



Proposal:

*Straight Lines in Four Directions For Social Distancing (after Sol LeWitt)*

As states in the US started announcing shelter-in-place orders, like many people, I became acutely aware of how essential businesses started to outline the visual parameters of social distancing. In grocery stores and home improvement centers improvised lines and shapes drawn with tape on the ground popped up to remind people where to stand and which direction to walk. These marks are a visual reminder of the coronavirus as well as the new minimum distance we must keep between ourselves and other people. At the same time, many people turned to online ordering and pickup as a way to minimize contact. Amazon's grocery sales alone have increased by 100% in recent weeks.



A janitorial company's impromptu toilet paper sidewalk sale in Denver . CO

I've paid attention to both developments, saving my online shipment boxes ("quarantine cardboard"). From that cardboard, I have cut stencils to spray paint social distancing boxes on the sidewalks where people now queue up for entry into stores or for services. However, rather than simply spray painting squares or lines on the sidewalk, I have repurposed Sol LeWitt's 1973, *Straight Lines in Four Directions and All Their Possible Combinations* for a time of social distancing. Sol LeWitt, well known for introducing the idea of instruction-based art, is a founder of conceptual art practice. For the most part, however, his works have existed within the confines of traditional art museums and galleries (all closed now). My project reimagines his instructions and geometric shapes as instructions for standing and waiting as well as creating and maintaining spaces between ourselves.

As extension of the original April intervention in Denver, CO, I propose installing the project outside art spaces as they gear up to reopen, as a reminder of how we must now organize ourselves. As an extension of Sol LeWitt's practice, I plan on creating a kit for the installation of *Straight Lines in Four Directions for Social Distancing (after Sol LeWitt)* which will include stencils, instructions, tape measure, and spray paint.

