Nottingham Contemporary

Dora Budor: *Again*

Easy Read Guide



How to use this Guide



In this guide, hard to understand words are <u>underlined</u>. We explain what these words mean after they have been used.

The guide starts with an introduction about the exhibition.

After the introduction, there is a section of the guide telling you about the different themes in the exhibition.

You can use the contents page to find out which page of the guide information on these different themes is found at.
The contents page is on the next page and tells you what page number to turn to for each section.

The page numbers are written at the bottom of each page.

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Introduction



This exhibition is a display of artworks by an artist called Dora Budor.



Dora is an artist from Croatia.



Dora lives and works in New York, USA.





We are showing artworks by Dora at Nottingham Contemporary from 27 January to 5 May 2024.

Dora's Artworks



Most of Dora's artworks are site-specific. This means they are made specially for an exhibition space. They are often made as a response to something in the gallery or the place where the gallery is located.



Dora is interested in <u>architecture</u> and the things that affect life in cities. Architecture is the way buildings and spaces are designed.



Dora's artworks are sculptures, installations, videos and sound works. Installations are artworks which fill an entire gallery space.



Dora often <u>experiments</u> with materials. This means using them in new ways. Some of the materials Dora uses are things we might use everyday like cardboard or metal.



To make work for her exhibition at Nottingham Contemporary, Dora spent a month working in an <u>artist's studio</u> at a gallery called Primary in Nottingham. An artist's studio is a special place where artists go to make artworks.

Hostile Architecture



Dora did lots of <u>research</u> for this exhibition. Research is when you read books or find out things online about something you're interested in. Dora became very interested in <u>hostile</u> architecture.



Hostile architecture is a type of design that tries to influence people's behaviours in public spaces. This includes things like putting studs on walls so skateboarders can't skateboard on them, or putting bars in the middle of benches so people can't sleep on them.



One example of hostile architecture that Dora became very interested in is anti-urine deflectors. These were made by Victorian people and put on important or historic buildings to stop people from weeing on them. They were designed in a way that meant that if somebody did wee on them, the liquid would splash back at them.



There are some Victorian anti urine deflectors left in an area of London called Fleet Street.



Dora arranged for a <u>3D scan</u> to be made of these anti-urine deflectors. A 3D scan is a very realistic digital copy of a real object.



The 3D scan was used to create a copy of the anti urine deflectors in a material called MDF which is similar to wood.



Dora then used this copy to create moulds. A mould is a specially made frame that lets you make copies of an objects. Special liquids which become hard when they dry can be poured into the mould to create a new version of the object the mould is made to copy. This is a way of creating lots of objects that are all the same shape.



Dora used the moulds to create her own versions of the urine deflectors by mixing shredded cardboard with glues. The cardboard and glue mixture was then pressed into the moulds and left to dry and become solid.



Dora used cardboard from wine and alcohol boxes from local bars and restaurants in Nottingham to make the mixture.



This is because people who drink a lot of alcohol are sometimes seen weeing in street corners and on buildings which is not seen as acceptable in our society.



This is an example of an anti urine deflector outside the National Justice Museum which is near Nottingham Contemporary.

Air Lock Door



Dora asked Nottingham Contemporary if we can keep the door open near the entrance of the gallery. We call this the 'air lock door'. This door is usually kept shut.



You can see it left open as you enter or leave the building.



Dora is interested in the rules that people make about how we should use buildings. Sometimes these rules are to keep people safe but sometimes the rules might seem silly.



Dora is interested to see if people feel comfortable walking through this open door because the normal rules of the building mean people don't usually enter the exhibition this way.



Dora is interested in why some people use the door and why some people do not.

Dora's Video Work



Dora's video work in gallery 4 is based on a park in New York designed by an architect called Thomas Heatherwick. The park is called Little Island. An architect is someone who designs buildings and spaces.



The architect Thomas Heatherwick has also been involved in the plans for "Green Heart", which is the name of the new plans for the Broadmarsh area of Nottingham.



Thomas Heatherwick is a controversial architect. This means that a lot of people don't like his designs and don't think they're very good. Some people think they make people feel unwelcome and are not always accessible to people with disabilities.



Some people think Heatherwick's designs are examples of hostile architecture because they try to make people behave in certain ways in a space and make people feel unwelcome.



Dora is interested in how public spaces like the Broadmarsh area can often be controlled by private companies. This often leads to companies trying to control the way people behave and move through a space.



Thomas Heatherwick's developments often have green public spaces surrounded by expensive shops and flats. Lots of people think the flats and shops make people who aren't rich feel unwelcome in the green public spaces.

Rotational Grazing Wheels



In front of the video work in Gallery 4 are 4 rotational grazing wheels. These are used on farms to stop cows from eating too much grass in one area.



When a farmer wants the cows to stop eating the grass in one part of a field, they move the rotational grazing wheels and they make the cows eat in a different part of the field.



The rotational grazing wheels are linked together by <u>electric fence wiring</u>. This is a type of fence that is made of a wire with electricity running through it. This fencing stops cows from crossing past the fence because they will get a small electric shock if they touch the wire.



Dora thinks that rotational grazing wheels are like hostile architecture because they both influence the way people or animals use a space.

Citibike work



Another of Dora's sculptures is made from a melted down <u>citibike</u> from New York. Citibikes are bikes that people can borrow to ride round New York like the Lime bikes we have in Nottingham.



The melted down metal from the bike was used by Dora to make a new sculpture which is a copy of an old sculpture by an artist called Elsa von Freytag-Loringhaven.



The sculpture which Dora has created a copy of is one of the first <u>readymade</u> sculptures ever made. Readymade sculptures are made when artists find objects and put them in an exhibition as a sculpture instead of making a new sculpture themselves.



The original readymade sculpture which Dora copied is an object Elsa found on the street on the way to her wedding. Nobody is sure what the object is but it looks a bit like a giant wedding ring or part of a chain.



Dora had enough metal from melting the citibike to make 16 copies of the original object.

Dora's Sandpaper Work



For this exhibition Dora made some artworks on a special type of <u>abrasive</u> paper. Abrasive paper like sandpaper is paper which has sand stuck to it to make it rough. It can be used to smooth down wooden surfaces.



For these artworks, Dora crushed placebo tablets and drew on the sand paper with them. Placebo tablets are medicines which have no effect on the person taking them. Placebo tablets are sometimes used when scientists are testing if medicine works. The scientists give some people the real working medicine and some people the placebo tablet and ask the people if they feel better.



Because the people don't know if they have taken the real medicine or a placebo tablet. they are more honest about whether they feel better which means scientists can be sure if the medicine works or not.



Some people feel they have been tricked by placebo tablets because they believed they were taking real medicine and felt better when taking them.



Dora thinks this is another form of power and control that makes people live in the world a certain way.

For More Information



You can find out more about what we do by looking at our website here:
nottinghamcontemporary.org



If you would like to help us show more artworks in the future, please think about giving us some money.

We suggest £5 as a good amount.



If you need more information please contact us by:

Post: Nottingham Contemporary Weekday Cross Nottingham NG12GB



Phone: 0115 948 9750

Email:

info@nottinghamcontemporary.org

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We have to write these in the way they are written below because of special rules. You don't need to read this part of the guide unless you want to. This part of the guide doesn't tell you anything more about the artworks in the exhibition.

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