

• FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE •

Linda Lopez
Stranger

August 16 – September 14, 2019
Opening Reception: Friday, August 16th, 6 - 8 pm
Free and open to the public/ Artist in Attendance



Image: Linda Lopez, *Blue/Green Triple Dust Furry with Red Cutouts*, 2019, porcelain, 8.5 x 9.5 x 3.25 in

David B. Smith Gallery is proud to present *Stranger*, a solo exhibition by Fayetteville, Arkansas-based artist Linda Lopez.

Focused primarily in sculptural ceramics, Lopez's curious and colorful forms have received national and international acclaim. In *Stranger*, Lopez's first exhibition with the gallery, she considers the concepts of object and other. Presented in vibrant gradients of color, ceramic sculptures rear their bulbous heads as hundreds of porcelain fingers endlessly pour over one another as they feel their way around fragments of chunky debris. In the juxtaposition of gentle curves and sharp angles, Lopez boldly flips the gaze between bodily and foreign, familiar and alien.

Stranger comes at a time of cultural uncertainty. Inherent to the material itself, porcelain speaks to the gravity of objecthood and tradition, which contrasts sharply with the incorporeal influence of technological advancement on human social systems. Comprised of elemental earth materials, Lopez's sculptures embody a substantive temperament, endowing her sculptures with the ability to return the curiosity of the viewer.

As described in the recent PBS special *State of the Art*, Lopez is an artist "redefining the American aesthetic." Backed by stylistic and technical acuity, in *Stranger*, Lopez ponders, "Who is the real stranger in this world, us or them?"

About Linda Lopez

Linda Nguyen Lopez (b. 1981) received a BFA from California State University of Chico and a MFA from the University of Colorado at Boulder. Lopez has exhibited her work in New Zealand and throughout United States including Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Bentonville; Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach; The Clay Studio, Philadelphia; and the Jane Hartsook Gallery at Greenwich House Pottery, New York. She has been an artist in residence at The Clay Studio and the Archie Bray Foundation. In 2016, Lopez received the Lighton International Artist Exchange Program Grant to be an artist-in-residence at C.R.E.T.A. Rome Residency Program. She is represented by Mindy Solomon Gallery in Miami, FL.

About David B. Smith Gallery

David B. Smith Gallery is committed to presenting intelligent and culturally relevant exhibitions in its Denver location, featuring the region's most important emerging talent alongside internationally recognized artists. Through its curatorial program, participation in art fairs, and extensive media coverage in publications such as *Art in America* and *ARTnews*, David B. Smith Gallery has cultivated a strong regional, national and international collector audience. *The New York Times* hailed the gallery as offering "an exciting contrast of cutting edge works" and *The Denver Post* declared that it is the "premiere commercial space" in Denver. The gallery also maintains an active publishing division, which produces exhibition catalogues and editions.