," The Virginia Pilot, 15 March 2018
 2017 Heinrich, Will, "What to See in New York Art Galleries This Week," The New York Times, 27 July 2017
 2016 Prentnieks, Anne, "Critics Picks: Inka Essenhigh, Frist Center for the Visual Arts," ArtForum, 9 October 2016
 2015 Diehl, Carol, "Inka Essenhigh," ARTnews, February 2015
 2014 Plagens, Peter, "Art Review: Inka Essenhigh, Comet Dust & Crystal Shards," The Wall Street Journal, 24 October 2014
 2012 Larking, Matthew, "Rich Tales of Inka Essenhigh," The Japan Times, 22 March 2012
 2011 Goldsworthy, Rupert, "The Magic of Twilight: Inka Essenhigh on Working Fast and Being Timeless," artcritical, 26 March 2011
 2010 Johnson, Ken, "Art in Review: The Old New Age," The New York Times, 4 February 2010
 Finch, Charlie, "Masterpiece Magic," artnet, 27 January 2010
 2009 Wolff, Rachel, "He Shrunk Andy Warhol," ARTnews, October 2009
 2008 Lack, Jessica, "Inka Essenhigh," Guardian Guide, 29 March 2008
 2007 Tsitsovits, Yannis, "Inka Essenhigh," Stimulus Response, no. 17, 2007
 2006 Neil, Jonathan T.D., "Inka Essenhigh," Modern Painters, May 2006
 2005 Williams, Eliza, "Inka Essenhigh," Flash Art, July - September 2005
 2004 Luyckx, Filip, "Inka Essenhigh," Sint-Lukas Galerij Brussel, June - August 2004
 Sheets, Hilarie M., "Swirls, Whirls and Mermaid Girls, Inka Essenhigh," ARTnews, May 2004
 2003 Harrison, Eddie, "Inka Essenhigh, review of Fruitmarket exhibition," Metro Life, May 2003
 Mottram, Jack, "Inka Essenhigh," Time List, May 2003
 Levine, Cary, "Inka Essenhigh, 303 Gallery," Art in America, May 2003
 Schwabsky, Barry, "Entering the Labyrinth," Tema Celeste, March/April 2003
 Gleeson, David, "Inka Essenhigh," Victoria Miro Gallery, February 2003
 2002 Denny, Ned, "Cartoon Death," New Statesman, 25 November 2002
 Rochester, Katy, "Inka Essenhigh," Time Out, 20 - 27 November 2002
 Kimmelman, Michael, "A Painter with Pop," The New York Times Magazine, 17 November 2002

