

Iowa

Ingrid Hansen (b. 1991, Louisville, KY) lives and works in New York.

Drawing from a wide array of visual sources—including news media, paparazzi images, and film and television stills—Hansen explores the human condition and the complex, often chaotic nature of contemporary life. Her work reflects the influence of popular culture over the past several decades, functioning both as a singular artistic record of the last 35 years—her own lifespan—and as a mirror for viewers to examine their own experiences and motivations through familiar cultural imagery.

Hansen's paintings capture dynamic scenes of modern romance, fashion, performance, and power, while also inviting contemplation on how we interpret and assign meaning to images. Both artist and viewer engage in the shared processes of reading, translating, and interpreting visual indicators—practices that underscore our collective reliance on images to understand the world. Hansen's work also challenges the perceived objectivity of photography. By appropriating and recontextualizing widely circulated images, she questions the visual cues and conventions that shape our perception of reality. In doing so, she interrogates systems of mass media and examines deeper questions surrounding ingenuity and authenticity.

The artist's interest in the conditions of contemporary life and the universality of human experience is enhanced by her simultaneous engagement with the history of art. Referencing a wide array of movements—from the allegorical symbolism of early Renaissance paintings to postmodern experiments in installation—her works suggest a continuity across centuries of artistic practice, despite drastic cultural shifts brought on by evolving technologies and the advent of modernism. Hansen's paintings arrive where Manet's *Olympia*, Munch's *The Scream*, and Warhol's electric chairs intersect.

