



# OPEN on K

September 25 – November 24, 2021

Rush Baker IV  
Colby Caldwell  
Steven Cushner  
Stephanie Garon  
Franz Jantzen  
Mark Kelner  
Tanya Marcuse  
Renée Stout  
Julie Wolfe

HEMPHILL

**LAUNDRY**

빨래방



**748-7774**

**PURE WATER**

LANGLEY PARK BEER & WINE	RESTAURANTE EL QUETZAL
MARIFE SPORTS y TIENDA MARIFE	CYBERGYM LATINO
PAN y PASTELES CHAPINA	JULITO'S DISCOTEC-DETRAS
R+R ELECTRONICS	JENNIFER LATINO MARKET
UTS CORP/BANRURAL CORP.	CITY FURNITURE
J&M JEWELRY	@Cyber C@fe
TIENDA LATINA DE MODA G-28	PERFUMANIA CRISTAL
Giron Tax Services 301-445-5468	Tax & Travel Agency Vicente Rosario 301-445-1027 Ste. G-123
THREADING SALON 202-480-1152 G-34B	<b>Bancomercio</b> Miembro del Grupo Scotiabank
Senoritas Ropa de Moda	AMADO BARBERSHOP Ste G126
HALAL MEAT MARKET	TARMAC LOUNGE & RESTAURANT MAIN ENTRANCE IN THE BACK

**VOYAGES SAIGON**

**WEST FRAMES**

**INSURANCE**

**MATTRESS & FURNITURE**

**Minh's TAILOR**

**CELL PHONE REPAIR**

**FADE IT BARBER SHOP**

**Red HAIR SALON**

MARK KELNER

*Strip Mall Landscape I (Los Angeles, CA)*

2021

acrylic on canvas

66 x 46 inches

*Email from Mark Kelner to George Hemphill*

Hi George,

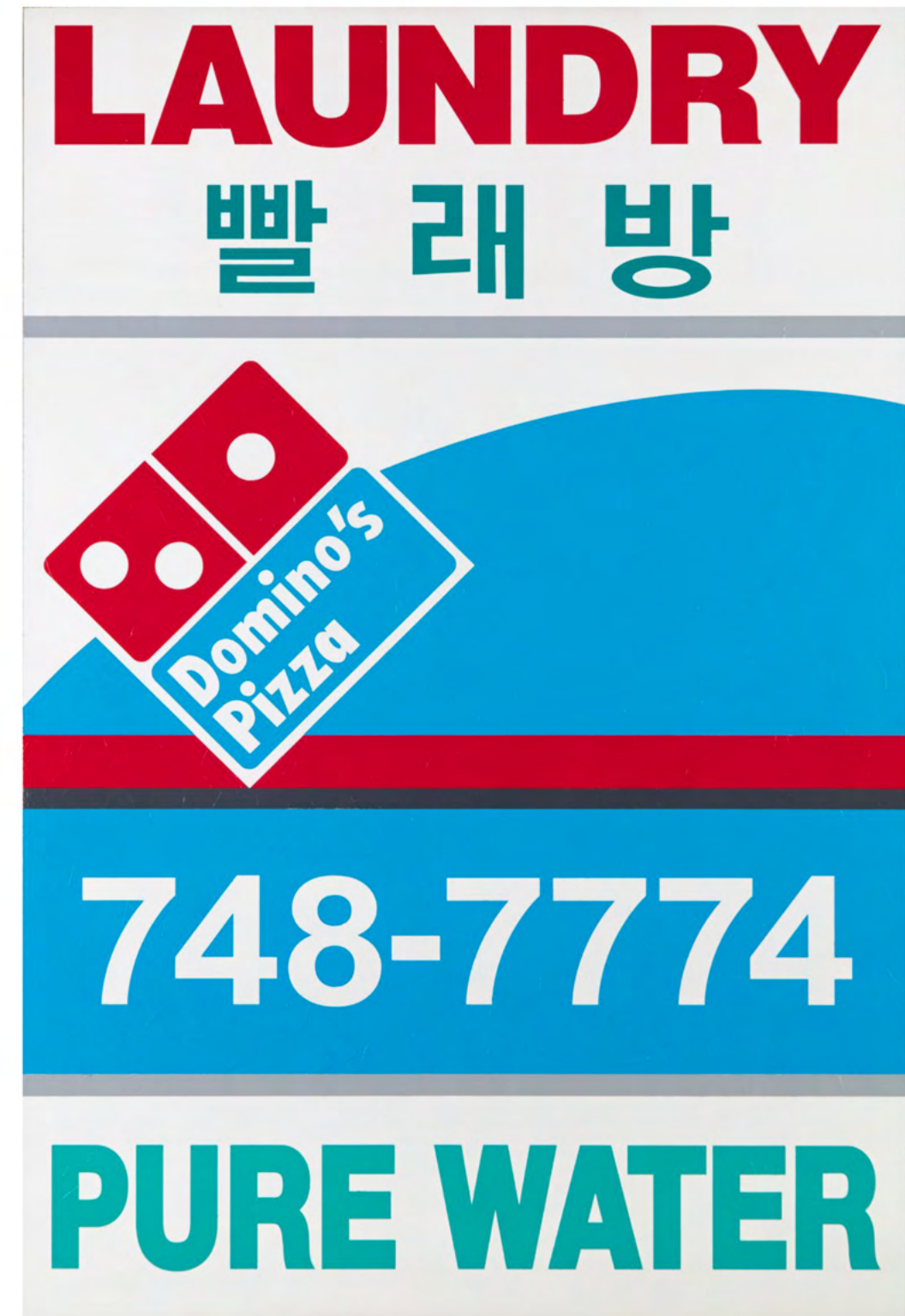
What these three works have in common is that they are representations of true-to-life strip mall signage. The *\*idea\** that unites them is that I see them as "trees," still-lives, and urban/suburban landscapes.

