

MIGUEL ABREU GALLERY

Performance: *Document: La Merced y Tepito, 2017*
Marico Kondo and Yuji Agematsu

Date: Saturday, June 23, 2018, 3–7PM

Location: 36 Orchard Street, New York, NY 10002

Miguel Abreu Gallery is pleased to present *Document: La Merced y Tepito, 2017*, a slideshow performance by Marico Kondo and Yuji Agematsu, at the gallery's 36 Orchard Street location.

In 2013, Kondo began documentary work on the streets of Mexico City, her photographs and videos largely focused on *sonidero*, a vital and longstanding subculture rooted in the cumbia music scene. In this performance, Kondo projects a series of photographs taken during the autumn of 2017 in La Merced and Tepito, two areas in the northeastern part of the city where Mexican *sonidero* first emerged.

Located in the heart of these neighborhoods are large *mercados*, the city's commercial epicenters pulsating with activity. Kondo's camera captures the daily transactional rhythms inside these communal spaces as well as outside, where street vendors line up to sell anything from mobile phones to single cigarettes. The fall marks the annual celebration of the Virgen de Guadalupe, when throngs of people descend on the city's marketplaces for the festivities. Kondo and Agematsu's durational performance pays tribute to the spirit of these traditions, incorporating *musica tropical* and dance, keeping step with the characters appearing in each of their colorful vignettes. The artists assume roles similar to that of the *sonidos*, or DJs, whose candid portraits Kondo snaps as they fulfill the sacred act of transforming the streets of the city into lively dance parties, employing a unique combination of technique, charisma, and booming sound systems.

Seating limited and on a first-come, first-served basis

Marico Kondo (b. Tokyo, Japan) is a documentary photographer, independent researcher, and translator living between New York and Mexico City. Before emigrating from Japan, Kondo studied sociology and urban subculture at the University of Tokyo, where she earned a Master of Socio-information and Communication Studies. She has performed in New York at Artists Space. Kondo's ongoing areas of focus are the sonideros of Mexico City, and the Latino immigrant community in Jackson Heights, New York.

Yuji Agematsu (b. 1956, Kanagawa, Japan) lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. He has had solo exhibitions in New York at TZ Art & Co., Anthology Film Archives, Real Fine Arts and Miguel Abreu Gallery, as well as Yale Union, Portland, Artspeak, Vancouver, and the Power Station, Dallas, and he was the focus of Walk on A, B, C, organized by Jay Sanders at the Whitney Museum of American Art. His work is in the permanent collections of the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, and in the Pinault Collection.

For more information, please contact the gallery:

Miguel Abreu Gallery

88 Eldridge Street (between Hester & Grand) / 36 Orchard Street (between Canal & Hester)

New York, NY 10002

Telephone 212.995.1774 • post@miguelabreugallery.com

Summer hours: Tuesday – Saturday, 10:30AM to 6:30PM or by appointment

Subway: F to East Broadway; B, D to Grand Street; J, M, Z to Delancey / Essex Street

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