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Lights Swarm, Pulse in New Gallery; Vivid Shapes: 57th Street

By Michael Killeen

April 4 (Bloomberg) -- Light morphs, shatters and pulses through three sculptures in `Leo Villareal: New Works," Gering & Lopez Gallery's inaugural exhibition.

Sandra Gering, on the move after 15 years in Chelsea, has partnered with Madrid-based Javier Lopez in a just-opened space at 57th Street and Fifth Avenue.

Villareal's software codes spawn random visual effects in this, his third solo show in New York.

The 24-foot-wide `Field" uses an overlay that diffuses and hides light-emitting diodes. Reds, greens, blues, yellows slowly grow, merge and fade as if distilled from a landscape across the length of a partly translucent screen.

Look up at ``Hive." Orange LEDs (25 in each of the 192 small squares suspended overhead in an 8-by-8-foot grid) glow like embers and then come alive to swarm in tight, rapid sequences -- only to suddenly pause and rest.

Dots of light thread and shoot across a 10-by-15-foot expanse of reflective stainless steel in `Diamond Sea," then gather to explode in cascading waves that engulf the viewer mirrored in the work.

"Hive," "Field" and "Diamond Sea" are priced at \$90,000, \$275,000 and \$300,000 respectively.

"Leo Villareal: New Work" can be seen through April 28 at 730 Fifth Ave.; +1-646-336-7183; http://www.geringlopez.com.