

Emerging artist and Hugo Boss Prize winner will be featured at the Guggenheim this spring

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Anicka Yi, "2666" (2015). Bacteria, nutrient agar, Plexiglas.

New York's Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum has announced the exhibition dates of Hugo Boss Prize 2016 winner Anicka Yi, which will be on view April 21 - July 5, 2017.

Seoul-born New York City-based artist Anicka Yi, winner of the 2016 edition of the prestigious Hugo Boss Prize, uses a laboratory approach that encompasses scientific research and transformative processes. Deploying data collection and sensory perception, Yi highlights the ephemerality of organisms and bacteria. She questions the idea of ornamental art: "Where do all these objects go, in the huge vaults of history?"

The artist has a longstanding interest in scent and its link to memory; Yi sometimes uses smell in her installations to evoke specific references: "I think we could learn a lot more from taping our other senses and cultivating our other senses," she has stated. Yi has developed a close working relationship with MIT scientists to effectively carry out her olfactory projects.

Her work is among the collections of the Cleveland Museum of Art, the Fondation d'entreprise Galeries Lafayette in Paris, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York.

Yi was selected as the -- somewhat unexpected -- winner of the Hugo Boss Prize in October, from a shortlist of six finalists that included Tania Bruguera, Mark Leckey, Ralph Lemon, Laura Owens and Wael Shawky.

The jury explained its decision in a statement: "We admire the unique embrace of discomfort in her experiments with technology, science, and the plant and animal worlds, all of which push at the limits of perceptual experience in the 'visual' arts."

Yi is the 11th artist to receive the biennial prize, which was established in 1996 to highlight achievements within contemporary art. The prize expanded into another branch, the Hugo Boss Asia Art Award, in 2013, focusing on upcoming Asian talents.