

Reviews

New York, New York

Public art created a major diversion this summer in an unlikely part of the city: Times Square. Sponsored by the 42nd Street Development Corporation and Creative Time, Inc., the "42nd Street Art Project" gave 24 artists license to use a largely vacant block between Times Square and 8th Avenue for site-specific installations in a variety of media. These remained on view from July through October prior to the commencement of the planned rehabilitation of the block, which is to include restoration of the buildings and the return of legitimate theater.

Down the block, a work by Andrew Ginzel and Kristin Jones began in front of the entrance of the abandoned Selwyn Theater, where the title of the melancholy installation, *MIMESIS*, appeared on an illuminated sign in the empty ticket window. Pairs of old shoes affixed to the pavement led from the ticket window to the locked glass entrance doors and continued on the other side, where they were flanked by Gatsbyesque vintage clothing hanging in single-file rows that receded deep into the crepuscular light of the decaying theater. A flash of light emanated from the farthest recess of the lobby every few seconds, fixing the image like a vintage photograph. Mirrors were installed strategically so that observers and the surrounding decay became part of the artists' carefully crafted tableau.