Harper Montgomery is an independent writer and curator living in New York. She was an assistant curator in the Print Department at the Museum of Modern Art between 1998 and 2003, and North American curator of the San Juan Poly/graphic Triennial in 2004. As a curator, she has commissioned projects by Daniel Joseph Marti, Frances Alÿs, and Instant Coffee, among other artists and collectives. She has written for InterReview, and is a critic for Art Nexus. Currently, she is writing a dissertation on avant-garde artists in Mexico City and Buenos Aires in the 1920s in the Art History Department at the University of Chicago.

Temporary Services's new booklets and banners can be seen at testsite (502 W. 33rd St., www.fluentcollab.org/testsite/index.php/contact, 453-3199) and DOMY Books (913 East Cesar Chavez, www.domystore.com) from November 16th to December 22, 2009. This poster, Temporary Services' public art project, will be on display at Art Lector and is a collection for Art Nexus. Of a residency in Mexico City that did not have bench seating areas. Numerous flyers from politician Barbara Jordan’s speeches of Barbara Jordan, the great, late United States representative from Texas. To encourage us to experience moments of reflection and contemplation by calling our attention to the beautiful and durable, Temporary Services's new booklets and banners can be seen at testsite and will hang from trees outside the home where they will be more accessible to passersby.

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Temporary Services is a group of three people: Brett Bloom, Salem Collo-Julin, and Marc Fischer. They are artists whose projects include books, flyers, posters, photographs, drawings, social events, workshops, and other kinds of objects, situations, and printed materials. While we can find these projects in museums, art galleries, and bookstores, we most often encounter them outside of locations specifically organized with the purpose of displaying and selling art. Temporary Services prefers to show its projects in public spaces like sidewalks, store fronts, plazas and parks. They don’t really "exhibit" works in the traditional sense at all, instead occupying or changing a city’s existing public spaces by posting signage, distributing booklets, or by physically transforming a space in order to make it more user friendly for the people (for example, for a project called Process Placement, they collect and abandoned chairs from alleysways in Chicago and used bike racks to attach them to chain link fences near bus stops that did not have benches in order to create improvised seating areas).

A lot of what Temporary Services does involves challenging how the interests of government and commerce have shaped public spaces, and inviting the audiences that come into contact with their work to see how people in Chicago, Mexico City, Athens, and Ljubljana see how people in different cities have improved their surroundings by making creative use of discarded plastic bags, these useful items for everyday use, such as wallets, signs, and packing materials. In Austin, Temporary Services is investigating two aspects of the current music scene and calling attention to Punk bands and clubs of the 1980s, all designed by Tim Kerr, have been re-photocopied and will be posted around Austin on poles and message boards. In this spirit, they look to encourage us to experience moments of reflection and contemplation by calling our attention to the beautiful and durable.

Temporary Services P.O. Box 121012 Chicago, IL 60612

WHAT IS TEMPORARY SERVICES? AND WHAT ARE THEY DOING IN AUSTIN?

By Harper Montgomery

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TEMPORARY SERVICES

TESTSITE  NOV. 16 - DEC. 22, 2008
502 West 33rd Street
Austin, TX 78705
www.fluentcollab.org/testsite

BOOKLETS
10 years - over 80 publications

PERSONAL PLASTIC
Photos of plastic bags clogging public spaces & private homes
Large barriers made from melted plastic bags
Oceans filled with microscopic plastic particulates

TEMPORARY CONVERSATIONS
DOMY BOOKS
913 E Cesar Chavez
Austin, TX 78702
www.domystore.com

Nov. 14, 7-9 PM. Join us for the launch of two new booklets in our Temporary Conversations series, and our new book Public Phenomena, plus our publishing imprint Half Letter Press.
www.halfletterpress.com

PUBLIC TALK
The University of Texas at Austin
Art Building • Room 1.120
Nov. 13, 5-6:30 PM

Tim Kerr
The Dicks
www.temporaryservices.org