



Kiboco ~ Efeito Esquimó
Setembro 7 – Outubro 23, 2011

Lu Magnus kicks off the new season with *Efeito Esquimó*, a gallery-wide mural installation and a series of new paintings by Brazilian artist **Kiboco**. Opening reception for the artist to be held on **Wednesday September 7, 6-9pm**. The exhibition runs through Sunday October 23.

Drawing upon humanity's shared experience, Kiboco gets his inspiration from pre-Columbian and Arabian cultures. Influenced by the symbolism of the geometric patterns of mosques he visited in Southern Spain, Orientalism plays an important role in his vocabulary. Shapes that resemble hieroglyphs and lettering that look like a page from a forgotten language channel past civilizations that have long been vanquished or marginalized by socio-political issues. Kiboco's work reflects our global sensibilities of seamlessly fuse various practices and cultures.

For his New York solo debut, Kiboco was inspired by his home state of Goiânia, home to the Chapada dos Veadeiros National Park, to which he made a pilgrimage just before commencing this new body of work. The palette he utilizes for the mural – ochre, olive, purple, goldchrome and even Tiffany blue – reflects the sublime in nature.

The title *Efeito Esquimó*, translated as Eskimo Effect, refers to the layers of white wash Kiboco employs for his mural and on his canvases. Alternating between layers of white paint that both conceals and reveals, the multiple layers of colors are both hidden and enhanced. This is a technique Kiboco invented, bridging the faded layers of urban decay and the pristine whitewashed walls of the white cube. Similarly, his 8 new paintings integrated with his mural installation represent the syncretism of "graffiti art" and "high art."

Loaded with romanticism and history, which contrasts with the contemporaneous edge of graffiti, Kboco's trajectory begins in his home state of Goiânia. Born Márcio Mendanha de Queiroz in Goiás in 1978, Kboco combined formal art education with years of graffiti and began his career by painting on the streets of Goiânia and throughout Brazil, where he lived in the northeast and south in Porto Alegre. The direct contact with the streets and people fed his visual vocabulary, adding textures, colors and architectural elements to his oeuvre. Since then, Kboco has exhibited internationally in museums and biennials, including the Bienal de Valencia (2009), the International Biennial of Sao Paulo (2010), and the Biennial in Monterrey (2010). Most recently in summer 2011, he participated in "Próximo Futuro" currently in the gardens of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon, Portugal. Kboco currently works and lives in São Paulo.



Installation by Kboco in progress

Upcoming exhibitions:

Jonathan Allen

November 4 – December 18, 2011

Tofer Chin

January 27 – March 18, 2012

Claiborne Swanson Frank

March 23 – May 6, 2012