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Art in America
Heidi Bucher
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HEIDI BUCHER

On view in the United States for the first time in 40 years, this show of works by Swiss artist Heidi Bucher (1926-1993) may leave visitors wondering what took so long. The Swiss Institute's garage-like main room features Bucher's haunting casts of architectural elements: latex moldings of the master bedroom in her parents' Winterthur house hang spectrally in the air, while a cast of a Swiss hotel's entrance slumps heavily against a wall, its bottom pooling as if melting into the ground. Also present is an abundance of archival material, including a number of films showing Bucher at work, as well as documentary images of her "Bodyshells" series of wearable sculptures, exhibited at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art in 1972.