

Jeremiah Checkik – Bio

Jeremiah Checkik was born in Montreal, Canada, and grew up surrounded by books, homemade radios, and every issue of Popular Mechanics and Popular Science ever published.

He received a scholarship to McGill University in physics but at the last moment shifted his major to arts. He directed plays, studied with John Grierson, the father of British and Canadian documentary film, and later became his assistant.

After graduating, Checkik moved to Toronto, worked as a master printmaker for the rare book library at University of Toronto, and experimented with the integration of photographic processes with stone lithography, photogravure, and laser holography. His first solo show was at the legendary A Space Gallery in Toronto in 1976.

Checkik's photographs caught the eye of advertising executives and fashion magazine editors, which led him to Milan where he worked as a fashion photographer for Italian Vogue. Soon he moved to New York and began a meteoric rise as a director of groundbreaking and award-winning commercials. Even as he worked in commercial filmmaking, he kept a focus on writing, science, design, and above all, photography, his personal medium of expression as an artist.

Checkik's film career includes directing Christmas Vacation, Benny and Joon, and Diabolique, as well as producing The Bronx Is Burning and, most recently, Reginald the Vampire. Meanwhile, his photographic work evolved technically and aesthetically, as he explored new ways of creating and presenting imagery that in his words "moves the conversation and language of the photographic image forward."

In 2016 Checkik began experimenting with gaming technology, leading to a body of work called Virtual Street Photography. In 2019 he exhibited large plate glass imagery of surreal landscapes in a solo exhibition at the Show Gallery, Los Angeles, followed by a major solo show at the Museum of Architecture and Design in Buenos Aires. In 2020 his digital animated work was exhibited at Bright Moments Gallery in Venice Beach, California, where he resides.

Recent shows include group shows, Outer Orbit/Out of Orbit, March 2023, and Wings of Desire September 2023 at, Lichtundfire Gallery in New York, and 3 Artists at Yiwei Gallery at Photofairs in Shanghai. Examples of his digital work will appear at the Venice Biennale in 2024, as part of an exhibition organized by the international digital arts organization Bright Moments.