

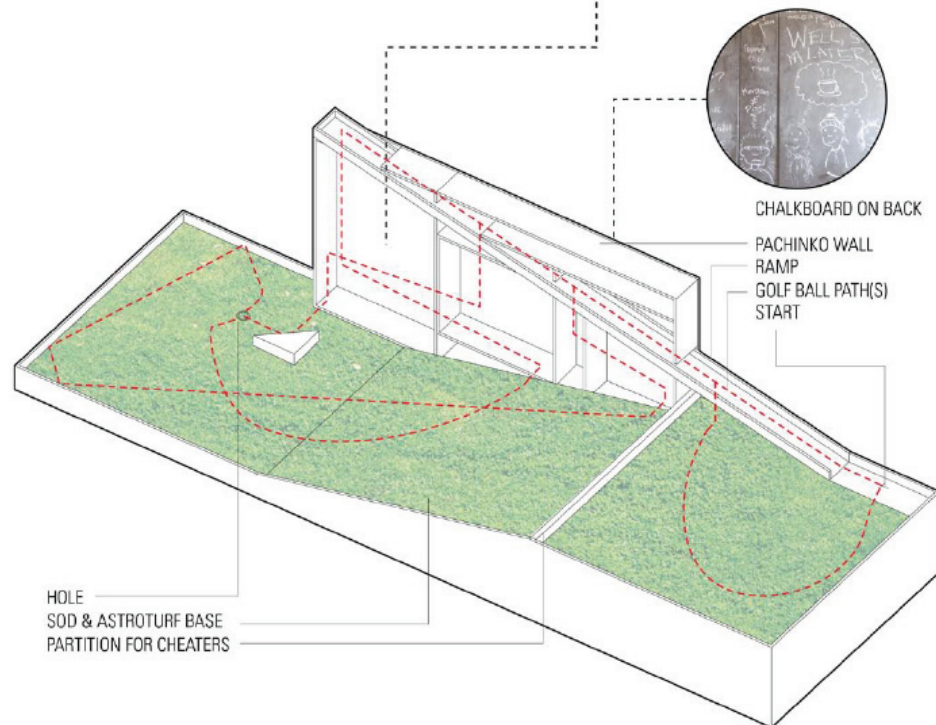
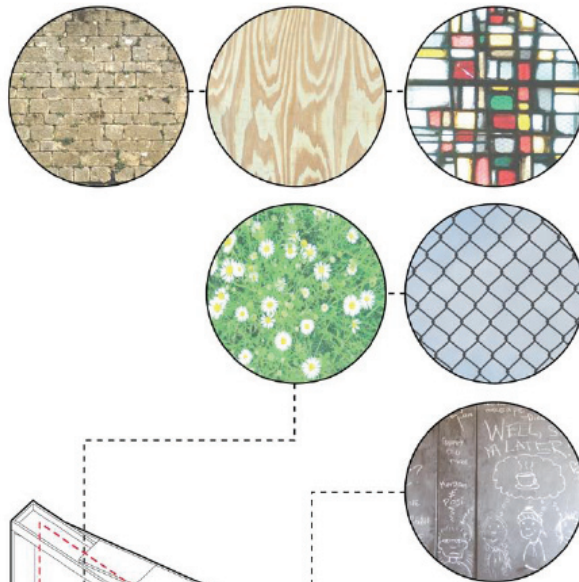


HOLE SEVEN: PACHINKO PUTT-PUTT

Meat Pallet is an award-winning collective of young artists residing (mostly) in Bushwick. We are interested in interdisciplinary works that alter common spaces into something more mysterious, magical, or provoking.

SUBMISSION IMAGE

POTENTIAL MATERIALS FOR FILLING WALL:





ARTIST INTERVIEW

Why were you interested in participating in The Putting Lot? Does it relate to work you've done in the past?

We were especially excited about The Putting Lot because it is an opportunity to do something in and for our neighborhood. We were also pleased that it would be actually physically built, by us. In various configurations we have participated in other competitions (2nd place in White House Redux, 1st place in ARCHDL IV, Design Village, etc), but none of these were local, and none of these were built. .

What is the inspiration for your design? How does it relate to urban sustainability?

Our design was inspired by Pachinko, the Japanese game that combines pinball and a slot machine. We thought it would be neat to expand it out to the dimensions of mini-golf. The slots or microenvironments that the ball travels through represent contemporary and possible Bushwick landscapes. Also, turning the design vertical onto a wall was an opportunity to reduce our footprint while maximizing our usable space, inviting the user to return to historic green Boswijk.

What else would you like to see in an empty space in the city?

We would love to see other community takeovers of disused, derelict private space: community gardens, playgrounds, artspace, pyramids, pet architecture, narnia, etc.

Do you have any childhood memories or good stories about miniature golf?

