

FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

QUINT CONTEMPORARY ART

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SUMMER GALLERY HOURS: Tue - Sat 11AM – 5PM and by appointment

MARA DE LUCA

EVEN IF THE LIGHTS GO OUT

JUNE 8 – JULY 27, 2013

OPENING RECEPTION: SATURDAY, JUNE 8, FROM 6 TO 8 PM

“Early successes, Creation’s favorite ones, mountain-chains, ridges reddened by dawns of all origin – pollen of flowering godhead, junctions of light, corridors, stairs, thrones, spaces of being, shields of bliss, tempests of storm-filled, delighted feeling and, suddenly, solitary mirrors: gathering their own out-streamed beauty back into their faces again.” – Rainier Maria Rilke (Duino Elegies, Second Elegy)

Quint Contemporary Art (QCA) is pleased to present **MARA DE LUCA: EVEN IF THE LIGHTS GO OUT**, a solo exhibition of new paintings by Mara De Luca. This is the first exhibition at QCA for the Los Angeles-based painter. The exhibition opens on Saturday, June 8th with a public reception from 6 to 8PM. The artist will be in attendance.

Mara De Luca’s newest series of paintings called *Elegies* address the mystical poetry found in Rainer Maria Rilke’s great collection, “Duino Elegies.” Rilke’s romantic poems deal with the existential dilemma of man in a world filled with beauty and despair. De Luca’s series is systematic and includes ten painted elegies, the same number as Rilke’s poems. Other inspirations for De Luca’s dramatic shifts of light and the moodiness of the color scheme came from the high fashion print advertisements of Gucci and Dior. Her references to art history include Romantic painterly gestures, obvious nods to the California Light and Space movement and the idea of the ready-made.

“My imagery shifts between extremes of representation and abstraction: from landscaped fields composed of heightened contrasts to subtle and monochromatic light plays, translating the effects and varying tone of Rilke’s existential poems while gesturing towards the natural landscape of Los Angeles.” – Mara De Luca

Mara De Luca was born in Washington, D.C., and currently lives and works in Los Angeles, CA. De Luca received an MFA from California Institute of the Arts, Valencia, CA, and BA from Columbia University, New York. De Luca was part of the CERCA Series at the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego in 2010 displaying *Stations* (a series of paintings inspired by Barnett Newman's *Stations of the Cross*) and was included in *Searchin': Los Angeles and the Quest for the Sublime*, curated by Mary Coyne, at Angels Gate Cultural Center, San Pedro, CA in 2013.