

Dora Budor: SPRING

June 23- July 23, 2015

Swiss Institute is pleased to present *Spring*, the first institutional solo exhibition of New York-based Croatian artist Dora Budor (b. 1984). Through her work, Budor considers the representation of emotional and physical experience within the ideological subtexts of mainstream cinema. She focuses in particular on Hollywood production methods and special effects, where ideas transfer between states of materialization, fictionalization and digitalization. Using cinematic strategies of affect, Budor composes sculptures and architectural interventions that organically incorporate screen-used cinema props. She calls this process “reanimation,” acknowledging the objects’ fictional histories while re-contextualizing them in a second life.

Conceived as a hybrid of heating infrastructure and blood vessels, Budor’s sculptures at Swiss Institute wrap around architectural miniatures originally featured in the blockbuster films *The Fifth Element*, *Batman Returns*, and *Johnny Mnemonic*. These structures, covered with artificial weathering, dust, and dirt, become real-life fossils of on-screen experiences. In acts of architectural concrescence, mutation, and circulation, the works hover on the edge of living as autonomous objects with death drives.

Of the surrounding blackness, Budor states: “Spurred by climate change, bacteria have reappeared on some of the world’s oldest mummies, rapidly decomposing their ancient skin into black slime. Once understood as stable, rigid and dead, biological and ecological forces have suddenly revived these deeply historical bodies in a Frankensteinian way — a symbolic indication of the current moment.”

Dora Budor: *Spring* is the second exhibition in the ONE FOR ALL series at SI. Building on Swiss Institute’s long history of providing a platform for emerging artists, each show will be the artist’s first institutional solo exhibition in the United States with a newly commissioned body of work specifically created for the exhibition space. Swiss Institute is grateful for support from the VIA Art Fund, Presenting Sponsor of the ONE FOR ALL series.

Front image: © Dora Budor, 2015

(Photography made in collaboration with Robert Kulisek)

Thank you: Marion Dana, Corentin Hamel, Jerome de Noirmont, Franklin Melendez, Simon Castets, Clément Delépine, Alison Coplan, Robert Kulisek, Mark Borow, Kerry Coutu, Owen Bissex, Julie Grosche and Fabienne Scultheiss