Several of us are from Sacramento, CA. David, Hannah and Justin remember going to a miniature golf course/arcade called Scandia near the I-80 expressway. There is a certain magic to miniature environments created entirely for pleasure. Hannah was always disappointed when the holes lacked functionality, like a window to nowhere. Justin keeps raving about this putt-putt place called The Palms which apparently used to have giant concrete dinosaurs and palm trees. By the time Hannah moved to town it was an abandoned lot filled with busted concrete, creepy relics and shaggy, diseased NorCal palm trees. Now the lot is crappy condos, also named The Palms. Laura, who is not particularly good at golf, likes the spontaneous and accidental hole-in-ones that can happen to anyone at any time. She remembers getting a hole in one on that volcano level once, even though it is usually a par 16.

What do you hope to see at The Putting Lot this summer?

We hope to see this effort bring the diverse elements of the community together in a place to have fun, as well as to provide a vision for alternative use of abandoned space. We hope that The Putting Lot will serve as a local hangout.

PHOTOGRAPH OF COMPLETED HOLE

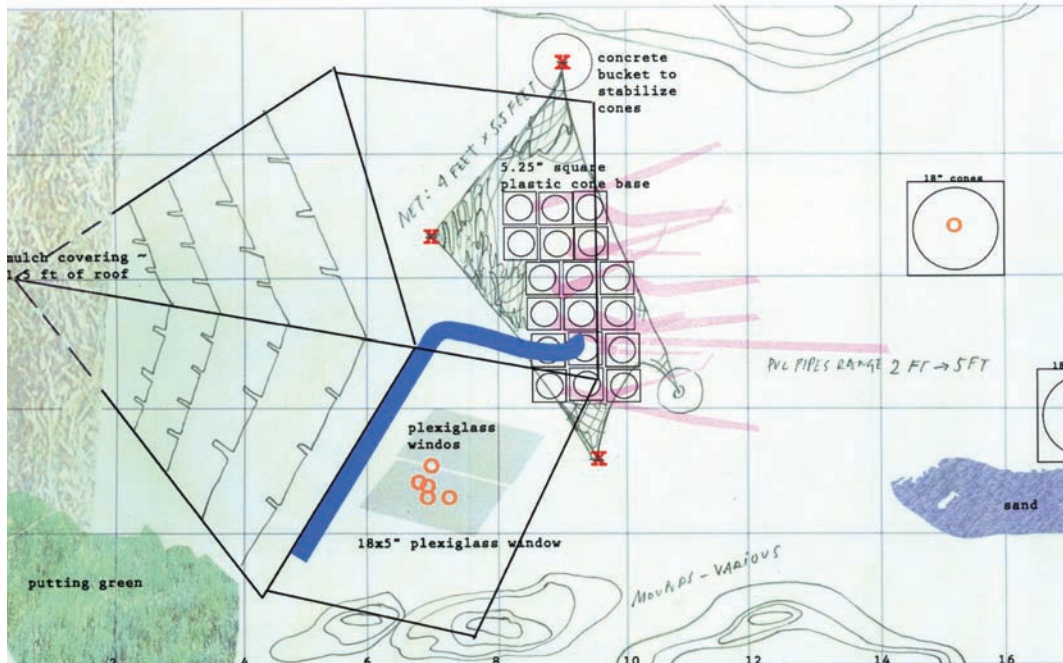




HOLE EIGHT: LAST GASP!

Zabor/Tsien-Shiang are active Brooklyn residents in our early twenties and starting collaborating together as close friends in college. Currently Tara Zabor works in the arts and Lexi Tsien-Shiang works in architecture.

SUBMISSION IMAGES





ARTIST INTERVIEW

Why were you interested in participating in The Putting Lot? Does it relate to work you've done in the past?

Putting Lot grabbed our attention because the driving concept was compelling and fresh; presented a challenge not only in requiring our commitment but in its ambition to make an impact. We wanted to create a community not only between teams but with the larger Bushwick community. Empty space and cycles of redevelopment are a reality surrounding us. Interjecting seemed a powerful move, especially with a timeline that would require sweat, toil, and the o-so-often hammered finger. The project relates to our work indirectly, but it has allowed us to expand on past themes we've dealt with and pushed us beyond the boundaries of our typical medium.

What is the inspiration for your design? How does it relate to urban sustainability?

The hope behind Last Gasp is to portray a transitional stage in Bushwick's neighborhood development by sinking a symbolic representation into our past. Shooting off a house (sunken into the ground) into a unknown and emerging landscape plays on cycles of redevelopment. We wanted to design-build a course with the purpose users interacting with it and with each other.

What else would you like to see in an empty space in the city?

We'd like to see empty lots having uses beyond being landfills. Empty space as putting lots, empty space as organizing techniques, empty space as grounds for fostering interaction and incubating ideas.

Do you have any childhood memories or good stories about miniature golf?

The course I most remember from my childhood was at the Jersey Shore and involved a 40-foot Paul-Bunionsque figurehead standing over it. It no longer exists. Mini-golf is an implicit part of summertime and childhood itself. It contains wondrous places (castles, windmills, and pirate ships).

