AUDIO TRANSCRIPTION FOR LOT-EK

S4, S5, and S14 (from SPILL, 1 to 29), 2023

You may be sitting on a SPILL fragment, on S4, S5, or S14.

You may want to know that these are fragments, precisely 3 out of the 29 pieces in which we cut and broke open a 20-foot shipping container and then literally spilled it around, to be seen, to be enjoyed, to reflect, to experience it differently.

We broke the container open intentionally, to offset and upset its mute and mysterious presence in our landscape—a box whose content is unknown to all. We cut open the mysterious box and spilled its fragments to encourage connection and conversation, to transform it into a social space, a space of gathering.

S4, S5, and S14 are all cut on the 90-degree moments of the container-side and top, top and side-and simply propped up with 2x4s to be used as communal furniture.

They encourage intimacy with the container, proximity, touch—the container now of domestic scale, in direct contact with our body.

SPILL begins in response to the elusiveness and opacity of the shipping world, to its excess and environmental harm, of the almost inestimable 180 million shipping containers on our planet, crossing and polluting our oceans and land to satisfy our consumption. We pulled out one:

almost 20 years old, built in 2006, out of service, container number AKLU6022124/red.

You may want to know that about 80% of all goods are carried by sea on cargo ships burning more than 66 gallons of fuel per minute. As a country, shipping would rank 6th globally for its contribution to climate change. Our oceans are responding, with a considerable increase in temperature and rising levels.

You may be sitting on a SPILL fragment, on S4, S5, or S14. Pause, reflect, enjoy, experience the shipping container differently.