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Frieze Sculpture Park opens its doors to nature

An upbeat free-to-wander exhibition combines playfulness with serious concerns of contemporary realities and metaphysics

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Eric Fischl's 'Torso' (2010) © Stephen White/Frieze

Gianpietro Carlesso's 'Torre di Saba' (2009) © Stephen White/Frieze

At the opposite end of the formal spectrum Gianpietro Carlesso's "Torre di Saba", the show's most beautiful, purist work, is a metaphysical tour de force, alert to modernist sculpture's concentration on void/matter, interior/exterior, figuration/abstraction. Carved as a continuous flowing line from a single piece of Lebanese cedar wood into a column of open geometric shapes, surging with internal rhythmic energy, "Torre" stands among the park's great trees, a visual marriage of the man-made and landscape, calling to mind at once the human form — jagged head, gently curving back, jutting feet — and a tower. It belongs to Carlesso's "Decostruzioni" series, founded on the belief that from destruction comes creation: a vital, hopeful message to take away from an upbeat show.

To October 18, frieze.com

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