80 | WASHINGTON SQUARE EAST

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Marley Blauch
Luminous

Novemeber 4 – Novemeber 7

Light is very powerful. In a way, it is everything.

The dual nature of light beautifully mirrors the coexistence of opposite forces that create balance within the universe, and also reflects the duality of being as we all exist simultaneously in physical bodies and as infinite spiritual consciousness.

Light behaves ethereally as it reflects, refracts, and disperses, seemingly transcending reality to create the optical phenomena that are prisms and rainbows.This captivating breaking down of the visual realm is something that all are able to observe, whether it be a monumental, vibrant arch across the sky or a tiny, fleeting moment of color as the sun illuminates a glass of water.

In painting, light possesses a quiet yet momentous presence. It can evoke feeling, create movement, define form and depth, and hold deep symbolism, often with beautiful subtlety.

The crystalline, geometric objects in my paintings would be nothing without light. The light that moves through them, revealing a rainbow spectrum of colors, is my true subject. I am endlessly fascinated by the tension between the immateriality and ephemerality of these moments created by light and the tedious experience of rendering them in oil paint.

Marley Blauch (b. 2001) is a painter from New Orleans, Louisiana currently based in New York City. She works in oil paint on wood panel, creating hyperrealistic worlds from crystalline, geometric objects and the light that moves through them. Through her practice, Marley explores presence, mindfulness, and the art of noticing.

Her paintings, though representational, often appear on the brink of abstraction, displaying the magic in the everyday as creating brings her closer to the subtle, beautiful details of the world. As Marley intentionally engages in the process of oil painting with the patience that it demands, she learns to bask in these transient moments in a way that radiates beyond her studio practice into everyday life.

Aside from painting, Marley is devoted to her spiritual path, and has been practicing, studying, and teaching yoga and meditation for years. She considers creativity to be a spiritual practice and experiences painting as a form of meditation. Marley holds a B.A. in both Studio Art and Psychology along with a minor in Art History from the University of California San Diego, and is now an MFA candidate at NYU where she also teaches undergraduate painting. Marley has exhibited work at the Adam D. Kamil Gallery in San Diego and 80WSE Gallery in New York City.

@artofmarley

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All works listed clockwise relative to gallery entrance.

Portal I
Oil on panel
16″ × 16″

Each Tree Must be Green
Oil on panel
24″ × 36″

Portal III
Oil on panel
8″ × 8″

Portal II
Oil on panel
12″ × 12″

Figment
Oil on panel
20″ × 20″

Orb
Oil on panel
12″ × 12″

Fluidity
Oil on panel
12″ × 16″