## WHITE FLAG PROJECTS

October 20, 2016

Friends and colleagues,

This past Monday White Flag Projects' Board of Directors voted to close the institution at the conclusion of our current exhibitions. After years of diminishing attendance and a marked decline in our ability to connect with local patrons, it became apparent that we could not establish an adequate audience for the art and artists we exhibited on the terms they were being offered. An institution, regardless of its support elsewhere, cannot be sustained without the interest of the community in which it finds itself, although I'm hopeful that the discourse we introduced here will prove to have had some effect.

For the past ten years White Flag Projects has worked to provide context and opportunities to artists at pivotal junctures in their careers, and give St. Louisans a space to engage with these exhibitions in the most direct way possible. While it proved to be a poor fit for this locale, we're proud of the uncompromised program we produced.

I'm perpetually grateful to all of the artists that made our efforts here meaningful. I want to thank our collaborators, our regular visitors, the handful of patrons that have maintained us over recent years, the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and our interns and support staff that have helped make these exhibitions and programs possible. I'm especially grateful to our Assistant Directors Jessica Baran (2008–2012), Sam Korman (2012–2014), and Marie Heilich (2014–2016) for their contributions to White Flag's growth.

White Flag Projects' final day will be Saturday, October 29.

With thanks,

Matthew Strauss Founder & Director