Growing in the 'burbs, these type of signs were/remain ubiquitous, everywhere, and all-at-once. I know nothing of streams, mountains, clouds, etc. But what I do know is that signs like this, along with logos such as McDonald's, Wendy's, and KFC were a large part of *\*my\** environment and nature. And just because they are artificial and man-made, doesn't make them any less of the natural world to me.

We talked about what American slogans are right now — meaningless drivel that advertises "Going Out of Business!" "No Money Down," or "Everything Must Go!" Yet, the saturation of color, the texture of painting, and the quality of the actual art making, attempt to exaggerate the importance and meaning of what is being sold. I like that contradiction in these three still-lives. However ironic, the paintings remain sincere and rooted in simplicity. Each of these signs are designed to be modular.

Businesses come and go. The impermanence of all things, like a sunrise or sunset, ring true here — as does the motion of time as referenced by the changes in typography.

More to come,  
Mark



MARK KELNER

*Strip Mall Landscape I (Los Angeles, CA)*

2021

acrylic on canvas

66 x 46 inches

LANGLEY PARK BEER & WINE	RESTAURANTE EL QUETZAL
MARIFE SPORTS y TIENDA MARIFE	CYBERGYM LATINO
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THREADING SALON 202-480-1152 G-34B	<i>Bancomercio</i> Miembro del Grupo Scotiabank
Señoritas Ropa de Moda	AMADO BARBERSHOP Ste G126
HALAL MEAT MARKET	TARMAC LOUNGE & RESTAURANT MAIN ENTRANCE IN THE BACK

MARK KELNER  
Strip Mall Landscape II (Langley Park, MD)  
2021  
acrylic on canvas  
69 x 70 inches

<b>VOYAGES SAIGON</b>
<b>WEST FRAMES</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>
<b>MATTRESS &amp; FURNITURE</b>
<b>Minh's TAILOR</b>
<b>CELL PHONE REPAIR</b>
<b>FADE IT BARBER SHOP</b>
<b>Red HAIR SALON</b>

MARK KELNER  
Strip Mall Landscape III (Westminster, California)  
2021  
acrylic on canvas  
67 x 56 inches

**PRESS** (click images to view articles)

# HYPERALLERGIC

Art **Reviews**

## As Galleries Return to Normal, One Group Show Thinks Big

For *Open on K*, Hemphill in Washington D.C. asked artists to bring their biggest ideas. Kriston Capps November 2, 2021



# The Washington Post

MUSEUMS

## In the galleries: Open on K

Review by Mark Jenkins

November 12, 2021 at 6:00 a.m. EST

