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JORGE ANDREW GALLERY PRESENTS:

LUZ ANGELICA FERNANDEZ

Painting isn't dead. In fact, the abstract scene that has thrived in North Brooklyn for decades is ripe with energetic newcomers, and Luz Angelica Fernandez is one of the newest young talents. The New York City born painter and multimedia artist presents a new collection of light boxes and acrylic works in her solo exhibition for Jorge Andrew Gallery, an alternative space which has recently hosted the likes of Alex Markwith and Emma Stern. Fernandez' bold, deliberate strokes pulse in a palette akin to the blurry memory of a night out in the city: friendly neons leading the eye against brutalist concrete. The colors themselves are delicately mixed into an unfamiliar urban pastel, and are placed in so few strokes that the emotional nature of the artists' decision-making process vibrates with tension on their surfaces. "I grew up surrounded by graffiti, construction sites, grimy buildings and train stations, and find them so familiar and comforting," the artist explains, revealing her unusual relationship to an element of urban life which many may find disturbing. Through her works Fernandez channels memory and emotion, building color worlds from her immediate experiences of exploring nightlife and architecture.

While earning her B.F.A. at Hampshire college, which emphasizes multidisciplinary learning, Fernandez became disenchanted with figurative studies and turned to installation art. She began to incorporate light boxes into her compositions, collaging onto them with transparent images and her mother's own hair. While briefly living in Berlin in 2013, she came home late with an artist friend one morning, and they spontaneously created a painting together. This experience awakened her: "I realized I could paint whatever I want, I don't have to paint figures." Since then she has been painting avidly, often drawing from a journal in which she records memorable color situations and textures from her daily experiences. Her technique is an effort to "draw attention to the performative act of mark-making," breathing new life into the abstract expressionist tradition. Fernandez draws on a path blazed by the likes of painters Franz Klein and Pierre Soulages in her emotionally charged compositions, framed by the raw aesthetic of youth culture and "the semiotics of social-media," which make appearances in her titles. Textures are also crucial to her building process, each mark an attempt to address the passage of time in the vivid neons and ambiguous neutrals of architecture in transition.

Luz began her exhibition career with a group show at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, just out of high school. She has since participated in numerous group shows and last year presented an immersive solo exhibition at the event space 988 Manhattan in Brooklyn. Her mural currently graces the beloved D.I.Y. venue Silent Barn, and her work has recently been published in Starry Night Retreat's "Artists to Look Out For" magazine. She is currently developing a new light box technique which will feature programmable LED lights. Through her new series of works at Jorge Andrew Gallery, Fernandez seamlessly fuses formalism with the contemporary urban narrative, building a fresh window into city life through a New York native's perspective.

JORGE ANDREW GALLERY

251 Union Ave.
Brooklyn, NY 11211
June 10th - 11th, 2017

Opening Reception:
June 10th, 6-9pm

INQUIRIES - RSVP: oracle@vectorgallery.com

EVENT: <http://goo.gl/EQxJnU>
GALLERY: <http://goo.gl/suidJW>