

LOIS LAMBERT GALLERY

2525 Michigan Ave. E3 | Santa Monica | CA | 90404

LAURA CARRALERO MORALES

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

When I try to link architectural concepts with painting, I keep in mind that architecture has to be experienced on site. Painting, as a two-dimensional technique has the ability to harbor the sensations lived and which remain in one's memory; a reminiscence of the experience.

The driving theme in my work is to bridge architecture and painting. I'm interested in creating a relationship between a specific architectural space and an overwhelming emotion. This results in uncommon images in dynamic conflict that represent this emotion and create a space that hovers in between the rational and the internal order of the image.

To do that, I work with the experience of inhabiting a space. Not only in a physical way, but also with elements that stay in the memory in the shape of sensations and reflections that were picked up in the moment of visiting a specific place. I research the spaces thoroughly, the light, the textures. The outcome then, is that everything that had a definite shape, color and depth becomes a spiritual element. Before visiting a specific space one tries to visualize it without ever experiencing it. After being in that space however, one must try to recollect the images remembered from that site. An experience filtered through the capacity of memory.

My process begins by observing attentively the characteristics of the space. Looking for areas that catch my interest. It can be the style or the location. What I'm looking for is an element that triggers a strong emotional reaction. When we visit a place for the first time it provokes a number of sensations that we won't be able to recreate once we become familiarized with the place. I keep this first impression, go to the canvas and reconstruct the synthesis of the encounter. The end result, as I said before can become this in between, ambiguous space.

The relation between art and architecture allows us to reflect about the site. It allows us to rethink the environment, which becomes so familiar that it becomes almost invisible. In that familiarity, there are crucial, unexpected and unpredictable qualities that compromise the way we experience a space. The "first time" experience has a quality of the unknown, of the other and this feeling is necessary to maintain the true structure of the space. For me, it's a structural process.