- Russel, John Taylor, "Revenge of the Cute," The New York Times, 13 November 2002
- Buck, Louisa, "The World is Big and Time is Short," The Art Newspaper, November 2002
- Fraser, Violet, "A Brush with Violence," Art Review, November 2002
- Vincent, Steven, "A New Gloss on Essenhight," Art & Auction, November 2002
- Royse, Julia, "Hot Art," Elle, November 2002
- "In a World of its Own," Metro, (circ. 340,000), 31 October 2002
- Falconer, Morgan, "Fantastical creatures," What's On in London, 30 October 2002
- Ratnam, Neru, "Inka Essenhight," I.D. Magazine, October 2002
- Towhid, Mandana, "Scratch the Surface," Dazed and Confused, July 2002
- Vitamin P: New Perspectives in Painting, Phaidon, 2002
- 2000 Shaw, Lytle, "To Infinity and Beyond," Time Out New York, 14 - 18 December 2000, p. 115
- Colman, David and David Sims, "Master Class," Harper's Bazaar, December 2000, p. 224-229
- Hunt, David, "A New Grammar of Motion," Flash Art, October 2000, p. 74-77
- Glover, Michael, "Inka Essenhight," Art News, Summer 2000, p. 218-219
- Nakamura, Marie-Pierre, "Inka Essenhight: Entre spectacle et minimalisme," Art Actuel, July/August 2000, p. 78-81
- Ebony, David, "Inka Essenhight at Mary Boone Gallery," Artnet, 27 June 2000
- Smith, Roberta, "Inka Essenhight," The New York Times, 23 June 2000
- Saul, Anton, "Inka Essenhight," Time Out New York, 15-22 June 2000, p. 67
- "Goings On About Town: Inka Essenhight," The New Yorker, 12 June 2000, p. 16
- Henry, Max, "Inka's inhibitions," artnet, 31 May 2000
- Johnson, Jeff, "We love a Surrealist," Jane, May 2000, p. 52
- Plagens, Peter, "Art in the Fast Lane," Newsweek, 10 April 2000, p. 70-73
- Jones, Jonathan, "Inka Essenhight," The Guardian, 30 March 2000
- Herbert, Martin, "Inka Essenhight," Time Out New York, no. 1545, 29 March 2000
- Shave, Stuart, "New York Doll," I.D. Magazine, March 2000
- Sischy, Ingrid, "Gotta Paint," Vanity Fair, February 2000, p. 140-147
- 1999 "Best of Manhattan: Best Gallery Exhibitions," New York Press, 22 September 1999
- Wakefield, Neville, "Three to Watch," Elle Decor, August/September 1999, p. 78-79
- Lavine, Michael, "Iconograph," Ray Gun, August 1999
- Hoptman, Laura, "Nothing Natural: Laura Hoptman on Inka Essenhight," frieze, July/August 1999, p. 74-75
- Valdez, Sarah, "Inka Essenhight at Deitch Projects," Art in America, May 1999, p. 157-158
- Schwabsky, Barry, "Inka Essenhight," Artforum, April 1999, p. 123-124
- Turner, Grady T., "Ouverture: Inka Essenhight," Flash Art, March/April 1999, p. 106
- Humphrey, David, "New York E-mail," Art Issues, March/April 1999, p. 34-34
- Saltz, Jerry, "Heat Seekers," The Village Voice, 9 February 1999, p. 125
- Viveros-Fauné, Christian, "calamity Inka," artnet, 5 February 1999
- Mahoney, Robert, "Inka Essenhight," artnet, 5 February 1999
- Saltz, Jerry, "hot off the press," artnet, 4 February 1999
- Schwendener, Martha, "Inka Essenhight," Time Out New York, 28 January - 4 February 1999, p. 67
- Viveros-Fauné, Christian, "Art: Hot Stuff," New York Press, 27 January 1999, p. 6
- Glueck, Grace, "Inka Essenhight," The New York Times, 15 January 1999, p. B40
- Nahas, Dominique, "Inka Essenhight," Review: The Critical State of Visual Art in New York, 15 January 1999, p. 7
- Hoban, Phoebe, "The Mod Squad," New York Magazine, 11 January 1999, p. 30-37
- Viveros-Fauné, Christian, "Inka Essenhight," artnet, January 1999
- Henry, Max, "Gotham Dispatch," artnet, January 1999
- Murphy, Jay, "Pop Surrealism," World Art, January 1999, p. 70-71
- Turner, Grady T., "Abstracted Flesh," Flash Art, January 1999, p. 66-69
- 1998 Centerfold (commissioned art work), NY Arts Magazine, December, 1998
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Madoff, Steven Henry, "Pop Surrealism," Artforum, October 1998, p. 120
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 Schwabsky, Barry, "Inka Essenhigh," art/text, August 1998
 Turner, Grady, "Gramercy Art Fair," NY Arts Magazine, June 1998
 Murdock, Robert, "Inka Essenhigh: Recent Painting," Review: The Critical State of Visual Art in New York, 1 March 1998, p. 17-18
 Maxwell, Douglas, "Inka Essenhigh: Recent Painting," Review: The Critical State of Visual Art in New York, 1 March 1998, p. 17-18
 Bakke, Erik, William R. Kaizen, and Shelley Ward, "Mob Rule #10," NY Arts Magazine, March 1998, p. 8
 Turner, Grady, "Wild," NY Arts Magazine, March 1998, p. 23, 37
 Levin, Kim, "Wild," The Village Voice/Voice Choices, 3 February 1998, p. 76
 "First Look," Simon Says, February 1998
 "Something Wild," New York Post, 24 January 1998
 "Art Picks," Simon Says, January 1998

BOOKS AND CATALOGUES

- 2025 Inka Essenhigh: The Greenhouse Victoria Miro
- 2022 Brian, Alfred, Why I Make Art: Contemporary Artists' Stories About Life and Work. Atelier Editions.
- 2019 Bradway, Todd, et al. Landscape Painting Now: From Pop Abstraction to New Romanticism. D.A.P./Distributed Art Publishers Inc.
- 2007 Perspectives @ 25, Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston
 Counterparts: Contemporary Painters and Their Influences, Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art
 The Triumph of Painting Part III, Saatchi Gallery, London
- 2006 Post Modern Portraiture from the Logan Collection, The Logan Collection, Vail, CO
 Mullins, Charlotte, Painting People, Distributed Art Publishers Inc.
- 2005 Hoptman, Laura, Inka Essenhigh, DA2 Domus Artium 2, Salamanca, Spain
 The Triumph of Painting, Saatchi Gallery, London
- 2004 Bienal De São Paulo
- 2003 Clearwater, Bonnie, Inka Essenhigh, Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami
 Reverie: Works from the Collection of Douglas S. Cramer, The Speed Museum, Louisville, Kentucky
- 2002 Comic Release!: Negotiating Identity for a New Generation, Distributed Art Publishers Inc.
 Morsiani, Paola and Imogen Cornwall-Jones, Inka Essenhigh, Victoria Miro Gallery, London
- 2001 Mayntz, Eberhard, Saskia Bos, etc. 2. berlin biennale, volumes 1 and 2, berlin biennale für zeitgenössische Kunst e.v., Berlin
 Grunenberg, Christoph, Hybrid: International Contemporary Painting, Tate Liverpool
- 1999 Dreishpoon, Douglas, American Landscapes: Recent Paintings by Inka Essenhigh, New Room of Contemporary Art, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York
- 1998 Klein, Richard, Dominique Nahas and Ingrid Schaffner, Pop Surrealism, Aldrich Museum of Contemporary Art, Ridgefield, Connecticut

COLLECTIONS

Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY
 Denver Art Museum, Denver, CO
 Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, North Miami, FL
 Museum of Modern Art, New York, NY
 San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA
 Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
 Tate Modern, London, England
 Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY.