

PERFORMATIVE URBAN DESIGN

How To Do Things With The City?



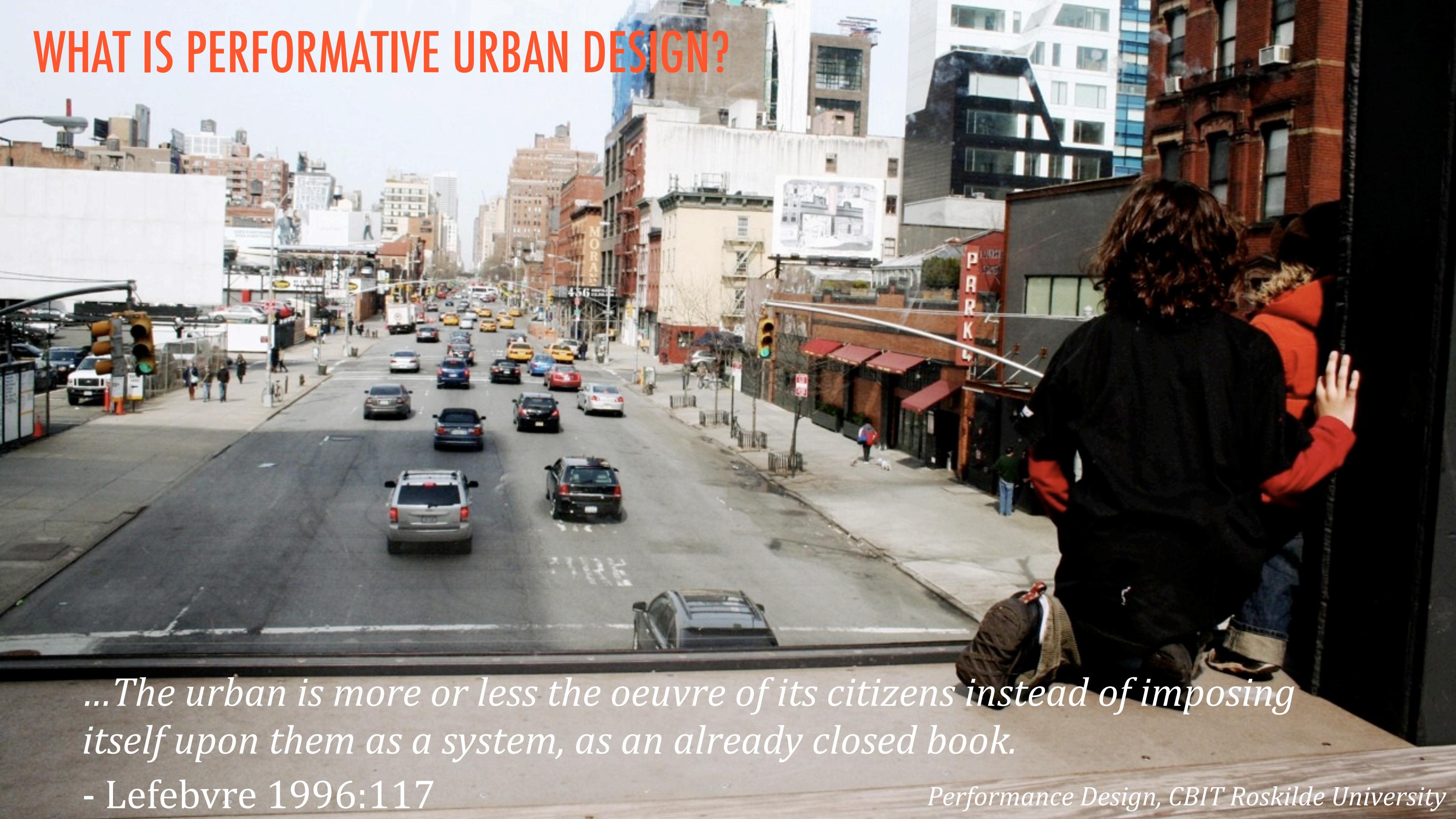
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The Performative City.

Background in Modern Culture, Aesthetics, Cultural Geography, Architecture and Planning..

WHAT IS PERFORMATIVE URBAN DESIGN?



...The urban is more or less the oeuvre of its citizens instead of imposing itself upon them as a system, as an already closed book.

- Lefebvre 1996:117

Performance Design, CBIT Roskilde University

WHAT IS PERFORMATIVE URBAN DESIGN?



J.L. Austin *How to do Things with Words*

The performative speech act turned into design as a spatial agency
Can urban design do things with the city?

WHAT IS PERFORMATIVE URBAN DESIGN?



Can urban design do things with the city?

What are the circumstances, situations and socio-spatial framework for design acts?

THE HIGHLINE EXPERIENCING THE CITY



“A place where you go to enjoy the city”: Urban Designer: Richard Scofidio

THE HIGHLINE EXPERIENCING THE CITY



THE HIGHLINE EXPERIENCING THE CITY

Framing the urban from within

THE HIGHLINE EXPERIENCING THE CITY

Engages people by means of the frame and the lack of object design.

