## BRAND NEW GALLERY

presents





21 SEPTEMBER | 18 NOVEMBER 2017 OPENING 21 SEPTEMBER 2017 | 7-9 PM

Brand New Gallery is pleased to present "*Casitas*", the first solo gallery exhibition by Enoc Perez in Italy.

On view a selection of paintings from Enoc Perez' *Casitas* series. These small and intimate oil paintings portray Enoc's own humble beginnings in Puerto Rico through the depiction of the island's own vernacular architecture.

He focalizes his attention on his native land with semi-abstract but emotionally evocative Puerto Rican architectures, homelands which immigrants have left behind in order to pursue better lives in the US.

The works conjure emotionally-charged memories that Latino immigrants carry with them as they pursue the American dream.

Named after places in Puerto Rico, these unpretentious paintings combine abstract elements with representation to capture a haunting feeling of Puerto Rico's distant past and contemporary present. Splattered fields of thick paint and vivid color are combined to create emotionally charged paintings that conjure up the island's diverse cultural instant.

Born in San Juan in 1967, Enoc Perez first took painting lessons at the age of eight. Son of an art critic, he spent family vacations traveling to museums in different countries and learning about art history. In 1986, Perez moved to New York to study painting at the Pratt Institute before earning his master's degree at Hunter College. Finding himself at odds with the program at Hunter, where students and faculty criticized his paintings as overly seductive and decorative, Perez maintained his belief in the importance of the aesthetics in art. Embracing art's potential for pleasure and beauty, Perez paints sensuous nudes, still lifes, tropical resorts, and modern architectural icons in a sleek aesthetic with dazzling, vibrant colors.

## Enoc Perez

(1967, born in San Juan, Puerto Rico) lives and works in New York.

Enoc Perez graduated from Hunter College in New York in 1992.

Perez' works are in the collection of Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, NY; Museum of Contemporary Art, San Juan, PR; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY; Museum of Contemporary Art, North Miami, FL; The British Museum, London, UK; Hammer Museum, University of California, Los Angeles, CA; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, CA; Corcoran Art Gallery, Washington D.C., among the others.

A solo show at the museum Dallas Contemporary is scheduled in 2018.

He has exhibited his work widely internationally, including solo show at: The Philip Johnson Glass House, New Canaan, CT; Peter Blum Gallery, New York, NY; Galerie Nathalie Obadia, Paris, FR; Thomas Ammann Fine Arts AG, Zürich, CH; Acquavella Galleries, New York, NY; Corcoran Art Gallery, Washington D.C.; Faggionato Fine Arts, London, UK; Mitchell-Innes & Nash, New York, NY; Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia, IT; Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami, Miami, FL; Elizabeth Dee, New York, NY; Kunstverein Heilbronn, Heilbronn, DE.

Recent group exhibitions include: Konig Galerie, Berlin, DE; MCA Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, IL; AD&A Museum, Santa Barbara, CA; Collezione Maramotti, Reggio Emilia, IT; Tony Shafrazi Gallery, New York, NY; International Print Center, New York, NY; Studio Museum in Harlem, New York, NY; Queens Museum of Art, New York, NY; El Museo del Barrio, New York, NY; Gagosian Gallery, Los Angeles, CA; Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum, Ridgefield, CT; Triennale Bovisa, Milan, IT; UCLA Hammer Museum, Los Angeles, CA; Centre Pompidou, Paris, FR; Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt, Frankfurt, DE.

**BRAND NEW GALLERY** via Farini 32, 20159 Milano t. +39.02.89.05.30.83 from Tuesday to Saturday

11.00-13.00|14.30-19.00

info@brandnew-gallery.com www.brandnew-gallery.com PRESS OFFICE press@brandnew-gallery.com