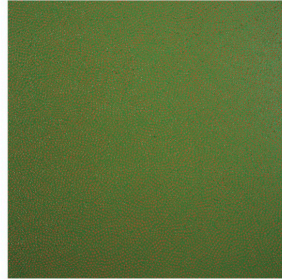


On View Magazine, abril - mayo de 2011

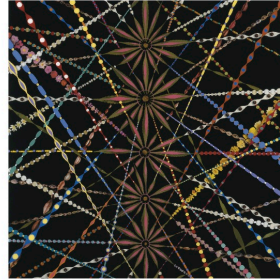
Altered States:



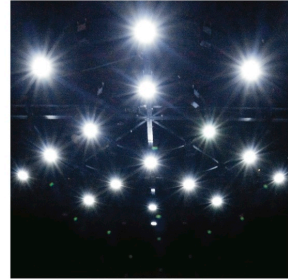
Jose ALVAREZ



Yayoi KUSAMA



Fred TOMASELLI



Leo VILLAREAL

04.02-07.17

at the NORTON MUSEUM of ART • www.norton.org

ONVIEWMAGAZINE.COM • APRIL/MAY 2011 53

By **CHERYL BRUTVAN**,
Curator of Contemporary Art,
Norton Museum of Art



CAN ART HAVE A TRANSFORMATIVE power or is that a romantic and naive expectation? The ironic statement, by Bruce Nauman, in his early neon sculpture: *The true artist helps the world by revealing mystic truths* (1967), expresses the burden of both the artist and the viewer, while acknowledging the desire of each for a meaningful experience.

Through the unapologetically beautiful works by Jose Alvarez,



ALTERED STATES

Yayoi Kusama, Fred Tomaselli and Leo Villareal, this exhibition challenges the viewer's perceptions of reality and the ability of art to create an altered and transformative experience. From the glistening and colorful collages of Alvarez, the obsessively painted *Infinity Nets* of Kusama, and the incredibly detailed paintings of Tomaselli, to Villareal's room-sized installation of vibrating color, these works are especially tempting to the eye—their seductive energy encourages, even demands, the viewers' participation and reflection.

Whether ultimately transcendent and altering or simply engaging, they each consider and explore the power of art and the path that may lead the viewer to another sense of self and place.

JOSE ALVAREZ,
THE ARRIVAL, 2008,
FEATHERS,
PORCUPINE QUILLS,
CRYSTALS, PAINT,
INK, PAPER
COLLAGE, AND
ACETATE ON PAPER,
72 X 44",
COURTESY OF THE
ARTIST AND
GAVLAK GALLERY,
PALM BEACH

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ALTERED STATES



Leo VILLAREAL

LEO VILLAREAL WORKS WITH light and color in its purest forms, creating discrete objects and magnificent installations which respond to architectural elements through his sensitive manipulation of shapes and passages of color, emanating from programmed LEDs (light emitting diodes). He has reinvented the use of color and light and integral elements of art, succeeding the efforts of Modern Masters, Dan Flavin and James Turrell, recognized for their transformative, even spiritual effects. The light works of Villareal have an extraordinary power both visually and, potentially, internally on the viewer. *On View*

FIRMAMENT, 2001, STROBE LIGHTS, STEEL, CUSTOM SOFTWARE, ELECTRICAL HARDWARE, 192 x 192 x 4", UNIQUE, COURTESY GERING & LOPEZ GALLERY, PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES EWING

NOTE: IMAGE IS REPRESENTATIONAL OF ACTUAL WORK TO BE INCLUDED IN EXHIBITION.