Augustas Serapinas, Ciurlionis Gym, 2023



Presented by Galerie Tschudi Photo : Maximilíano Durón/ARTnews

Since the Renaissance, artists have long looked back at Greco-Roman artistic traditions for inspiration. The men in marble sculptures, for instance, were often sculpted to be the pinnacle of bodily perfection: chiseled abs, bulging biceps and calves, bubble butts. Augustas Serapinas has taken that inspiration one step further by creating a functional gym as a durational performance piece and installation. At certain points during the day, very in-shape men will take to Čiurlionis Gym and do a few sets of pull-ups, bicep curls, or leg presses. This is a powerful, tongue-in-cheek contemplation on the repetition and discipline needed to maintain such a body that the Greeks would have deemed worthy of being depicted in art—and the technical skill and draftsmanship needed to render that body perfectly.

