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## Standout Works at the 2022 Biennale de Lyon, From Erotically Charged Sculptures to a Dystopian Jungle-Like Installation

BY SARAH BELMONT  September 30, 2022 3:15pm

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Works by Eva Nielsen.

Photo : Sarah Belmont for ARTnews

The Usines Fagor, a former electrical appliance factory measuring some 312,000 square feet that once teemed with 1,800 workers at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, is one of the Biennale's historic venues but also the kind of intermediate spaces French painter Eva Nielsen (b. 1983) usually depicts in her art. The artist selected the back of the building to display her work, at the risk of not being seen by hasty visitors, because the floor there was most inspiring to her: grey enough to look industrial, with big splashes of green as on a football field. In a vast corner over a locally produced print on a scrim hang three monumental canvases.

*Reversal* shows a prefabricated house on the verge of collapse, which the artist spotted while driving to Lyon; *Zoled*, two juxtaposed manholes almost about to come out from the wall; and *Polhodie*, a surreal construction made of multiple fragments. Nielsen's stratified images question the fragility of used-up materials, the inherent irony of the promise of their being recycled into something new. "I like the idea that my paintings exist here and now but could disappear tomorrow. I am not attached to objects per se," she said.