



HOUSTON (APRIL 9, 2021) – Foto Relevance is pleased to announce *The Constructed Self*, a solo exhibition by Houston-based photographer and multimedia artist Karen Navarro. *The Constructed Self* will run from April 30th through June 25th, and will mark Navarro’s solo debut at the gallery.

Combining a survey of the artist’s previous portfolio *El Pertenecer en Tiempos Modernos* (*Belonging in Modern Times*) with brand new meditations on self-representation and identity, *The Constructed Self* is a dizzying playground of texture, color, and unexpected contemporary portraiture. Navarro’s works materialize in an abundance of forms, including social media hashtag-embossed prints, dynamic photosculpture configurations, and luminous, text-based LED pieces.

Ever-intrigued by the notion of disrupting photography’s conventional two-dimensional presentation, Navarro’s new compositions come assembled in a multitude of ways – some stacked and spinning, others paneled and puzzled together. These geometric complexities illustrate the ability we all have to rearrange facets of our public-facing personas. Whether this malleability is a good or bad thing remains to be seen – though *The Constructed Self* surely has something to contribute to the conversation.

ABOUT THE ARTIST:

Karen Navarro is an Argentine-born multidisciplinary artist living and working in Houston. Navarro works on a diverse array of mediums that includes photography, collage, and sculpture. Her image-based work centers around the topic of identity, self-representation, and belonging. Trained as a fashion designer and photographer, Navarro studied at the University of Buenos Aires and completed the certificate program in photography at the Houston Center for Photography. Her constructed portraits are known for pushing the boundaries of traditional photography, the use of color theory, surreal scenes, and minimalist details.

In 2019 she received the Houston Artadia fellowship and most recently she has been shortlisted for the 2020 Photo London Emerging Photographer of the Year Award.

Her work has been exhibited in the US and abroad. Selected shows include Contemporary Arts Museum Houston (CAMH), USA; Galerija Upuluh, Zagreb, Croatia; Lawndale Art Center, Houston, USA; Elisabet Ney Museum, Austin, USA; Melkweg Expo, Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Houston Center for Photography, Houston, USA; and Museo de la Reconquista, Tigre, Argentina. Navarro's work has been featured in numerous publications, including *ARTnews*, *The Guardian*, *Observer*, *Rolling Stone Italia*, and *Vogue Italia*.



ABOUT FOTO RELEVANCE:

Since 2016, Foto Relevance cofounders Geoffrey C. Koslov and Bryn Larsen have focused on the exhibition and acquisition of museum-quality, contemporary fine art photography and photography-based work. Foto Relevance is dedicated to providing a platform for an innovative selection of American and international photographic artists pushing the boundaries of photography. In addition to promoting the work of artists, Foto Relevance provides guidance, educating individual collectors and corporations in the acquisition and sale of art. Foto Relevance is a member of the Houston Art Gallery Association (HAGA). The gallery is located in the historic Museum District in Houston, Texas in close proximity to the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Menil Collection, and the Houston Center for Photography.

Foto Relevance is currently open for walk-in hours Tuesdays through Saturdays from 11 am - 5 pm, or by appointment. This is subject to change as we stay current with local COVID-related advisories. Groups are limited to five, with masks mandatory for all guests and staff. Please call (713) 505-1499 or email info@fotorelevance.com for press and other inquiries.