

ARTNET NEWS

Dec. 10, 2008

ARTISTS MEMORIALIZE DETROIT'S DECAY

Photographer **Sean Hemmerle**, who has exhibited his works at the **Front Room** gallery in Brooklyn, is getting a boost from *Time* magazine for his recent portfolio "**Remains of Detroit.**" Given that the current dire straits of Motor City are very much in the news, the magazine offers an online slideshow of Hemmerle's images, which document the spookily decrepit interiors of various abandoned factories and public buildings, all of it charged with a rather grim postindustrial pathos.

Then again, one particularly enigmatic image from the series attests to continued activity in the spaces, albeit of an artistic rather than industrial variety. An interior of an abandoned **Fisher Body Plant** centers on a seemingly random ziggurat of bricks in the center. That structure, as it turns out, was constructed by Detroit artist **Scott Hocking**, who lives near the plant, and decided to repurpose the wooden brinks that make up the plant's floor to create a kind of mocking monument. After staging the project earlier this year, Hocking left the pyramid where it was, at the mercy of both the elements and any other salvagers. The documentation of the site-specific work is currently on display at the **Van Abbemuseum** in the Netherlands, Apr. 10, 2008-Jan. 25, 2009, as part of a show called "Heartland," dedicated to artists from Middle America.

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