

Vienna Secession

Vienna

Diana Al-Hadid

Through November 2, 2014

Baroque and darkly evocative, Al-Hadid's fragmented architectural forms conjure forgotten civilizations



Above: Diana Al-Hadid, Phantom Limb. Right top: Molly Haslund, Circles, from "Dance Me." Right: Ai

Weiwei, Iron Tree.

and allude to cataclysmic acts of destruction. Constructed of materials as prosaic as cardboard, plywood, plaster, wax, and resin, her towers, labyrinths, and pipe organs reveal an array of influences, both Eastern and Western — biblical and mythological narratives, Arabic oral traditions, Gothic architecture, and Islamic ornament. Metaphors of cross-cultural identity, these contemporary relics offer a vision of lost civility across divides. Advances in physics and astronomy also fuel her imagination. The new works in this exhibition construct a civilization all their own, a culture both ancient and contemporary—an ideal foil for sculptural musings on ruin and unattainable objects of desire.

Web site <www.secession.at>