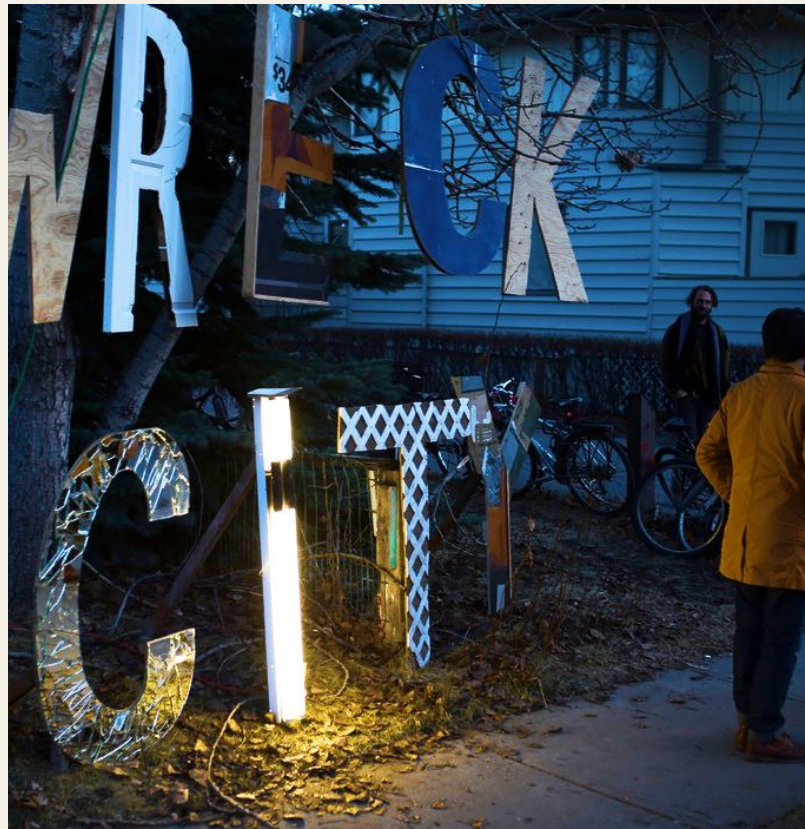




The Cannibal Lot

An Epilogue for 809

Wreck City

Calgary / Mohkinstsis, 2013

Collective Construction

Demolition Art

Summary

The WRECK CITY collective hosts experimental art exhibitions in non-traditional venues. They believe in the radical potential of art to transform familiar environments, build new communities, and create evolving understandings of time and place. WRECK CITY was formed in response to the specific political, social, and historical contexts of Calgary, situated within the larger North American framework. Their projects are accessible to everyone and are free of charge. As an artist-run initiative, WRECK CITY is committed to compensating professional artists.

"An Epilogue for 809" was a community-driven art experiment that converted 9 houses, 3 garages, and a greenhouse scheduled for demolition into temporary spaces for art, installations, and performances. More than 150 artists, musicians, and performers took part, using salvaged materials from the buildings to create a lively and chaotic exhibition, enabled by the creative freedom offered by the soon-to-be-destroyed structures.

Lessons

- How artists occupy space through a variety of mediums (performance, painting, sculpture, installation etc.)
- In the course of 9 days, WRECK CITY: An Epilogue for 809 was visited by 10,000 people. Within Calgary's community, this displays a high-interest expressed by visitors, spectators and artists through community-based art
- Increases land awareness and the destruction / demolition of houses
- That art does not have to be confined within the walls of a white cube space & what this says about institutional art: who has access to create and access to an audience?

