

## **TERESA BRAULA REIS**

“4233kg/2088h”

In her work, Teresa Braula Reis focuses on the duality ruin/permanence that can be found in architecture. Despite the fact that they are symbols of hope, stability, and new beginnings, the ruin of architectural structures is inevitable.

The artist's work is focused on the utopia of the new and on its transition towards a chaotic and unstructured reality. Her material of choice, concrete, is synonymous for construction, strength and durability. Nevertheless, Braula Reis destroys cement in accelerated processes of ruin, revealing how fictitious this durability is. Even concrete is ephemeral, even these seemingly imperishable buildings - key elements in our civilization - will someday turn into ruins.

Braula Reis uses time as a material, manipulating it to accelerate processes of decay that would otherwise take decades to unfold.

For the New Artists Prize, the artist presents her most ambitious installation to date. 4233kg / 2088h is based on the structural skeleton of an edifice, to which the artist adds some "mass-walls" built in concrete. These walls are programmed to crack and self-destruct throughout the duration of the exhibition. The rubble and dust will be left on the floor as reminiscences of a past.

The title of the work refers to the total mass of concrete used to build the piece and to the total duration of the exhibition in hours.

Filipa Oliveira, curator of New Artists Prize, 2015