

# The New York Times



Nicole Eisenman's "Watermark" (2012), an etching and aquatint, at Print Center New York. Nicole Eisenman and Harlan and Weaver, New York

## Art Gallery Shows to See in February

Looking for new art in New York this weekend? Start in Chelsea for Nicole Eisenman's retrospective and Ayanna Dozier's solo show. And don't miss Dave Schubert's photographs.

By **Holland Cotter**, **Blake Gopnik**, **Jillian Steinbauer**, **Travis Diehl**, **Max Lakin**, **Arthur Lubow**, **John Vincler**, **Will Heinrich** and **Martha Schwendener**

Published Feb. 1, 2023 Updated Feb. 22, 2023

# Newly Reviewed

It's rare to see a show as well balanced as "Nicole Eisenman: Prince," a retrospective of more than a decade of the artist's collaborations with the New York publishers Harlan & Weaver, Jungle Press Editions and 10 Grand Press. Like her drawings and paintings, Eisenman's prints teem with ideas and art-historical allusions. Sometimes her sense of humor gets the upper hand, as in the lithograph "Man Holding His Shadow," which shows a retired boxer in a windowpane-pattern suit and matching cap mournfully cradling what looks like a deflated inner tube. Sometimes it's her tenderness, as in "Portrait of Evan," a sensitive, impromptu portrait of an assistant at Jungle Press.

Most of the time, though, a Nicole Eisenman print is a riot of competing impulses, so it's especially welcome to see so many of them so judiciously edited and lucidly arranged. The show also amounts to a primer on the extensive possibilities of the medium: There are little copper plate etchings made with matchsticks and string; a jigsaw woodcut monoprint, displayed alongside the printing blocks; cardboard collagraphs; a figure drawn on plywood in wax, cast in aqua resin, and printed from the cast; and seven in-progress proofs of "Watermark," an etching and aquatint, displayed along with the final version. This last is a primer in itself, because what begins as a mysterious, mostly shadowy scene slowly becomes a highly detailed view of the artist's children and their grandparents, complete with patterned wallpaper, trees out the windows, and tiny book titles on the shelves. *WILL HEINRICH*

---