

Daniel Arsham: 'The Future Was Then'
Tuesday, Feb. 16 - Sunday, July 24
Opening reception: Tuesday, Feb. 16

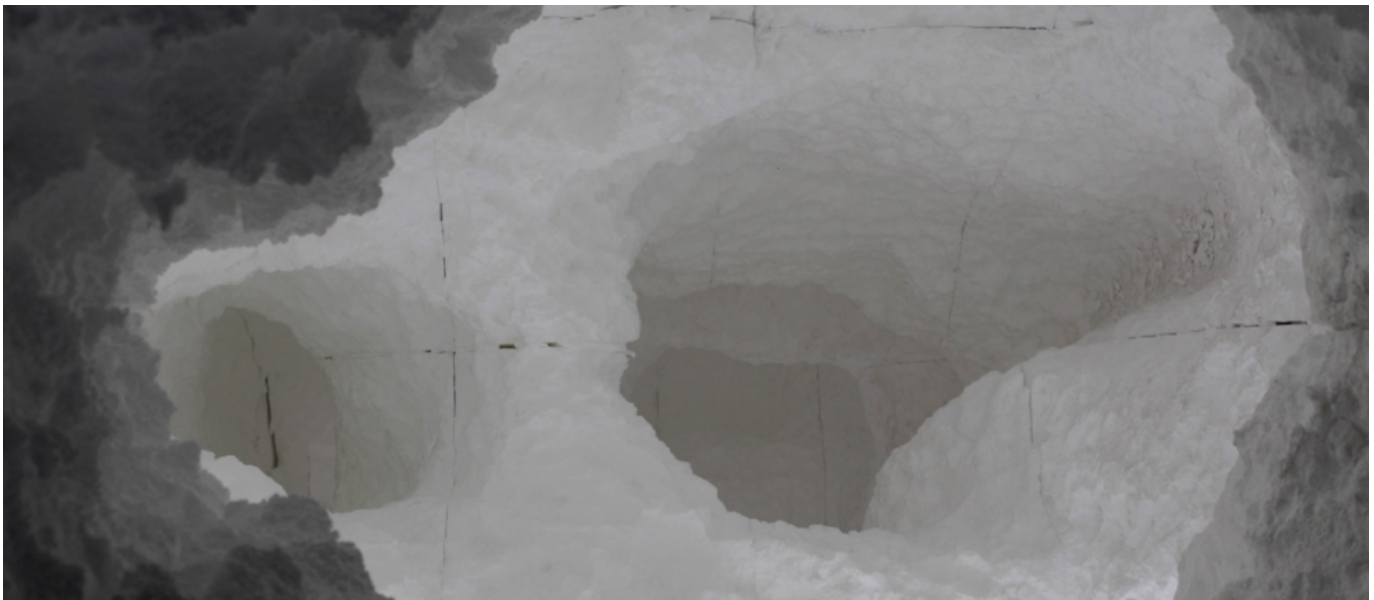
The exhibition 'The Future Was Then' takes place as part of SCAD deFINE ART 2016, the seventh annual program of fine art exhibitions, lectures, performances and public events organized by Savannah College of Art and at SCAD locations in Atlanta and Savannah, Georgia and Hong Kong.

"The Future Was Then" is a monumental installation by Daniel Arsham created specifically for the museum's Pamela Elaine Poetter Gallery for deFINE ART 2016. These select sculptural works and this installation explore the interaction between mankind and architecture, and draw particular attention to man's capacity for creating, destroying and repurposing manmade and natural materials both historically and contemporaneously. Central to the exhibition is Arsham's "Wall Excavation" installation, a large-scale, architecturally responsive installation in which the artist has carved into a repeated series of faux-concrete walls.

As visitors engage directly with their surroundings and walk among the immersive excavation, they are met with sculpted openings in which jagged edges morph from abstract forms into the silhouette of a human figure. This transformative experience evokes notions of progress in relation to mankind's ability to manipulate his surroundings. Arsham's interests in the analysis of mankind's place in history set the tone for the exhibition. "The Future Was Then" simultaneously comments on and condenses the timeline of civilization and creates an experiential moment for visitors to reflect on their own personal place within it. This exhibition is curated by guest curator Aaron Levi Garvey.

For more information:

<https://www.scad.edu/event/2016-02-16-daniel-arsham-future-was-then>



Snarkitecture (Daniel Arsham and Alex Mustonen), "Dig," detail, drywall compound and Styrofoam, 2011. Image courtesy of the artist and Galerie Perrotin, New York.

ABOUT DANIEL ARSHAM

New York-based artist Daniel Arsham straddles the line between art, architecture, performance and film. Raised in Miami, Florida, Arsham attended The Cooper Union in New York City where he received an award from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Trust in 2003. In 2004, Arsham participated in the group show "Miami Nice" at Galerie Perrotin Paris, which began to represent Arsham in 2005. Later in 2004, legendary choreographer Merce

Cunningham asked Arsham to create the stage design for his work “eyeSpace.” For the next five years, Arsham toured around the world with the Merce Cunningham Dance Company designing the stages for performances.

Structural experiment, historical inquiry and satirical wit all combine in Arsham’s ongoing interrogation of the real and the imagined. Architecture is a prevalent subject throughout his work, creating fully immersive landscapes from new and untraditional materials. Environments with eroded walls and stairs to nowhere, and industrial landscapes overrun by nature all maintain a general sense of playfulness within existing architecture. Simple yet paradoxical gestures dominate his sculptural work: a façade that appears to billow in the wind, a figure wrapped up in the surface of a wall, a contemporary object cast in volcanic ash as if it were found in an archeological site hundreds of years in the future. Collaboration is another central component to Arsham’s studio practice and is typically sustained for many years and projects. His collaborators include choreographer and performance artist Jonah Bokaer, musician Pharrell Williams and Snarkitecture partner Alex Mustonen, to name a few.

Arsham’s work has been shown at MoMA PS1 in New York, The Museum of Contemporary Art North Miami, the Athens Biennale in Athens, Greece, the New Museum in New York City, the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Carré d’Art-Musée d’art contemporain de Nîmes in France, among others. Galerie Emmanuel Perrotin in Paris, France, Hong Kong and New York City, OHWOW in Los Angeles, California, Baró Galeria in São Paulo, Brazil, and Pippy Houldsworth in London, England, represent Arsham.

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