

Poly Styrene's Braces
Donna Huanca

Organized by: *Art in General*, New York in collaboration with *Kim?* Contemporary Art Centre

***Kim?* Contemporary Art Centre, Riga**

December 6, 2015 – January 24, 2016
Curated by Anne Barlow

Art in General, New York presents a new exhibition in Riga by Donna Huanca in collaboration with *kim?* Contemporary Art Centre. Opening of the exhibition was accompanied by a performance by Donna Huanca.

*I clambered over mounds and mounds
Of polystyrene foam
And fell into a swimming pool
Filled with fairy snow
And watched the world turn day-glo
you know you know
The world turned day-glo you know
I wrenched the nylon curtains back
As far as they would go
And peered through plexi window panes
At the acrylic road
I drove my polypropylene
Car on wheels of sponge
Then pulled into a wimpy bar
To have a rubber bun
The X-rays were penetrating
Through the latex breeze
Synthetic fiber see-thru leaves
Fell from the rayon trees*

The day the world turned day-glo, X-Ray Spex, 1978

Donna Huanca is a Bolivian-American artist whose sculptures and installations are activated by live female performers that improvise and interact with the abstract assemblages. Huanca employs contentious signifiers of female power, such as cosmetics and textiles, to confront

women's constrained struggles to express sexuality, confidence, and power in a social realm. Previous exhibitions include *Water Scars* at Chez Valentin, Paris, France (2015); *Muscle Memory*, Peres Projects, Berlin, Germany (2015); *Sade Room (formerly reclusive)*, MoMA PS1, New York, NY (2014); *Seeing Auras* at ltd, Los Angeles, CA (2014); and *Raw Material* at Malmö Konsthalle, Malmö, Sweden (2013). Awards and residencies include Smack Mellon, Brooklyn, NY (2015); Access Gallery, Vancouver, Canada (2013); Fulbright Scholarship (2012); Art Matters Grant (2010); and Swing Space, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, New York, NY (2009). Huanca received a BFA in Painting from the University of Houston, Texas, USA, and studied at the Städelschule, Staatliche Hochschule für Bildende Künste, Frankfurt, Germany.