**FERNANDO MARISCAL**

 ***ARTIST’S STATEMENT***

*(Excerpt from a Conversation in the Studio with Critic/Curator Joyce Korotkin, 2018)*

**This exhibition is homage to dusk, those shimmering moments when the sun is setting; colors deepen and become more intense, the day begins to fade into night, and all of nature hums in quiet, suspended harmony. These paintings are an attempt to capture the ineffable transcendence of these moments.**

**I feel intuitively the importance of each moment and my deep connection to it when I observe people and places.**

**Recreating these sensations in paint becomes as necessary to me as breathing; like quenching my thirst or hunger to savor experience. Picasso spoke of this as ‘green hunger,’ the overwhelming need after a walk in the woods to return**

**to the studio and paint *green!, green!, green!,* until his hunger for it was sated.**

**Painting to me is akin to life itself; nothing less than the extent of my blood, my hair, my sweat... ingesting faces, trees, streets, mountains and skies into my soul... painting every minute, like breathing, capturing details and interweaving every possibility.  Flavoring the composition of a drawing or painting with the essence of these moments makes me feel connected to the infinite.**

**My passion is not to create, but, rather, to *re*create, to revel in and devour a moment of sublime beauty in order to become infused with it; to grasp its intangibility, hold it close and let myself become transported through light, through shadow, through the stroke of a**

**brush or a wash of color;  through a dash of red, a hint of blue, a flicker of yellow, a shadowed violet, until the boundary between myself and the painting dissolves and I become one with it. Only then can I let it go.**

Painting is my heart’s desire.