

ARTISTS SPACE

Jordan Lord
Prophetic Memory

August 4 – September 7
55 Walker Street
Monday – Friday, 10am – 6pm
(Closed August 16 – 20)

Artists Space is pleased to present [*Prophetic Memory*](#), the first institutional exhibition by Jordan Lord, which takes the form of an unfolding series of web interventions, texts, screenings and presentations across a multiplicity of sites including 55 Walker. Opening as Artists Space Books & Talks in 2012, 55 Walker Street was Artists Space's secondary location and hosted Artists Space's performances, screenings, panel discussions while functioning as a bookstore. From 2016-2018, when Artists Space vacated its loft at 38 Greene Street, 55 Walker Street became Artists Space's primary address. The following year, Artists Space opened its current location two blocks east at 11 Cortlandt Alley. Since 2019, three commercial galleries: Bortolomi, kaufmann repetto, and Andrew Kreps Gallery collaboratively program and operate an exhibition space at 55 Walker and are hosting Lord's work, *Fire Sale* (2012-2018), within their space.



[A photo of the former Artists Space bookstore at 55 Walker Street shows a wall with several rows of Vitsœ modular shelving, holding long rows of brightly colored books, intersected by a red pipe that runs from floor to ceiling. In the background is a white wall that opens onto a larger space filled with bright light from two windows].

2. *Fire Sale* (2012-2018)

Reading lists, books, PDFs

On May 9, 2012, I began interning at Artists Space. After my internship ended, I was hired as the bookstore and events manager of the then-new Artists Space: Books & Talks, located at 55 Walker Street, a satellite location of the exhibition space that hosted public programs—usually panel discussions, performances, and screenings—and a bookstore that also functioned as a curatorial project.

The idea for the bookstore was that artists and writers were invited to choose 10 books to be part of the bookstore. It was my job to source the books (whether used or new), arrange, and sell them in the bookstore. In addition to selling beer, booking technicians, and setting up chairs at events, my job was also to implement our director's interior design vision of the space: sourcing Persian rugs, buying Max Bill Ulm stools, using a vacuum cleaner to fill a large denim beanbag chair with styrofoam beads, buying mosaic tiles and hiring a contractor to install them. Many days, no one would come in the space, and I would play my music very loudly.

At the same time, another function of Books & Talks that was not publicly displayed was its use as a meeting space for a number of political and art-related groups that were given keys to use the space in its off-hours. One of these groups was No Total, a reading group that I became part of, which eventually began organizing performances at 55 Walker over the next four years.

I preemptively quit my job because I assumed I was going to be fired. Not once but twice, I accidentally dropped the keys that unlocked elevator access to the space into the elevator shaft. But before I did, we hosted a fire sale, to get rid of a large inventory of Artists Space-produced publications, most of which were pamphlets produced for past shows, including some of the more famous shows produced there like *Pictures* and *Witnesses: Against our Vanishing*, as well as a book that invited 5000 artists to reflect on the 25-year history of Artists Space in 1998.

That day, I met some of the artists and writers, who would become my closest friends and interlocutors, and in the short period before and after, I met many others--in the elevator, at events that took place at the space, in groups that met in the space, and in performances that I took part in there.

I've asked 10 of these people to each select 10 books to be shelved on the same walls, where the bookstore used to hang at 55 Walker St. Most of them I've known for nearly a decade, one I've only just met and one I never got to meet, except through their work, but I met or grew closer to each of these people because of how we encountered each other through Artists Space.

Over the course of the installation, the selection of books will fluctuate as they become available as free takeaways during the opening hours of 55 Walker Street from August 4th to September 7th. If you are unable to visit the gallery and/or would like to access PDFs of these publications, please email info@artistspace.org with requests for specific titles, and PDF copies will be sent to you.

—Jordan Lord

Accessibility

The gallery space at 55 Walker Street is wheelchair accessible via an elevator inside the residential entrance to the building, located to the immediate left of the gallery. Call 917-388-3580 for access once you arrive, and a gallery staff member will assist you in opening the door to the elevator. There is a non-gender-segregated, wheelchair accessible bathroom on the first floor of the space. For access inquiries please contact Artists Space at info@artistspace.org or 212 226 3970.

"Prophetic Memory" online screening program
(additional details forthcoming)

[Scheduled Interruptions \(2018-2021\)](#)

August 12 at 8 pm EST

Broadcast via Zoom

A live re-edit of the feature-length documentary *Shared Resources*, featuring videos by Deborah and Jordan Lord, Amelia Bande, and Rachel Higgins. Live captioned with integrated audio description in English.

[Compensation \(1999\)](#)

August 17 at 8 pm EST

Broadcast via Zoom

A screening of Zeinabu irene Davis's film *Compensation*, followed by a Q&A with Davis and the film's lead actress Michelle A. Banks. The film is spoken and captioned in both English and ASL; the post-screening discussion will be ASL interpreted and live captioned in English. Optional live English-language audio description will be available for the film and discussion.

[Repeat Viewings \(2020-2021\)](#)

September 1 at 8 pm EST

Broadcast via Zoom

A screening of video, performance documentation, and reading made during the ongoing pandemic by artists and writers that deal in remote access, broadcast, liveness, chronic fatigue, dreams, and replay. The films will be shown in their original languages with English-language captions and integrated audio description or optional live audio description in English.

Prophetic Memory broadcast live from Artists Space, 11 Cortlandt Alley
September 1 - 4

Jordan Lord's new video installation, *Prophetic Memory*, will be installed physically in the gallery and will be accessible elsewhere via a live Zoom broadcast from September 1 to September 4.

Support

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