June 14 - 21, 2000
noon - 4:00 p.m. daily

one week boutique + coffee, a rest spot and a dressing room

Temporary Services,
202 S. State Street, Suite 1124
Chicago, IL 60604

www.temporaryservices.org
One Week Boutique is a resale shop with no sales, a bargain basement on the lofty 11th floor, a posh department store without the departments. It is a sidewalk sale, a dressing area, a moment of shopping without the shop. A selection of clothing will greet the public on State Street outside of 202 South State, the building that houses Temporary Services.

This boutique is a combination of the kinds of spaces that you might shop in. The distinctive traits of shopping spaces and their attention to environment or display also says something about economies and class distinctions. From the cheapest (Salvation Army) to the most posh (let’s say Prada) there is a world of difference in the way a person is meant to feel during their shopping experience. One offers spacious or opulent dressing rooms and aisles; the other is cramped and there isn’t even a place to try things on. Comfort levels vary widely from one to the other. Shopping at thrift shops is one thing when you have time and make the choice to go there. It’s another if it is necessary and choice doesn’t factor in. One Week Boutique is mixing up conditions from this division between settings.

In addition to the sidewalk rack, the room on the 11th floor houses a plentiful rack of clothing which has all been generously donated. A room to try things on is available. Two chairs around a coffee table with beverages are there for a moment of rest or conversation. One Week Boutique is a direct redistribution from those dropped off, no longer wanted or needed items. The intermediary step here is arrangement. The redistribution is on the same economic level as the drop off.

The space at 202 South State is designed for this week in a way that displays a concern for your sensorial experience in that space, how it feels to be there. Not exactly trying to be Prada or Salvation Army, but somewhere in between, offering second-hand, but nice, clothing and accessories in an environment that has a little comfort to offer, time to spend, a place to change and mirrors to view the fit.