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ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Obsession for perfection

By Kyle MacMillan
The Denver Post

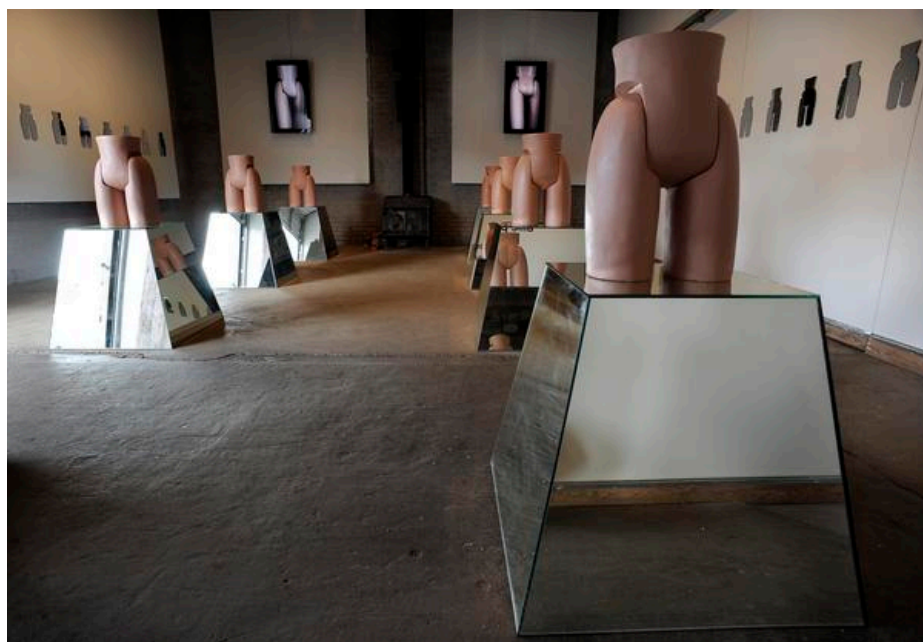
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POSTED: 04/02/2010 01:00:00 AM MDT



(Reza A. Marvashti , The Denver Post)

Idealized images of the female body are everywhere — magazine covers, television advertisements, fitness websites and even toys.

Allie Pohl, who is set to earn her master of fine arts degree from the University of Denver in June, explores the obsession with physical perfection in a exhibition aptly titled, "Ideal Woman: 36-24-36."

The ambitious 25-year-old artist, who already has a more extensive resume than some better-established professionals, repeats an identical streamlined image of a hinged, female midsection based on the proportions of a Barbie doll.

There is nothing handcrafted here, and that makes sense. Instead, she had the partial figure enlarged and molded into eight squeezable rubber sculptures about 2 feet tall. The image further recurs in 25 or so identical mirrored cut-outs on the walls and in two animated videos.

Her deliberate mimicking of the repetition and slick, manufactured feel of today's female idealizations become a savvy, pointed critique of it.

The show at Hinterland, 3254 Walnut St., opens with a public reception from 6 to 9 p.m. today and runs through April 23 by appointment. Free. 720-309-1764 or hinterlandartspace.com

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- Westbrook in picture for Broncos

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- Denver officers honored for heroism, 49 years after shootout
- Stylists running, with scissors, to the Gulf Coast's aid
- Doubts surface on feds' estimate of oil-spill flow

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