

# A.I.R.

For immediate release

## *The Anthropocene*

Sara Mejia Kriendler

May 5 - 31, 2015

Opening Reception: Thursday, May 7, 6 - 8pm

Artist Talk: May 7, 6:30pm

Brooklyn, NY - April 2015

A.I.R. Gallery presents *The Anthropocene*, new works by Sara Mejia Kriendler. The exhibition features a series of relief sculptures, shrines, and idols and will be on view in the Fellowship Gallery from May 5 - 31, 2015, with an opening reception Thursday, May 7th from 6-8pm. Special expanded days for the May shows at A.I.R.'s new location in DUMBO will be Tuesday - Sunday, 12-6pm. The gallery will be closed during Memorial Day weekend.

The fodder for much of Kriendler's work is post-consumer waste. She collects pieces of plastic and Styrofoam packaging and uses them as molds, filling their voids with plaster to translate the negative space into solid form. Kriendler places these plaster casts, many extracted from the packaging of dolls and mannequins, within a series of larger mixed-media sculptures.



Sara Mejia Kriendler, *In Line for the Shrine (Detail)*, 2015 Hydrocal, Styrofoam, 35 x 96 x 24"

The title of the exhibition, *The Anthropocene*, refers to a geological term that is the subject of a heated debate within the scientific community: is the human imprint on this planet large enough to warrant the christening of a new geological epoch - the Anthropocene - an epoch named for us?

"There is a slow, collective awakening to the fact that we live in a new era - an era in which our environmental and economic systems are at war," says Kriendler. "What role will women play in the new era, and will they break the mold?"

Casts of abstract female figures appear throughout the show. In one installation, *In Line for the Shrine*, a group of idols await their place at the center of an assemblage of plaster relief sculptures that play with the human imprint. The relief sculptures display the artist's marks - stabbing and slashing - as well as the impressions of industrial objects and patterns.

In an installation entitled *Bounty*, the artist casts a plastic torso form, the kind used to display women's shirts in dollar stores. The abstracted female form hangs against a wall papered-over with sheets of Bounty paper towels that have been stained to highlight their factory-embossed decoration. The female form floats at the forefront of a world in which even the most disposable products are made to look pretty.

**SARA MEJIA KRIENDLER** is a Colombian-American sculptor and installation artist. She grew up in Brussels and now lives and works in New York. She received a BA in Intellectual History from the University of Pennsylvania, trained in sculpture and printmaking at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and graduated with an MFA from the School of Visual Arts. Kriendler is a recipient of a 2014-2015 A.I.R. Gallery Fellowship. Her last solo show was at Magazin 4 in Bregenz, Austria. She has also exhibited her work at Works on Paper in Philadelphia, the Visual Arts Gallery, the Invisible Dog, Art Lot, and Interstate Projects in New York, and Halt Gallery in Phoenix.



For all press inquiries, please contact: Jenn Dierdorf, Co-Director.

The gallery is wheelchair accessible.

A.I.R. GALLERY | 155 Plymouth St. | Brooklyn, NY 11201 | [airgallery.org](http://airgallery.org) | [info@airgallery.org](mailto:info@airgallery.org) | (212) 255 6651 | Tues - Sun 12-6pm