

EXHIBITION PROPOSAL

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CONCEPT

When Artists Enter the Factories investigates the segregated yet inseparable relationship between manufacturing and artmaking within local settings of New York. By presenting a group exhibition, including sculpture, installation, digital media, and photography, at the Brooklyn Army Terminal, a fully operating manufacturing site, we aim to create a conversation and collaboration between manufacturing—usually associated with tedium and utilitarian purposes—and contemporary art—conventionally considered craftsmanship and utopian manifestation.

This group exhibition will revisit the energy of a massive group show titled *Terminal New York*, curated and organized by Barbara Gary, Carol Waag, and Ted Castle in 1983. Thirty-six years later, a comparatively smaller group of artists will engage with the terminal again and create site-specific artworks to respond to its architectural space and reinterpret its social and historical background from a contemporary standpoint.

When Artists Enter the Factories is also in response to Harun Farocki's *Workers Leaving the Factory* as well as Louis Lumière's original silent film version. In addition to examining the content of work or leisure time, we will address how ideologies of labor, mechanics, manufacturing processes, and post-industrial landscapes are influenced and interwoven into artistic creations and daily human conception.

As part of the *Manufacture Series*, this project attempts to re-fabricate boundaries and create an overlap between artmaking and manufacturing. These two industries share similar materials, production processes, and direct responses with our needs in contemporary society. In addition to creative usage of commodities and industrial materials, artists also will explore secondary topics in their individual projects, such as what makes us human, sourcing new materials from technology for creativity, mentalities during laboring work, immigrants at work, and the artist's role in our contemporary society.

The idea of activating dormant public spaces, such as the atrium in Building B, through art is inspired by ExtraSchicht, an annual one-night cultural festival throughout the Ruhr region in Germany that presents art activities celebrating the region's cultural and industrial heritage and has helped revitalize the region after deindustrialization. Although the Brooklyn Army Terminal was built and utilized mostly for army purposes during World War I and II, it has also undergone several redevelopments to adapt to civilian needs and current economic purposes.

We are inviting everyone to experience how creativity can be unfolded into this magnificent space. We offer a genuine platform for people to rethink and reconnect with the importance of arts for our public space, society, and the human life. Through exhibiting art projects at a manufacturing site, we also disclose the process of collaboration between the industrial manufacturing process and our creative productions.

During the 2019 New York Open House, we will be providing a unique opportunity for everyone to encounter contemporary art while learning about the past and present of this historical building. We seek not only to surround the audience with artistic creations at this unique historical New York site but also to bring art and dialogue into the everyday experiences of everyone working at and visiting the Brooklyn Army Terminal.