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Jose Dávila's New Sculptures at Galería OMR in Mexico City



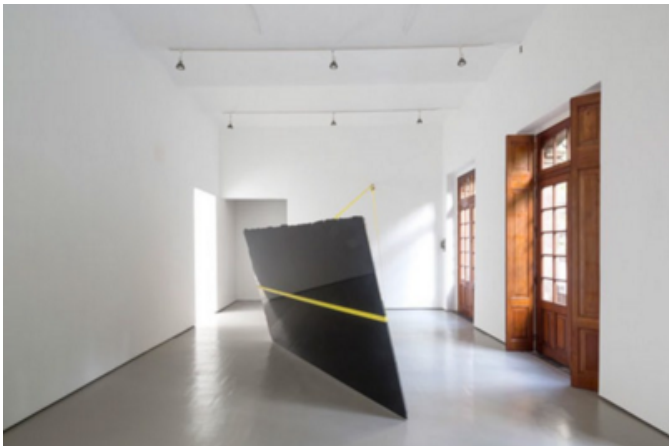
Lotus (rojo), Jose Dávila, 2014

Mexican artist Jose Dávila has become a sensation for his photographic cutouts of the world's most architecturally significant buildings. Now, in his new sculptural exhibition, "State of Rest," currently on view at Mexico City's Galería OMR, he's pared down his focus to the fundamental building blocks of architecture. "State of rest is a physical term that describes an object when all forces applied to it neutralize each other," explains Dávila, who has installed five roughly 1,000-pound rectangular slabs of marble and granite throughout the gallery's various rooms. The artist hung the rock formations using orange, red, and yellow commercial tie-down straps that suspend the stones at oblique angles, referencing Barnett Newman line paintings and Fred Sandback yarn sculptures. "All the elements in the sculptures are working against each other all the time, against gravity, against the weight of the stones."

You might think of this conceit as the intersection between engineering and minimalism, or as Dávila sees it, "a sublime observation of nature, like when you see big waves crashing on the shore. [Waves are] beautiful but menacing, because of their strength, just like these pieces of marble. [The sculptures are] quite menacing when you approach them, but you're attracted to them just like you're attracted to waves or a big, strong rain."



Allure (rojo y amarillo), 2014



Zimbabwe (amarillo), 2014