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Cover. Union Square in New York City opened in 1831, and from the Civil War well into the twentieth century often was the site of workers’ rallies and political protests. This tradition was carried through in the days following September 11, 2001, when the Square became the key venue for the public expression of emotions and opinions about the event. The jumble of makeshift memorials, appeals for information about missing friends and relatives, and calls for retribution and peace illustrated the democratic possibilities of urban space. In Union Square, individual voices soon developed into a call for peace in the face of war, a process that New York photographer Abraham Menashe documents in his series, "Union Square, a Harvest of Grief and Hope," from which this month's cover image is drawn. The character of this collective action is clearly evident in the construction of the banner, for inscribed across the emphatic call for peace is a record of the ongoing debate among visitors to the Square about how such a call should be registered.

Robert Sember

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