

LIVING IN AMERICA



by MIRIAM KRUISHOOP

LIVING IN AMERICA is the new show by award-winning director and visual artist and Miriam Kruishoop. In her work, MK focuses on people and their stories. Using their narrative to amplify the conversation about the ‘invisible’ people in our society. Having lived in the US for over a decade, MK has been influenced by her surroundings and American society at large—the disparity and the deliberate suppression of minorities, police brutality, and racism. MK’s passion for exploring the cultural narratives in America spans a diverse set of creative genres. For example, in her film “Greencard Warriors,” she focused on the issue of army recruitment of young undocumented Latinos. Miriam works in mediums like photography, video, light and sculpture.

For LIVING IN AMERICA, video is used to help connect us to the unique experience of being black in America. For the video installation, which was shot in high definition at 200 frames per second, Miriam collaborated with Niaya Jones, an 18-year-old African American girl from Nickerson Gardens, Watts. Nickerson Gardens is considered the poorest and toughest project in south central Los Angeles. Niaya Jones (aka BOSSLADY) is a prominent ‘krumping’ dancer from the area. Miriam and Niaya developed a dance choreography in which Niaya tells her story what it’s like to be a Gen Z teen growing up in the ‘hood’. Through dance, Niaya helps us experience the pain she felt when her best friend got shot by police right behind her home. Each movement captures the sadness that she has felt through many hardships, including not being able to meet her father who has been incarcerated most of her life(his first trial hearing is in 2032).



Video still Living in America
Video High Definition
Performer: Niaya Jones AKA BOSSLADY

PHOTOGRAPHY

A day after rapper Nispey Hussle was murdered outside his store, a stone throw away from Nickerson Gardens, Miriam also photographed Niaya's friends. Nispey's death rocked this community because he represented hope and was an inspiring role model.



Street Dreams
Gicleé print on Premium Semi-matte paper
90x60cm



LA woman
Gicleé print on Premium Semi-matte paper
90x60cm



Fear not of man
Gicleé print on Premium Semi-matte paper
90x60cm



Krumping queen
Gicleé print on Premium Semi-matte paper
90x60cm



Illmerica
Gicleé print on Premium Semi-matte paper
90x60cm



Dabbing
Gicleé print on Premium Semi-matte paper
90x60cm

SCULPTURE

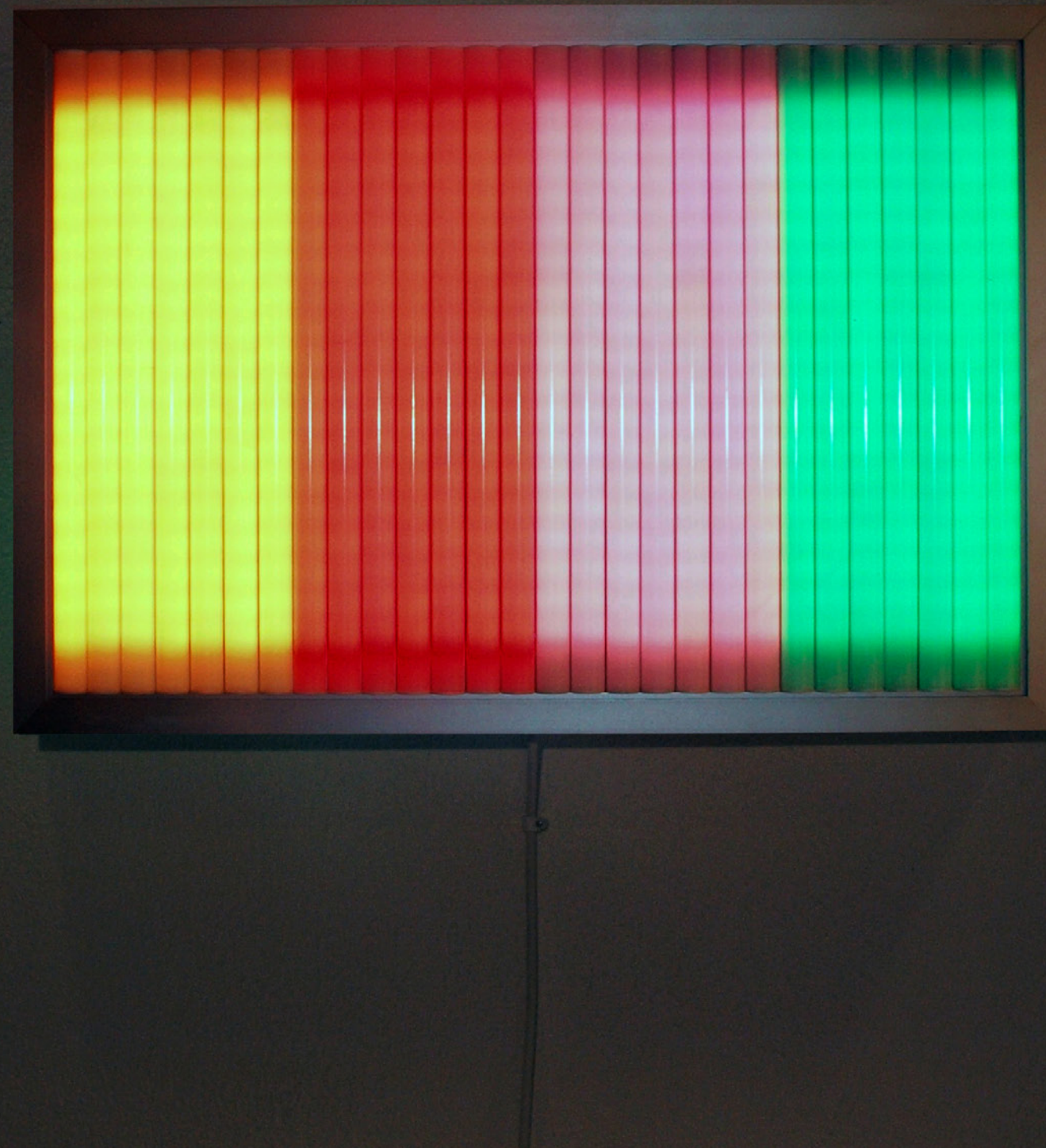
Despite living in California, one of the richest places on the planet and home to some of the largest corporations in the world, the future for kids growing up in the projects looks grim. They don't have the same opportunities, and are deliberately kept isolated. "Crucifix" is a sculpture of a hoodie. A hoodie is still associated with gang kids, street life and seen as a symbol of the disruption of conservative and corporate America.



