

Inka Essenhigh: Manhattanhenge
April 6, 2018–February 2019

Stairwell

Opening Reception, April 5, 2018, 6-8pm

For further information and images, please contact
Molly Gross, *Communications Director*, The Drawing Center
212 219 2166 x119 | mgross@drawingcenter.org

January 19, 2018



Inka Essenhigh, Sketch for
Manhattanhenge at The
Drawing Center, 2017.

New York – As part of its ongoing series of commissions for the stairwell, The Drawing Center has asked New York artist Inka Essenhigh to create a site-specific wall drawing. Essenhigh's installation will be the third in the series, following *Gary Simmons: Ghost Reels* (2016–18) and *Abdelkader Benchamma: Dark Matter* (2015–16).

An artist whose influences range from Hokusai to Surrealism and Byzantine icons to graphic novels, Inka Essenhigh is known for her hallucinatory scenes that weave narratives about everyday life with otherworldly and science-fiction themes. For her panoramic installation in The Drawing Center's stairwell, Essenhigh will illustrate the story of an imaginary contest staged on a New York City street in which new glass-and-steel condominiums with human attributes engage in a showdown with the city's more conventional buildings. Drawn directly on the wall, Essenhigh's anthropomorphic buildings will encircle the central motif of the drawing, a golden sunset that replicates "Manhattanhenge"—the effect of the sun when aligned precisely with the city grid—which has long been a mythic part of the city's monumental architecture. Organized by Brett Littman, Executive Director.

ABOUT INKA ESSENHIGH

Essenhigh lives and works in New York and is represented by Victoria Miro Gallery, London. She has presented solo exhibitions at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville; Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami; and the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, NY. Essenhigh has also been included in group exhibitions at The Museum of Modern Art, New York; Kunsthallen Brandts, Odense, Denmark; Royal Academy of Arts, London; the 26th São Paulo Biennial; Contemporary Arts Museum Houston; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art; Carré d'Art, Nîmes, France; Tate Gallery, Liverpool; MoMA PS1, New York; and the Center on Contemporary Art, Seattle.

CREDITS

Inka Essenhigh: Manhattanhenge is made possible through the support of Ameringer | McEnery | Yohe and Stacey and Rob Goergen.

ABOUT THE DRAWING CENTER

The Drawing Center, a museum in Manhattan's SoHo district, explores the medium of drawing as primary, dynamic, and relevant to contemporary culture, the future of art, and creative thought. Its activities, which are both multidisciplinary and broadly historical, include exhibitions; Open Sessions, a curated artist program encouraging community and collaboration; the *Drawing Papers* publication series; and education and public programs.

LOCATION, HOURS & ACCESSIBILITY

35 Wooster Street between Broome and Grand Streets in SoHo, New York.

Gallery hours are Wednesday-Sunday 12pm–6pm, Thursday, 12pm–8pm.

Tickets: \$5 Adults, \$3 Students and seniors, Children under 12 are free, and free admission Thursdays 6-8pm.

The Drawing Center is wheelchair accessible.

212.219.2166 | info@drawingcenter.org | drawingcenter.org

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AT THE DRAWING CENTER

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| <i>Judith Bernstein: Cabinet of Horrors</i> | Through February 4, 2018 |
| <i>Eddie Martinez: Studio Wall</i> | Through February 4, 2018 |
| <i>Raha Raissnia: Alluvius</i> | Through February 4, 2018 |
| <i>Winter Term: Torkwase Dyson and the Wynter-Well Drawing School for Environmental Justice</i> | February 24–March 11, 2018 |
| <i>Terry Winters: Facts and Fictions</i> | April 6–August 12, 2018 |
| <i>Hipkiss: Bulwark</i> | April 6– August 12, 2018 |
| <i>Eduardo Navarro: Into Ourselves</i> | April 6–22, 2018 |

INSTALLATIONS

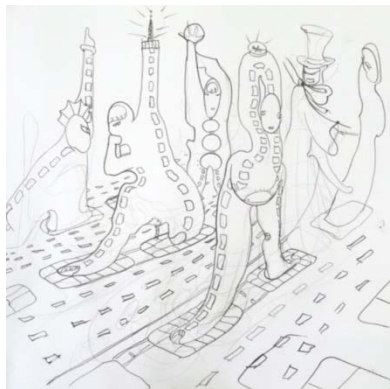
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|---|--------------------------|
| <i>Gary Simmons: Ghost Reels</i> | Through February 4, 2018 |
| <i>Susan York: Foundation in the Lab Corridor</i> | Through October 2018 |
| <i>Inka Essenhigh in the Stairwell</i> | Opens February 23, 2018 |

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Inka Essenhigh: Manhattanhenge
February 23, 2018–February 2019

Images Available for Reproduction

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Inka Essenhigh, Sketches for *Manhattanhenge* at The Drawing Center, 2017. Courtesy of the artist