

CAA PROJECT FOCUS

SITE/WORK/S

With *Site/Work/S*, CAA's Cameron Armstrong (Director) and Surpik Angelini (Advisor/Social Research) turned the attention of the *18th International Sculpture Conference-2000* towards Houston's unplanned, seemingly formless urbanism. Through this project, the city's large scale installations - often the construction, renovation and/or destruction of whole buildings - were reinterpreted as a means by which artists had focused on the absences of memory and social consciousness endemic to this landscape. Their re-direction of attention to personal awareness, and historical memory as found, was shown to entail a broad revision of the accepted figure-ground relations behind the perception of urban places. *Site/Work/S* considered the works' meanings for artists, architects and the city, the paradox of their appearance, and mapped new approaches to locating and representing art spaces, art works, and social sculpture in Houston's urban sprawl.

Site/Work/S was comprised of six components: site works by artists and architects (existing, and new *Site/Work/S* commissions); an installation venue showcasing works by Glassell Core Fellows; an exhibition of historical material at Project Row Houses' Eldorado Ballroom; performances by artists, dancers and musicians staged at Notsuoh and in the atrium of the Gerald D Hines School of Architecture at the University of Houston; a tour of the site works in the TempLO bus led by historian Stephen Fox and artist Jim Pirtle; and a forum addressing critical and historical concerns - all staged in May 2000 under the aegis of the *18th International Sculpture Conference*. More than fifty artists, architects and performers were involved in presenting dozens of works. *Site/Work/S* was initiated by *Houston Sculpture 2000*, with the organizational support of *The Rice Design Alliance*, and had project and conference coverage in the pages of *Texas Architect*, and *Sculpture* magazine.

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