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# KOHN GALLERY

## Mark Innerst *New Paintings*



Opening Reception: Friday, April 6, 2018, 6-8pm  
On view through May 23, 2018

**Los Angeles** – Kohn Gallery is honored to present a solo exhibition of new paintings by Mark Innerst, consisting of up to 28 new works, all of which continue the artist's conceptual investigation into thematic genres of traditional painting.

Innerst broke onto the New York art scene in the early 1980s with exquisitely executed small-scale paintings with hand-made frames, and his works were considered part of the *Pictures Generation* of artists who employed widely varied images as source material culled from the expanding media of the pre-digital age. In fact, Innerst worked in the studio of Robert Longo, one of the preeminent artists of this group. Innerst would explore subject matter as subject matter in his

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work, producing oil paintings of landscapes, still lifes, cityscapes, historical scenes, interiors, et al., yet so deftly painted that his works were prized as much for their beauty as their conceptual rigor.

This body of new paintings show Innerst to be at the height of his artistic powers, where the towering buildings of cityscapes are depicted as bejeweled giants that line the lonely canyon of an urban avenue. Elsewhere, a freeway overpass hovers in the air like a modernist sculpture above a highway road, all set against Constable-like clouds and sky. In another work, Innerst produces his own version of a Dutch church interior with a blue-toned study seen from a bird's eye view of the grand lobby of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, replete with visitors filling the vast space.

Those who are aware of Innerst's career are familiar with his iconic cityscapes with towering buildings, and this exhibition will present a number of works where the city streets are sometimes geometricized in a nod toward American Modernism. In other works, the subject is delicately portrayed as an equilibrium of realism and romanticism. Finally, some paintings depict city streets and buildings abstracted and reduced to volumetric blocks, adorned with richly colored pointillist dabs of paint.

## ABOUT THE ARTIST

Innerst's work has been exhibited widely in the United States and abroad, including shows at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City; Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston; and Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago. His work is in numerous public collections including the Museum of Modern Art, NY, Metropolitan Museum of Art, NY, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, NY, Brooklyn Museum, NY, Whitney Museum of American Art, NY, Albright Knox Museum, Buffalo, NY, Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, and Indianapolis Museum of Art, IN among others. Innerst lives and works in Philadelphia and Cape May.

## ABOUT THE GALLERY

Since its establishment in 1985 by Michael Kohn, Kohn Gallery has presented historically significant exhibitions in Los Angeles alongside exciting contemporary artists, creating meaningful contexts to establish links to a greater art historical continuum. Kohn

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Gallery represents important West Coast artists with long careers and rich histories such as Joe Goode and Lita Albuquerque, works by Larry Bell, as well as the Estates of Bruce Conner, Wallace Berman, John Altoon and Charles Brittin. Kohn Gallery boasts an expanding roster of emerging and mid career artists including Ori Gersht, Rosa Loy, Dennis Hollingsworth, Mark Ryden, Jonathan Lyndon Chase, Tom LaDuke and Troika. Visit [kohngallery.com](http://kohngallery.com) for the latest information on upcoming exhibitions.

\*Artwork: Mark Innerst, *Strata*, 2017, acrylic on panel, 12 x 12 inches

Instagram: @KOHNGallery, #InnerstKohn, #kohngallery

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