

Artnet News

Goldstein, Caroline: *In Pictures: See Elmgreen and Dragset's Unsettling New Exhibition About the Human Body in the Post-Industrial Age*

1 April 2022

In Pictures: See Elmgreen and Dragset's Unsettling New Exhibition About the Human Body in the Post-Industrial Age

The show is on view now at the Fondazione Prada in Milan.



Elmgreen & Dragset's *What's Left?* (2021) in the exhibition "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.

Elmgreen and Dragset have taken over the Fondazione Prada in Milan for a show titled "Useless Bodies?" that focuses on Big Tech and its impact on our lives.

The works, according to an exhibition statement, explore "present condition of the body in the post-industrial age, in which it seems that our physical presence is losing its centrality."

The body, indeed, may even now be "completely superfluous."

"One could claim our physical selves have even become more of an obstacle than an advantage," the artists said in a statement. "Twenty years into the 21st century, the status of the body is now that of the product—with our data gathered and sold by Big Tech."

Many of the figures in the works are in precarious positions: climbing walls, perched atop a ladder, stuffed into the backseat of a car, and—in one particularly unsettling case—rolled half inside a morgue's cooling freezer.

See more works from the show below.

"Elmgreen & Dragset: Useless Bodies?" is on view through August 22, 2022.



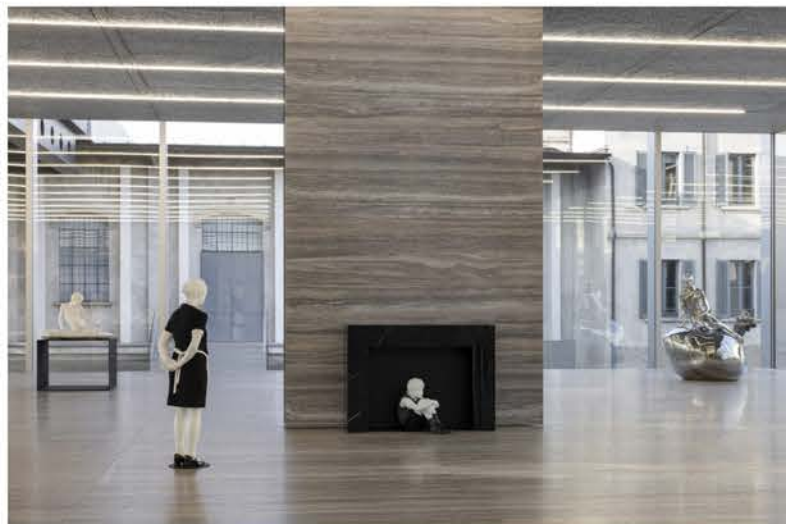
Exhibition view "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Elmgreen & Dragset's *Watching* (2021) in the exhibition "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Exhibition view "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Exhibition view "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Exhibition view "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Exhibition view "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Elmgreen & Dragset's *Piscina di Largo Iscaro* (2021) in the exhibition "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Elmgreen & Dragset's *What's Left?* (2021) in the exhibition "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Exhibition view "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Exhibition view "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Elmgreen & Dragset, *Bogdan* (2020). Courtesy: KÖNIG GALERIE, Berlin, London, Seoul Photo by: Roman März.



Elmgreen & Dragset, *The Touch* (2011). Courtesy of Perrotin. Photo: Anders Sune Berg.



Exhibition view "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Elmgreen & Dragset, *Statue of Liberty, Fig. 2* (2021). Installation view, 14th Robert Jacobsen Prize of the Würth Foundation, Museum Würth 2, Künzelsau, Germany, 2021. Photo: Studio Elmgreen & Dragset.



Exhibition view "Useless Bodies?" by Elmgreen & Dragset at Fondazione Prada, Milan. Photo: Andrea Rossetti. Courtesy of Fondazione Prada.



Elmgreen & Dragset, *The Painter, Fig. 2* (2021). Photo: Elmar Vestner. Courtesy, Pace Gallery, New York.



Elmgreen & Dragset, *The Outsiders* (2020). Installation view, Art Basel. Photo: Sebastiano Pellion di Persano. Courtesy, Pace Gallery, New York.