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Nicole Eisenman (American, b. 1965), *Beer Garden with A.K.*, 2009. Oil on canvas; 65 × 82 in. (165.1 × 208.3 cm). De Ying Foundation. Photo: Bryan Conley, courtesy Carnegie Museum of Art.

Multimedia Material:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/0zgce0jrw4ndrr0io2cwh/h?rlkey=mojb3vmjcxiez6e4d753wwrnb&dl=0>

MCA Chicago Announces *Nicole Eisenman: What Happened*, Opening April 6, 2024

CHICAGO— The Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) Chicago today announces the exhibition [*Nicole Eisenman: What Happened*](#), the artist's first major comprehensive survey and one deeply reflective of our moment in time. Curated by Monika Bayer-Wermuth and Mark Godfrey with the assistance of Cameron Foote, the MCA's presentation is organized by Associate Curator

Jadine Collingwood and Assistant Curator Jack Schneider, the show will be on view from April 6, 2024, through September 22, 2024, in the Griffin Galleries of Contemporary Art on the museum's fourth floor. The MCA is the only US venue and the last destination for the exhibition.

"The MCA is delighted to be the sole US venue for Nicole Eisenman's first major survey exhibition," Pritzker Director Madeleine Grynsztejn said. "Having Eisenman's work at the MCA befits the museum's dedication to gender equity, and strengthens the thread of social consciousness and activism that is woven throughout the city's culture."

Nicole Eisenman (b. 1965, Verdun, France; lives in Brooklyn, NY) rose to prominence in the early 1990s New York art scene. She explores political, economic, and social themes through her formally experimental and often-humorous portraits of daily life. Within paintings, drawings, and sculptures, Eisenman utilizes narrative and artistic process to address topics including economic crisis, the rise of far-right populism, and the ongoing climate emergency.

Through over 100 works dating back to 1992, audiences will encounter the breadth of artworks in the exhibition that span Eisenman's career including *Another Green World* (2015), *Coping* (2008), and *Edie (The Destroyer)* (2022). Across these works, Eisenman models new forms of personal, social, and romantic connection while reflecting on her own communities, her life as an artist, and the complexity of human experiences.

"Rebellious, witty, personal, relatable, Eisenman's irreverent work captures the intimacy of everyday life while confronting the urgent political issues of our time," said Associate Curator Jadine Collingwood.

ABOUT THE CATALOGUE

Accompanying the major survey exhibition is a [comprehensive catalogue](#) documenting the full range of Eisenman's work as well as themes central to her practice. Other artists, curators, and writers also provide personal reflections on significant past projects, including contributions by Monika Bayer-Wermuth, Jadine Collingwood, Mark Godfrey, Britta Peters, Ann Philbin, Helena Reckitt, Joe Scotland, A.L. Steiner, Nicola Tyson, and Chloe Wyma.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Nicole Eisenman (b. 1965, Verdun, France; lives in Brooklyn, New York) received a BFA from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1987. Eisenman is a MacArthur Foundation Fellow and was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2018. Major works include projects for the 2019 Venice Biennale, 2019 Whitney Biennial, and 2017 Skulptur Projekte Münster. Recent exhibitions include *Heads, Kisses, Battles: Nicole Eisenman and the Moderns* at Kunsthalle Bielefeld, Bielefeld, Germany (2021), traveling to Aargauer Kunsthau, Aarau, Switzerland (2022), Fondation Vincent Van Gogh, Arles, France (2022), and Kunstmuseum Den Haag, Netherlands (2022); *Nicole Eisenman. Giant Without a Body* at the Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art, Oslo, Norway (2021); *Nicole Eisenman and Keith Boadwee* at the FLAG Art Foundation, New York (2020); *Nicole Eisenman. Sturm und Drang* at the Contemporary Austin, Austin, Texas (2020); *Baden Baden Baden* at Staatliche Kunsthalle Baden-Baden, Baden-Baden, Germany (2018); *Now or Never* at Secession, Vienna, Austria (2017); and *Al-ugh-ories* at the New Museum, New York (2016).

CREDITS

Nicole Eisenman: What Happened was organized by Museum Brandhorst in cooperation with Whitechapel Gallery in London, and curated by Monika Bayer-Wermuth and Mark Godfrey. The presentation at the MCA Chicago is organized by Jadine Collingwood, Associate Curator, and Jack Schneider, Assistant Curator, MCA Chicago. It is presented in the Griffin Galleries of Contemporary Art on the museum's fourth floor.

EXHIBITION SUPPORT

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Generous support is provided by Anton Kern Gallery; Rennie Collection, Vancouver; and Vielmetter Los Angeles.

This exhibition is supported by the MCA's Women Artists Initiative, a philanthropic commitment to further equity across gender lines and promote the work and ideas of women artists.



ABOUT THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART CHICAGO

The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The MCA interweaves exhibitions, performances, collections, and educational programs while providing a place for audiences to contemplate and discuss contemporary art in pursuit of a creative and diverse future. The MCA believes in the values of inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility (IDEA) as a platform to enact structural change. The museum is generously supported by its Board of Trustees; individual and corporate members; private and corporate foundations, including the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation; and government agencies. Museum capital improvements are supported by a Public Museum Capital Grant from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The MCA is a proud member of Museums in the Park and receives major support from the Chicago Park District.

[The MCA is located at 220 E. Chicago Avenue](#) and is open 10 am to 5 pm Wednesday to Sunday and Tuesdays (free for IL residents) from 10 am to 9 pm. The museum is closed on Mondays. Admission is free for all youth 18 and under, members of the military and veterans, and MCA members. Find more information about MCA's exhibitions, programs, and special events at mcachicago.org or at 312.280.2660.

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