

NEWS RELEASE

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PARSONS THE NEW SCHOOL FOR DESIGN HOSTS SYMPOSIUM EXPLORING FUTURE OF INTERIOR DESIGN

AfterTaste 2: New Agendas for the Study of Interior Design to feature leading designers, artists and scholars including James Casebere, Stephen and Timothy Quay, Allan Wexler, Penny Sparke, and others

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April 4 and 5 at the Sheila C. Johnson Design Center at Parsons The New School for Design



James Casebere, "Pink Hallway 3," 2000.

NEW YORK, March 4, 2008—At a time of rapid technological and cultural changes, Parsons The New School for Design will present *AfterTaste 2*, a two-day symposium that will take a critical look at contemporary issues in the field of interior design. The event will take place on Friday, April 4, and Saturday, April 5 at the Sheila C. Johnson Design Center, Anna-Maria and Stephen Kellen Auditorium, The New School, 13th Street and Fifth Avenue, New York. Organized by Parsons Architecture, Interior Design and Lighting Chair Kent Kleinman and BFA Interior Design Director Lois Weinthal, the symposium is part of an annual series that critically assesses the state of the field as Parsons prepares to launch an MFA in Interior Design in Fall 2009.

Looking at the ways in which interior design has evolved into a hybrid of environmental psychology, fashion design, product design, architecture, material science and cultivated taste, the symposium includes three panels that explore different aspects of the evolution of the field: "The Intellectual History of Taste" will explore the impact of taste on the future direction of the field, featuring noted design historian Penny Sparke, New School professor Jay Bernstein, and Emmanuelle Lindard of Edelkoort Inc.; "Representing the Interior" will explore how artists and designers have subverted spaces and furnishings in order to create new realities, featuring acclaimed photographer James Casabere, who is known for his photographs of models of the built environment, legendary avant-garde animators Stephen and Timothy Quay, and Columbia Dean Mark Wigley; and "The Narrative Life of Things" will address the ability of interior design to redefine social spaces, featuring Courtney Smith, a sculptor who reworks discarded furniture; Cooper Union Dean Anthony Vidler; and artist/architect Allan Wexler.

AfterTaste is free and open to the public; for more information please visit www.parsons.newschool.edu/events or contact 212.229.8919.

Located in the heart of New York City, **Parsons The New School for Design** is one of the most prestigious and comprehensive degree-granting colleges of art and design in the nation. Parsons has been a forerunner in the field of art and design since its founding in 1896. Parsons' rigorous programs and distinguished faculty embrace curricular innovation, pioneer new uses of technology, and instill in students a global perspective in design. For more information, visit www.parsons.newschool.edu.

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