

aurora robson the great indoors

18 September – 26 October 2008

Attracted by the idea of re-use, as well as by the beauty and complex curves of plastic bottles, Aurora Robson used more than 15,000 of them in her installation at Rice Gallery. Robson let the shape and thickness of each bottle determine how she cut it. Then, using heat and at least 55,000 rivets, she constructed and painted lavishly detailed organic forms, which bring to mind deep-sea creatures, jungle plants, and microorganisms. Such allusions to hidden worlds are fitting since it is childhood dreams of oozing blobs and strings that Robson names as the source of all her work.

In *The Great Indoors*, Robson has created a landscape based loosely on microscopic imagery of the human body. Visitors can enter the gallery through membrane-like, translucent tunnels and walk toward a dome-like space, or they can exit the tunnels into an open space filled with suspended sculptures containing solar-powered LED lights causing them to glow. The installation is painted in tints of red, orange, yellow, pink, and fuchsia alluding to the colors of the human body's interior. As Robson explains, "*The Great Indoors* is a landscape and a living organism. There's an internal wilderness in action as we speak."

Aurora Robson was born in Toronto, Canada. She lives and works in Brooklyn, New York.

Rice Gallery exhibitions and programs receive major support from Rice Gallery Patrons and Members, The Brown Foundation, Inc., The Louisa Stude Sarofim 1995 Charitable Trust, and the Kilgore Endowment. Exhibition catalogues are funded in part by the Robert J. Card, M.D. and Karol Kreymer Catalogue Endowment. The gallery receives partial operating support from Agnes Gund and the City of Houston. KUHF-FM and Saint Arnold Brewing Company provide in-kind support.

Peoria, 2008 (detail, *The Great Indoors*) Photo: Kevin Graham

HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday, 11:00 - 5:00

Thursday, 11:00 - 7:00

Sunday, Noon - 5:00

Closed Mondays and university holidays

www.ricegallery.org
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Rice Gallery

