

Daily Mail

Artist builds a stunning life-size replica of the Parthenon using 100,000 BANNED books

- The installation, called 'The Parthenon of Books', is at this year's Documenta 14 exhibition in Kassel
- Authors whose books feature in the exhibit included the likes of Salman Rushdie and Mark Twain
- Created by conceptual artist Marta Minujín, its aim is to stir debate around censorship

By [Sarah Finley For Mailonline](#)

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It's a replica of Greek temple the Parthenon, but instead of marble this installation is made from 100,000 banned books.

The creation, called 'The Parthenon of Books', is the centre piece of this year's Documenta 14 exhibition in [German](#) city Kassel. Created by conceptual artist Marta Minujín, its aim is to stir debate around censorship.

It has also been installed at the same site where Nazis burned books by Jewish or Marxist writers in 1933. The 170 titles that form the building include the Bible, Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses* and Mark Twain's *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

This installation was built with the same dimensions of the real-life Parthenon. Metal grills were first installed and then the books, which were covered in plastic, were wedged into place by volunteers on cranes.

Organised by Adam Szymczyk, The [Documenta 14](#) is an exhibition of contemporary art. It last took place in 2012 and attracted 905,000 people. The 100-day show is, this year, expecting one million visitors.

The exhibition has a twin show in Athens that runs until July 16.

The project wasn't an easy one for South America creator Minujin. The artist launched it last year by appealing to the public for the 100,000 books.

Students at Kassel University then helped to draw up a list of 170 banned books.

The art show, Documenta 14, which runs every five years also showcases other artists work. Now in its 14th edition, it runs for 100 days - and many know it as the 'museum of 100 days'. Other installations at the show include 'Pile o Sapmi', a curtain made out of reindeer skulls by Norwegian artist Maret Anne Sara, and 'Mill of Blood' by Mexican artist Antonio Vega Macotella.

