

Derosia

Victoria Camblin, Art in America, January 5, 2017

Art in America

Up Close 2016: Around Atlanta

Joel Dean, “Powers of 7-8-9” at Species



The Atlanta Contemporary operates the Studio Artist Program, through which artists receive partially-subsidized studio space on the museum’s premises. Two of these artists, Erin Jane Nelson and Jason Benson (who formerly ran Important Projects in Oakland, California), occasionally convert their shared work area into Species, a gallery that focuses both on emerging artists and on the anthropological and environmental leitmotif of the Anthropocene. Linda Moncada and Saige Rowe’s “Is This a Love Connection” featured a melting ice sculpture that left blue-green marbled marks on the floor, alongside playful video and installation works exploring entropy and decay. Joel Dean’s “Powers of 7-8-9” paired rough wood sculpture with DIY miniature paper models of famous skyscrapers, monumentalizing archaic modes of production while dwarfing modern feats of engineering.