

ESSEX STREET

Park McArthur

Ramps

January 12 – February 23

Opening Reception Sunday January 12 6–8 PM

There are ramps on display at ESSEX STREET.

These ramps, which provide a way other than stairs for reaching interiors that sit above street level are made of laminated chipboard, aluminum, a cabinet door, plywood, steel, two by fours and other objects intended and not for this purpose. All are portable and some, particularly the commercially produced models, fold up with hinges to create a more compact moveable object. The majority of the ramps are from galleries, exhibition spaces, residencies, schools and studio programs. They were all built or purchased between the years 2010 and 2013, primarily for use by Park McArthur. A sign has been made and distributed to each of the lending organizations to be put on view during the exhibition.¹ Five blank variations of those signs are also included in the exhibition.

While the ramps' presence at ESSEX STREET is unavoidable, their absence from their initially intended sites conforms to the general absence of access at every other cultural and physical institution we attend.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marta_Russell

The exhibition continues with a vinyl wall text that takes you to a Wikipedia page created by McArthur for Marta Russell, activist and author of the 1998 book *Beyond Ramps: Disability at the End of the Social Contract*. Russell, who died on December 16th, 2013, was one of the many disability activists who knew the fetish of structural access can ignore larger questions of social justice. To think access is to think healthcare and affordability, language and translation, documentation and identity, social convention and code.

This is Park McArthur's second exhibition at ESSEX STREET.

She recently had a solo exhibition at Catherine Bastide in Brussels and will have one upcoming with Lars Friedrich in Berlin. She attended the Whitney Independent Study Program in 2010–2011 and again in 2011–2012. She is a graduate of Davidson College and the University of Miami. McArthur's art has been presented at The Kitchen, New York; Galerie Lars Friedrich, Berlin; Laurel Gitlen, New York; Sculpture Center, New York; ICA Philadelphia; Botkyrka Konsthall, Sweden. She has presented papers and screenings at the Society of Disability Studies in Orlando; the University of the Arts, London; SUNY Stonybrook; The Graduate Center CUNY, New York; Hunter College, New York; the Productive Geographies Graduate Student Conference at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Images of the work will be made available on the gallery's website; audio, touch, and skype tours will be scheduled by request.

ESSEX STREET is open Thursday to Sunday from 12–6pm or by appointment.

¹ Made official on October 12th, 2012, New York City Law Number 2012/0472010 requires inaccessible building entrances, public toilets, and elevators to give directions, phone numbers, or other instruction as to the nearest available accessible entrance or facility.

ESSEX STREET

Park McArthur

Ramps

January 12 – February 23, 2014



Recess, 2012

Ten foot EZ-Access aluminum folding ramp with non-skid tread
30 x 120 x 3 inches

41 Grand St., New York, NY 10013



(white), 2013

Plywood, white paint
32 x 12 x 3 inches

194 E 2nd St., New York, NY 10009



Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (small), 2012

Plywood, durable non-skid tread, aluminum

41 x 30 x 2 1/2 inches

39 Art School Rd., Madison, ME 04950



(brown with tape), 2011

Plywood, wood stain, ducktape, 1 x 1 wooden stick

36 3/4 x 11 1/4 x 2 inches

194 E 2nd St., New York, NY 10009



Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (large), 2012

Plywood, wooden planks, aluminum arched loading ramps, hardware, non-skid tread

31 15/8 x 93 x 4 inches

39 Art School Rd., Madison, ME 04950



ESSEX STREET (white), 2013

Laminated chipboard
two parts: 19 3/4 x 29 3/8 x 1 and 9 1/4 x 6 x 1 inches

114 Eldridge St., New York, NY 10002

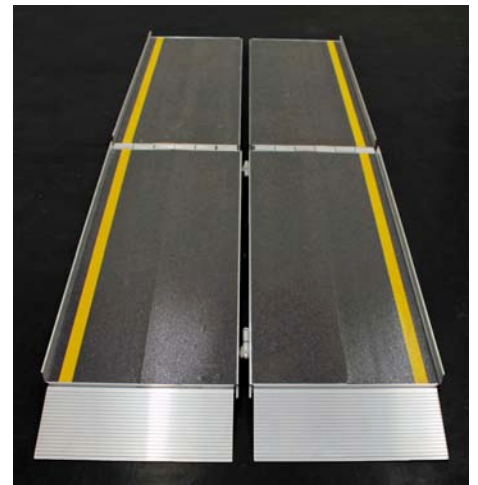


Denny Gallery, 2013

Plywood, 2 x 4, shim, brass hinge, hardware

36 x 36 x 3 1/4 inches

261 Broome St., New York, NY 10002



Whitney Independent Study Program, 2013

Seven foot EZ-Access aluminum tri-fold ramp with non-skid tread

30 x 84 x 3 inches

100 Lafayette St., 5th Floor, New York, NY 10013



(blonde), 2013

Plywood, hardware

30 x 10 3/4 x 2 3/4 inches

194 E 2nd St., New York, NY 10009

ESSEX STREET



AVA, 2012
Plywood, steel flashing
36 x 28 x 5/8 inches
34 E 1st St., New York, NY 10003



ESSEX STREET (pink), 2013
Cabinet door, paint
24 x 20 x 3/4 inches
114 Eldridge St., New York, NY 10002



(warped), 2011
Plywood, wood stain, 1 x 1 wooden stick
37 x 11 3/8 x 2 inches
194 E 2nd St., New York, NY 10009



(partially gone), 2011
Plywood, wood stain, electric tape, 1 x 1 wooden stick
37 x 11 1/2 x 2 1/8 inches
194 E 2nd St., New York, NY 10009



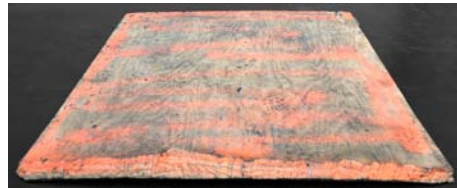
(metal), 2013
Prairie View Industries aluminum threshold ramp with non-skid treads, wooden stick
34 x 7 1/2 x 1 5/8 inches
39 Beale Rd., Chatham, NY 12037



Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture (medium), 2012
Plywood, wooden planks, shims, non-skid tread
47 1/2 x 39 x 8 inches
39 Art School Rd., Madison, ME 04950



(white with scratches), 2013
Plywood, white paint
30 x 11 3/4 x 2 inches
194 E 2nd St., New York, NY 10009



Construction Site, 2013
Grade 38 plywood, fluorescent spray paint, wood plank
53 3/8 x 49 x 3 3/4 inches
Cooper Square, Southwest Corner, New York, NY 10003



(light brown), 2011
Plywood, 1 x 1 wooden stick, wood stain
30 x 12 x 2 inches
194 E 2nd St., New York, NY 10009



Team, 2013
Plywood, crating wood, 2 x 4
28 x 35 1/2 x 5 inches
83 Grand St., New York, NY 10013



Apexart, 2010
Mabis telescoping rust-resistant aluminum wheelchair ramp with durable non-skid treads
two parts, each: 59 1/2 x 6 1/2 x 2 1/4 inches
291 Church St., New York, NY 10013

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marta_Russell, 2013
Adhesive vinyl
3 x 60 inches

Blank, 1-5, 2014
Aluminum signs
18 x 12 inches each