

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Against the background of the recent rezoning of the Gowanus neighborhood, artists explore the optimism of suburban malls in New Jersey where both artists grew up, and the eventual decline of the mall as a utopian dream.

MALLS OF AMERICA: Phillip Buehler & Karen Mainenti
October 8-November 18, 2022

Opening October 8, 2022— Considered mere eyesores today, the first suburban shopping malls were examples of exemplary design: innovative civic architecture created to foster a sense of shared community. Against the background of the recent rezoning of the Gowanus neighborhood, this exhibition explores the optimism of urban planning against the eventual decline of these utopian dreams.



Awash in bubble gum hues, [Karen Mainenti's](#) small-scale paintings isolate the architecture and signage of her native New Jersey stores and highways, uncovering the beauty hidden in the often-maligned suburban landscape. Contrasting this are [Phillip Buehler's](#) monumental photographs of the now closed and demolished Wayne Hills Mall that capture the last stages of the life of this once-bustling mall, with empty corridors and dilapidated storefronts. Alongside these photographs and paintings are a selection of books and artifacts that shed further light on these monuments of American culture.

DATES

Opening Reception | October 8, 2022 from 1-4pm

Exhibition Viewing | Gowanus Open Studios: October 15-16, 12-6pm, October 29, 1-4pm, November 12, 1-4pm and by appointment

LOCATION

Footnote

Footnote Project Space | 543 Union Street, #1F | Brooklyn, NY 11215

Footnote is an interdisciplinary project that uses art to shed light on forgotten histories and their effect on memory and place. Our exhibitions explore the pathos and power of lost narratives through selections of art and artifacts.

MEDIA CONTACT

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