Crucifix
Fiberglass
134(w) x 96(h) x 34(d) cm

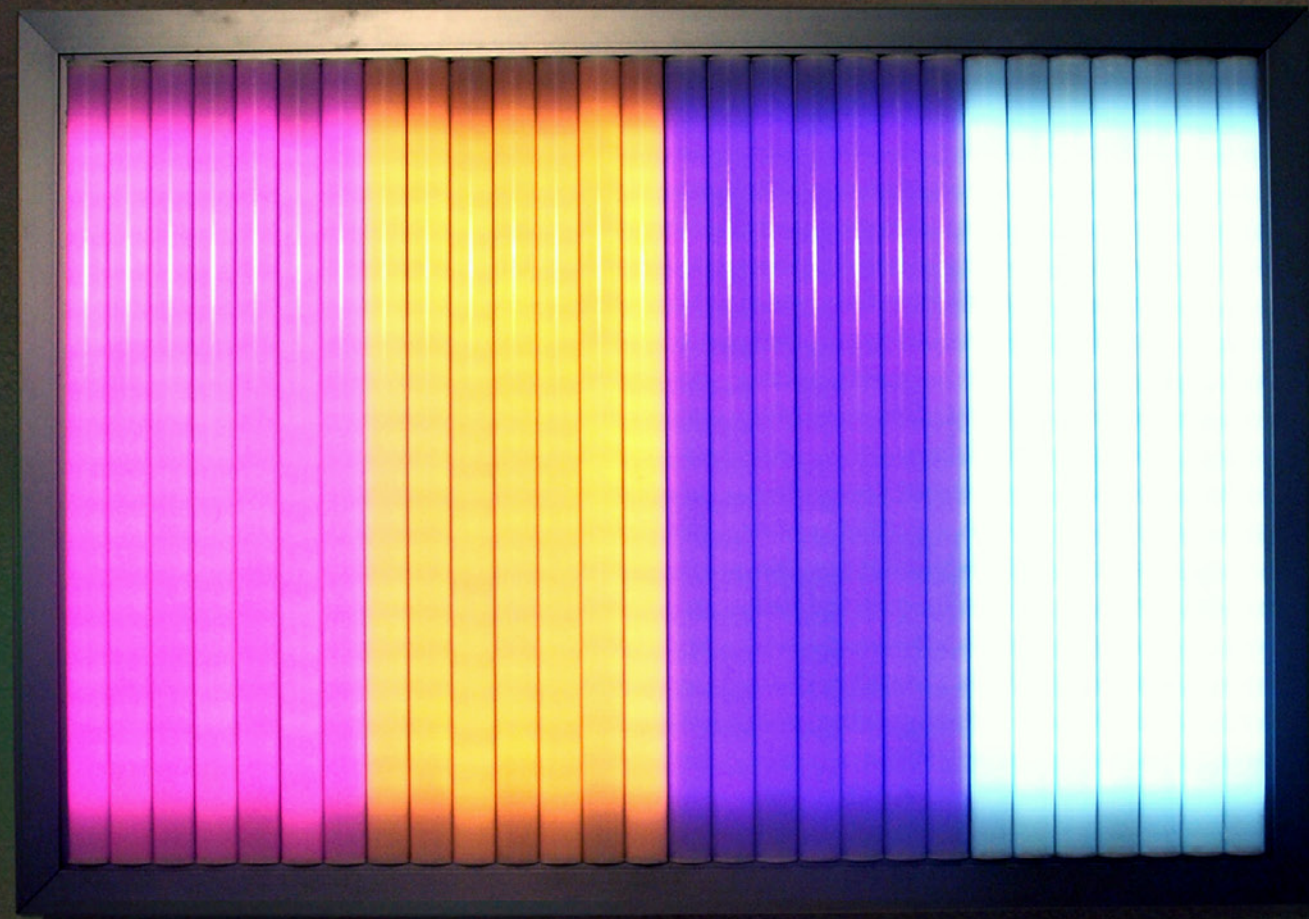
LIGHT CANVASES

The series of canvases are the color palettes of some of the largest food & beverage brands and stores that are mostly prominent in less affluent areas: Dunkin' Donuts, 7-Eleven and McDonald's.



7-Eleven

Programmed LED light Tubes 58x40cm



Dunkin' Donuts

Programmed LED light Tubes 58x40cm



McDonald's

Programmed LED light Tubes 58x40cm



Miriam Kruishoop graduated with honors from the Gerrit Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. She has been nominated and has won multiple awards including the Culture Price of the City of Amsterdam, Gouden Kalf, Tiger Award and multiple international Best Director Awards. MK lives and works in Los Angeles.