Architecture Meets the Amazon Rainforest at Cristina Grajales Gallery

In “Voyages/Explorations,” a recently opened show at downtown Manhattan’s Cristina Grajales Gallery, architectural materials meet the organic resources of the Amazon rainforest in a new show of bi-cultural handcrafted rugs, tapestries, and sculptural objects. Bogota-based weaving atelier Hechizoo, founded by self-taught weaver and former architect Jorge Lizarazo in 2000, specializes in integrating indigenous South American fibers with unexpected metallic elements. Lizarazo’s training as an architect with Santiago Calatrava and Massimiliano Fulas informs his willingness to deploy the vocabulary of metal-edged architecture in the creation of supple fabrics.

A large-scale rug titled “Moreira,” for example, weaves together aluminum with an unusual South American plant fiber called cumare and fique, a pineapple fiber native to the rainforest. The geometric design of the neutral colored rug is interrupted by aqueous flows of shiny silver—a perfect material inversion of the biological and architectural.
Olaf Breuning Bringing a Cartoon Cloudscape to Central Park

Group Behind New Las Vegas Art Museum Already Stacking Up Donations

"Voyages/Explorations" is on view until January 31, 2014.

— Ashton Cooper (@ashton_cooper)

(Photos: Cristina Grajales Gallery/Facebook.)

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