What do you hope to see at The Putting Lot this summer?

Two residents of the apartment overlooking construction on the Lot came down to help. They've been there picking away and leveling dirt. Others have come by just to say hello, in amused confusion as to what we're doing. This kind of interaction and involvement is motivating. It's what the Putting Lot is powered by. Everyday the team gets bigger and the goal for the Putting Lot is that much closer to being realized. We hope different people continue to circulate, use the space, get ideas from it, and meet new people there. Most importantly, we just hope everyone (organizers, artists, neighbors, and putters) will leave the Putting Lot beaming.

PHOTOGRAPH OF COMPLETED HOLE





HOLE NINE: THE LIVING LOT

Interface Studio LLC is a full-service urban design company founded in 2004 by Scott Page. As a veteran of a large, multi-disciplinary firm, Scott established Interface Studio to pursue high planning and design quality and a close working relationship with clients. Today, their growing practice works collaboratively on a diverse mix of projects across the country ranging from a city-wide housing strategy for Rochester, New York to a master plan for Paterson's downtown in New Jersey. Interface Studio has worked extensively in dense, mixed-use urban places with a unique sense of optimism and innovation. Their work is calibrated toward implementation with both pragmatic and creative strategies that set a realistic agenda for change guided by local voices. The Studio's plans have been recognized with state and national awards and have received both local and national media coverage.

SUBMISSION IMAGE





ARTIST INTERVIEW

Why were you interested in participating in The Putting Lot? Does it relate to work you've done in the past?

After including recommendations in nearly every project regarding the creative temporary reuse of vacant lots, we were very excited by the chance to participate in the actual transformation of one. We also welcomed the opportunity to be temporarily pulled away from our map-making and other assorted computerizing to roll up our sleeves and get our hands dirty constructing bird houses, modular native grass tiles, "chia cube gabions," and other miscellaneous elements. As a studio with interest and experience in creative arts beyond the scope of our typical endeavors as an urban planning and design firm, Interface likes to get crafty with its ideas every now and then.

What is the inspiration for your design? How does it relate to urban sustainability?

The conceptual intent of our proposal, The Living Lot, is to transform a portion of the Putting Lot into a hybrid landscape merging material elements typically found in gritty industrial districts with a wilder, more natural habitat. In addition to providing a challenging and informative course for human visitors, the course design intends to attract a wilder range of visitors: small mammals, birds, butterflies, and other urban wildlife. The concept also intends to use this course as a catalytic opportunity to breathe life into other vacant lots and slack spaces in the immediate neighborhood and beyond through the use of guerilla gardening tactics. Our proposal included the suggestion that we be assigned the ninth hole in the course; upon completing the hole, patrons will exchange their golf balls for seed bombs (through the use of some yet-to-be-conceived-of contraption which we have lovingly named "DA BOMB!"), which they are free to throw anywhere they'd like to see a small patch of native wildflowers and grasses sprout up in a few weeks. The Living Lot features a burlap fabric "green." "No-mow" grass, which requires very little water and does not require mowing (obviously), will be used to create the "rough" areas along the edges of the intended putting route. This grass will be grown in advance on modular tiles made of re-purposed cardboard egg crates and transported to the site for installation. Repurposed cyclone fencing will provide the structural integrity for a series of "chia cube gabions." In the spirit of the "leave no trace" concept, the use of chia cube gabions and tire planters allows for easily deconstructed vertical structures without disturbing the site. All plantings, as well as the seeds in the seed bombs, will consist of New York native flowering plants and grasses including Black Eyed Susan, Joe Pye Weed, Scented Goldenrod, Partridge Pea, Butterfly Milkweed, Switch Grass, and Little Blue Stem. These plants will create a xeriscape: a native planting scheme specific to New York's climate requiring very little watering.

What else would you like to see in an empty space in the city?

How about a "petting lot?" Lots of farm and/or exotic animals for people to play with? Outdoor roller rink? With animals? Neighborhood compost pile to serve local community gardens? Solar-powered pretzel and beer garden? Catnip farm to attract neighborhood stray cats so they can be easily collected for spaying/neutering and adoption? D.I.Y. "public library:" free and unregulated exchange of books donated by neighborhood residents?

Do you have any childhood memories or good stories about miniature golf?

Although Leah and Ashley grew up playing miniature golf 1,600 miles away from each other, never having the opportunity to face off on the Astroturf battlefield, Ashley is confident that she would "beat Leah's butt on the putt." Leah claims Ashley "could never provoke a lower stroke than her own score, for shore." Thankfully, the opening of the Putting Lot promises to resolve this escalating intra-Interface Studio intimidation.

What do you hope to see at The Putting Lot this summer?

In addition to scores of putt putt patrons, we hope that our hole successfully attracts local wildlife and helps to hybridize the gritty hardscape with natural habitats. And we hope there will be pudding pops.