



Pensato, 2014
Photograph: Will Corwin

[Pensato at Lisson Gallery](#)

[Pensato at Petzel Gallery](#)

Watch a [studio visit](#) with Pensato and James Kalm in her Williamsburg Brooklyn studio from 2009.

In 2013, Pensato installed her first museum survey, [I Killed Kenny](#), at the Santa Monica Museum of Art and the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis. [Watch the artist talk](#) delivered at the opening of the St. Louis edition. A [review](#) by Terry R. Myers in ArtReview argues that the exhibition “highlights the possibility that there is still a certain kind of painting that New York provokes best, and that Brooklyn-born-and-based Pensato has turned out to be... one of a few painters capable of keeping the New York School relevant.”

Read a 2014 [interview](#) in Art Papers with Will Corwin, where the two discuss living in Brooklyn, Pensato’s distinctive enamel paint, and cartoon metaphors.

[FOCUS: Joyce Pensato](#) was on display at the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth in 2015, with photocollages, new paintings, and the artist’s largest painting on linen to date.

The Kunstraum Innsbruck in Innsbruck, Austria exhibited [Later is Now](#) in 2016, Pensato’s first institutional solo exhibition in Europe.

In 2016, the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago commissioned the mural [Felix and Lincoln](#) for its Liz and Eric Lefkofsky Family Lobby.

[Read](#) an interview in Artforum where the artist talks about art, life, and Mickey Mouse. A [video](#) by the Louisiana Channel also includes an interview about Pensato’s life with cartoon characters.

Listen to a podcast episode of [Talk Art](#), which includes the last interview the artist gave before she passed away.

[The Brooklyn Rail](#) and [New York Times](#) both published in-depth tributes to the artist upon her death in 2019.

Gregory Volk’s [Hyperallergic article](#), “The Commanding, Flamboyant Joyce Pensato” discusses [Fuggetabout It \(Redux\)](#), the first gallery exhibition at Petzel since her death, held in 2021. Petzel represents the artist’s estate; the executor is Elizabeth Ferry, Pensato’s former studio manager. Read an [interview with Ferry](#) and the Curator platform about her experience working with the artist.



Pensato at the Park Avenue Armory, 2017
Photograph: Gonzalo Marroquin/Patrick McMullan

Joyce Pensato (American, 1941-2019)

2012 Batman, 2012

Enamel on linen

Private Collection; L2022:90.1

American painter Joyce Pensato pursued art at a young age but did not gain widespread recognition until she was in her fifties. For decades, the artist's studio was full of figurines, toys, and stuffed animals that served as models for her large-scale paintings of reimagined comic book and cartoon characters. **2012 Batman** is a return to Pensato's Batman motif, which she first began when she found a life-sized Batman cutout on the street in the mid-1970s. However, with its colorful lines of enamel paint, this work marks a significant departure from the artist's preference for a black, white, and silver color palette. In 2012, the painting was a centerpiece of *Batman Returns*, the final Friedrich Petzel Gallery exhibition to address this important subject in Pensato's oeuvre before her death in 2019.

On view November 9, 2022 – February 12, 2023

