



## Sergei Eisenstein: Drawings 1931– 1948

By Pac Pobric

Sergei Eisenstein, the Soviet master behind *Battleship Potemkin* (1925) and *October* (1928), once made a drawing of a rabbit having sex with an alligator and wrote on it: "Fucking, according to the Best System." He also liked to picture people having sex in all sorts of places: in nightclubs, on the street, at the circus. Drawings like this got him in trouble: On his way back into the United States from Mexico (where he traveled to work on the troubled and unfinished epic *¡Que Viva México!*, which now exists in various forms), customs officials nearly confiscated them for indecency. He kept them hidden when back in the USSR, too, and his wife (with the help of Eisenstein's collaborator, Andrei Moskvin) became their keeper after he died in 1948. They've passed through many hands since; some ended up in the State Hermitage Museum, even as others — including the ones in this exhibition, completed between 1931 and 1948— remained in a private collection. The show also includes a continuous screening of the 1979 edit of *¡Que Viva México!*

*Installation view courtesy Alexander Gray Associates*

### DETAILS

**Time:** 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. every Tue., Wed.,  
Thu., Fri., Sat. until February 11

### LOCATION INFO:

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Chelsea