

Galerie Francesca Pia

Ericka Beckman

Lucky Charm – Drawings and photographs from the 80's until today

Curated with Jeanne Graff

Opening February 3, 6–9 pm

February 4 – March 18, 2023

Ericka Beckman (*1951) is known for her experimental cinematic work and her expansion of the medium of film through a sculptural, spatially immersive dimension that also assigns an active role to the viewer.

The numerous references to pop-cultural motifs in her early work, and the distinction from the minimalist art film aesthetic prevalent at the time, are shared with some of her most important artistic companions, such as Mike Kelley, James Welling, Ashley Bickerton, and Matt Mullican. Beckman, who was later also associated with the so-called *Pictures Generation*, consistently looked to decode cultural representation, and examine and depict the underlying norms, especially the notion of performance and the constant optimization of our working and living environments. In her repeated references to games as a fundamental structural device of our capitalist order, as well as to anthropological theories by Jean Piaget or Roger Callois, Beckman artistically anticipated the emergence of social media and the gamification of our everyday experience.

Ericka Beckman was born in Hempstead (NY), USA in 1951. She now lives and works in New York. Institutional solo exhibitions have been held at Centre Pompidou, Paris (2022), Kestner Gesellschaft, Hannover (2021), M Leuven, Leuven (2020), MIT List Visual Arts Center, Boston (2019), Secession, Vienna (2017), Tate Modern, London (2013), Kunsthalle Bern, Bern (2013), The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis (2005), among others.

Her work is in major international collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the Museum of Modern Art, New York City; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; the Broad Museum, Los Angeles; the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; the Centre Pompidou, Paris; the Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus; and the Zabłudowicz Collection, London.