

PRESS RELEASE

MY WHITE DRESS

An exhibition by Diana Bejarano at LIC_A - Plaxall Gallery
Opening Reception on September 8th at 7pm
On view from September 8th - September 30th

My White Dress is an installation by artist Diana Bejarano that uses photography and audio to honor victims of domestic violence. *My White Dress* recognizes the stories of women activists who raise awareness through the symbolism of a wedding dress as used in the *Bride's March*.

Bride's March is a movement that started in New York in 2001, in memory of Gladys Ricart, a woman from Washington Heights, who was murdered on September 26th, 1999, by her former boyfriend on the day of her wedding. Moved by the insensitive response to this case and the horrors of domestic violence, they decided to organize and created an annual march, in which women wear wedding dresses in order to break the silence and to generate public dialogue. As stated on the *Bride's March* website: "*For women who have experienced some form of domestic violence, their wedding dress no longer signifies what it did on the day it was first worn because the abuse destroyed those dreams of shared love, honor, respect and a happy home.*"

This exhibition features an installation of light boxes displaying the photographs of the donated dresses worn by many women at the march. The dresses serve as a canvas that embodies the stories of women who have been lost because of domestic violence; they also pay tribute to all the activist and organizations of women and men creating awareness against domestic violence.

Diana Bejarano is a Colombian photographer and visual artist living in Queens, New York. She is interested in the relationship between art and social activism. Through her work she has developed socially engaged projects directly with communities focusing on immigration, family separation and women issues.

This exhibition is made possible by the Queens Council on the Arts with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

For more information, visit:

Diana Bejarano: <http://www.dianabejarano.com>

Bride's March: <http://www.bridesmarch.com>

LiC-A: <https://www.licartists.org>