

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Audemars Piguet Contemporary's latest art commission explores antiquity

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Audemars Piguet Contemporary's curatorial team worked closely with Greek artist Andreas Angelidakis on realizing his vision, one of the missions of the 10-year-old program to further artists' practices through support on ambitious projects. Image credit: Audemars Piguet

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

The latest commission from Audemars Piguet Contemporary, the art-funding arm of Swiss luxury watchmaker Audemars Piguet, is on view in Paris until Oct. 30.

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Greek artist Andreas Angelidakis created a massive installation, *Center for the Critical Appreciation of Antiquity* (2022), at the Espace Niemeyer, a 1971 modernist wonder and historical monument by the late Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer.

"*Center for the Critical Appreciation of Antiquity* (2022) is both a metaphorical excavation into the history of Athens and into myself as an artist," Mr. Angelidakis said in a statement.

Building art

Mr. Angelidakis himself is trained in architecture, calling himself "an architect who doesn't build."

This background now instead informs his artwork, which also often draws inspiration from ancient Greece, ruin and urban society.

Mr. Angelidakis' latest work is also his first solo exhibition in Paris and his largest to date.

The immersive installation mimics the Temple of Olympian Zeus in Athens, where Mr. Angelidakis is based, which dates to 131 A.D. His version of the temple was created using everyday materials such as printed fabrics, scaffolding and wood.

Inside a shipping container are a collection of 3D-printed sculptures that reference the many souvenir shops found near ancient sites.

A series of videos, music and touchable, moveable objects add an interactive element that allows visitors to further explore contemporary art practices and the value of antiquity in today's world.

Audemars Piguet Contemporary's curatorial team worked closely with the artist on realizing his vision, one of the

missions of the 10-year-old program to further artists' practices through support on ambitious projects. Since 2012 the program has commissioned work from 20 artists for 57 exhibitions.

"The Center for the Critical Appreciation of Antiquity" by Andreas Angelidakis. Credit: Audemars Piguet

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