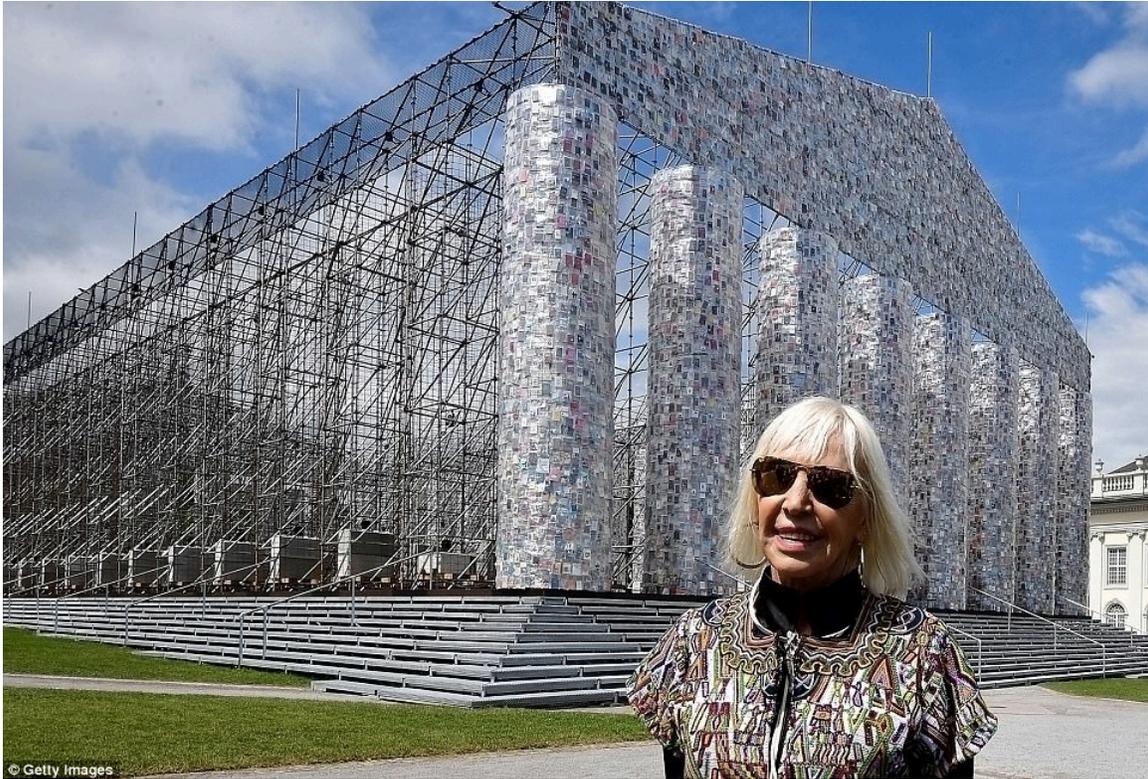


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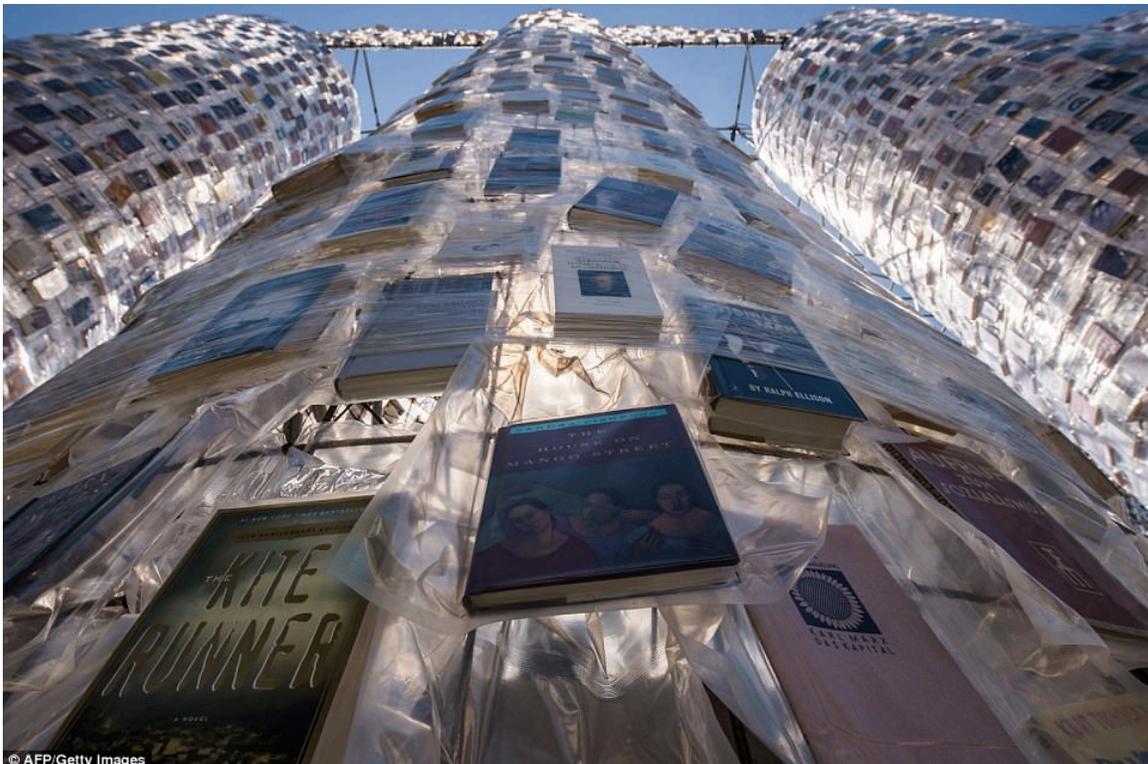
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It's installed at the same site where Nazis burned books by Jewish or Marxist writers in 1933



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Created by Argentinian conceptual artist Marta Minujín, 74, its aim is to stir debate around censorship



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Real life copy: Built with the same dimensions of the real-life Parthenon, metal grills were first installed and then the books, which were covered in plastic, were wedged into place by volunteers