

NYU Wagner

Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GALLERY SPACE AT WAGNER

The Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, in partnership with the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development, is pleased to announce the opening of **"Remembering: Neighborhoods & Factories, Flint, MI,"** our third exhibition of the 2008-2009 season. Co-curated by NYU Steinhardt Professors Gerald Pryor and Ann Chwatsky, with curatorial assistance by Frankie Crescioni-Santoni and the Gallery Space at Wagner Committee, "Remembering" marks the photographic debut of celebrated painter and sculptor John Torreano.

With this highly personal photographic essay, John Torreano pays homage to his hometown of Flint, Michigan, by presenting a series of architectural images taken in the spring of 2007. Focusing primarily on abandoned or barely operational factories, the artist offers a candid glimpse into the places and spaces that informed his formative years. However, Torreano's explorations with the lens not only serve to capture autobiographical remembrance; they also poignantly evoke a sense of national nostalgia for a time in American history defined by financial confidence and the possibility of work. While the locales documented here are all intimately linked to the artist's childhood and family roots, some stand out as emblematic structures of historic significance—timely reminders of a once thriving automobile industry and economy.

John Torreano earned a BFA from the Cranbrook Academy of Art and MFA from Ohio State University. Known primarily for his work in painting and sculpture, he has been shown at the Museum of Modern Art, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, and the Indianapolis Museum of Fine Arts. He is the recipient of a Nancy Graves Foundation Grant for Visual Artists, a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, and individual grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the New York State Council of the Arts. Galleries that represent his work include: Feature Inc. in New York City, Susanne Hilberry Gallery in Ferndale, MI, and the Jean Albano Gallery in Chicago, IL.

In addition to being an artist, John Torreano is a Professor at NYU Steinhardt and has been a full-time member of the Department of Art and Art Professions since 1992. He also became an author with the recent release of his book *Drawing by Seeing* (Abrams, 2007).

Remembering: Neighborhoods & Factories, Flint, MI, runs from February 10 through March 21. An opening reception will be held on Tuesday, **February 10, from 5:30-7:00pm.** The Gallery Space at Wagner is located on the 2nd floor of the Puck Building, at 295 Lafayette Street and corner of Houston Street (B, D, F, V trains to Broadway-Lafayette or 6 train to Bleecker). Gallery viewing hours are Monday-Friday 8:30am-7:00pm and Saturdays 9:00am-6:00pm.

For more information, please contact Margie Jimenez at 212.998.7535.

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