In his first solo exhibition in New York since 2010, James Casebere will present an entirely new body of work inspired by world-renowned Mexican architect Luis Barragán and his colourful, modernist buildings.

Entitled Emotional Architecture, the show – at New York's Sean Kelly Gallery on Tenth Avenue – will include his trademark miniature models, crafted from the simplest of materials and then photographed on tabletop in Casebere's studio.

As the Gallery explains: "The title of the exhibition references the name given to the style of modernist architecture conceived by Barragán and the artist Mathias Goeritz, who, frustrated by the cold functionalism of Modernism, embraced space, colour and light to create buildings that engendered warmth, meditation, and reflection.

"In this new body of work, Casebere returns to his career-long interrogation of interior architectural spaces to explore Barragán's sumptuous use of colour, dramatic light and simple haptic, planar surfaces. These new works evoke the serene austerity that inhabited Casebere's early series of work examining societal power structures through the interrogation of prisons cells. However, the sense of isolation and enforced confinement that defined those works has been replaced with an atmosphere of joy and beauty that characterises Barragán's unique oeuvre."


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