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Miami Ice: A View of Beethoven

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Part of the 'Schneebett' installation by Enrique Martínez Celaya in Miami. Miami Art Museum, 2011

Inspired by Ludwig van Beethoven's death during a snowstorm in 1827, Florida-based artist Enrique Martínez Celaya has created "Schneebett" ("Snow-bed")—a series of rooms, one of which contains a bronze bed blanketed with a thick layer of frost. It's at the Miami Art Museum until Jan. 1. Outside "Schneebett," a video performance of one of Beethoven's late quartets is playing. Inside the initial corridor, a compressor system and cooling tower buzz loudly. The sonic clash is intentional: "Not only was Beethoven deaf toward the end of his life, but his head was ringing," yet he composed until the end, says Mr. Martínez Celaya, who sculpts, paints, photographs and writes. The piece was first shown in 2004 in Berlin.

Now on view

Miami Art Museum

October 14, 2011 - January 1, 2012