HIGHLINE



Live streaming and staging of the city

Every day practices are turned into an aesthetical experience



CARLSBERG CITY ATTRACTING PLAY, BODILY INTERACTION AND GENTRIFIERS



CARLSBERG CITY TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS

BobbleSquare: Bodily performances and interaction. Skateboarding and sports

Performance Design, CBIT Roskilde University

CARLSBERG CITY TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS



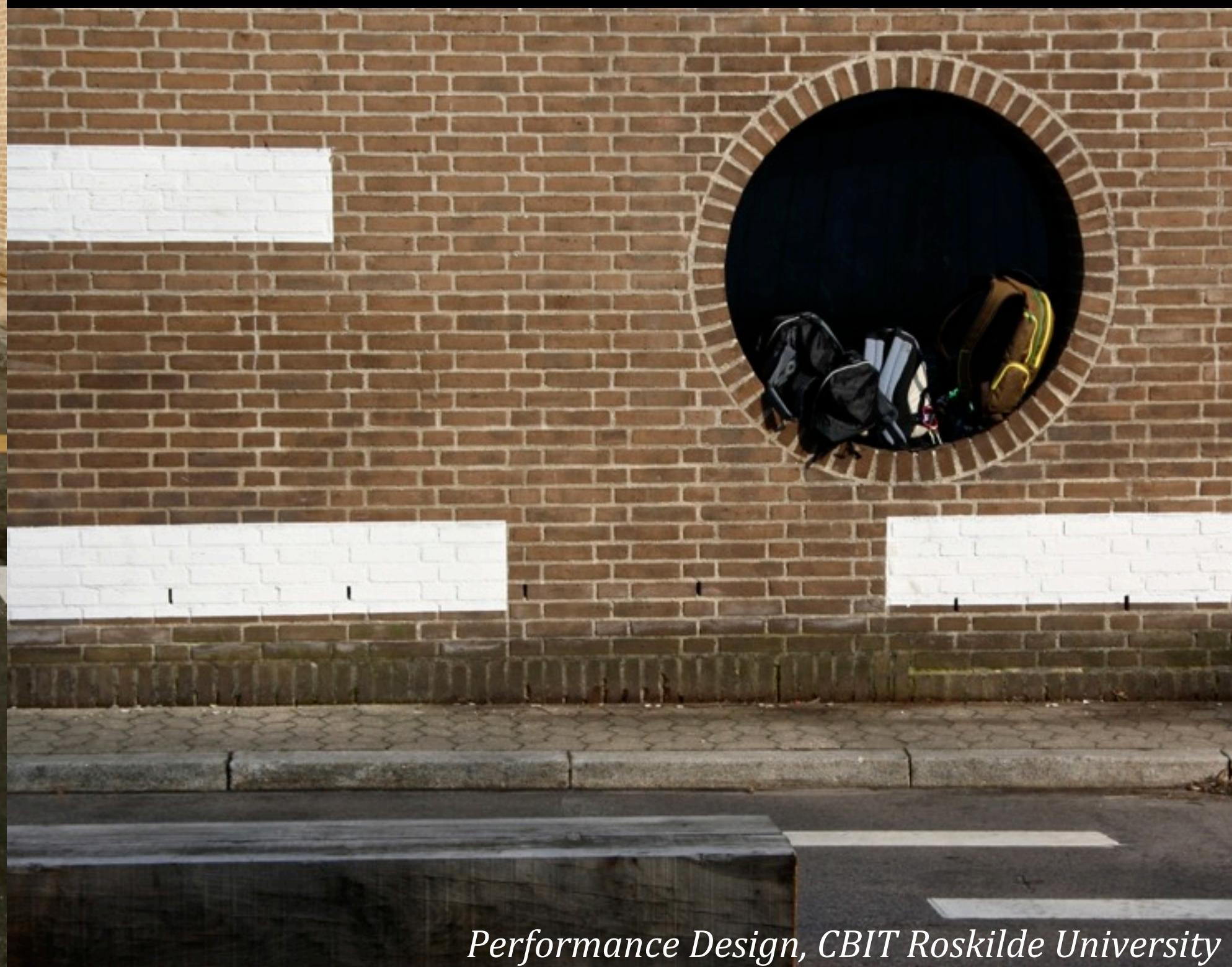
Tap E Square

Performance Design, CBIT Roskilde University

CARLSBERG CITY TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS



Tap E Square



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CARLSBERG CITY TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS



Under Halvtaget



CARLSBERG CITY TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS

Under Halvtaget

CARLSBERG CITY TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS



Engages people by means of formal aesthetics and bodily interaction.

Similarities with installation art



CARLSBERG CITY TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS

Is it rather a work of art?
Without engagement and user participation it transforms into a melancholic but
beautiful installation on the square



CARLSBERG CITY TEMPORARY INSTALLATIONS

Aesthetics are used as a design strategy attracting future urban gentrifiers.
“Life before buildings”

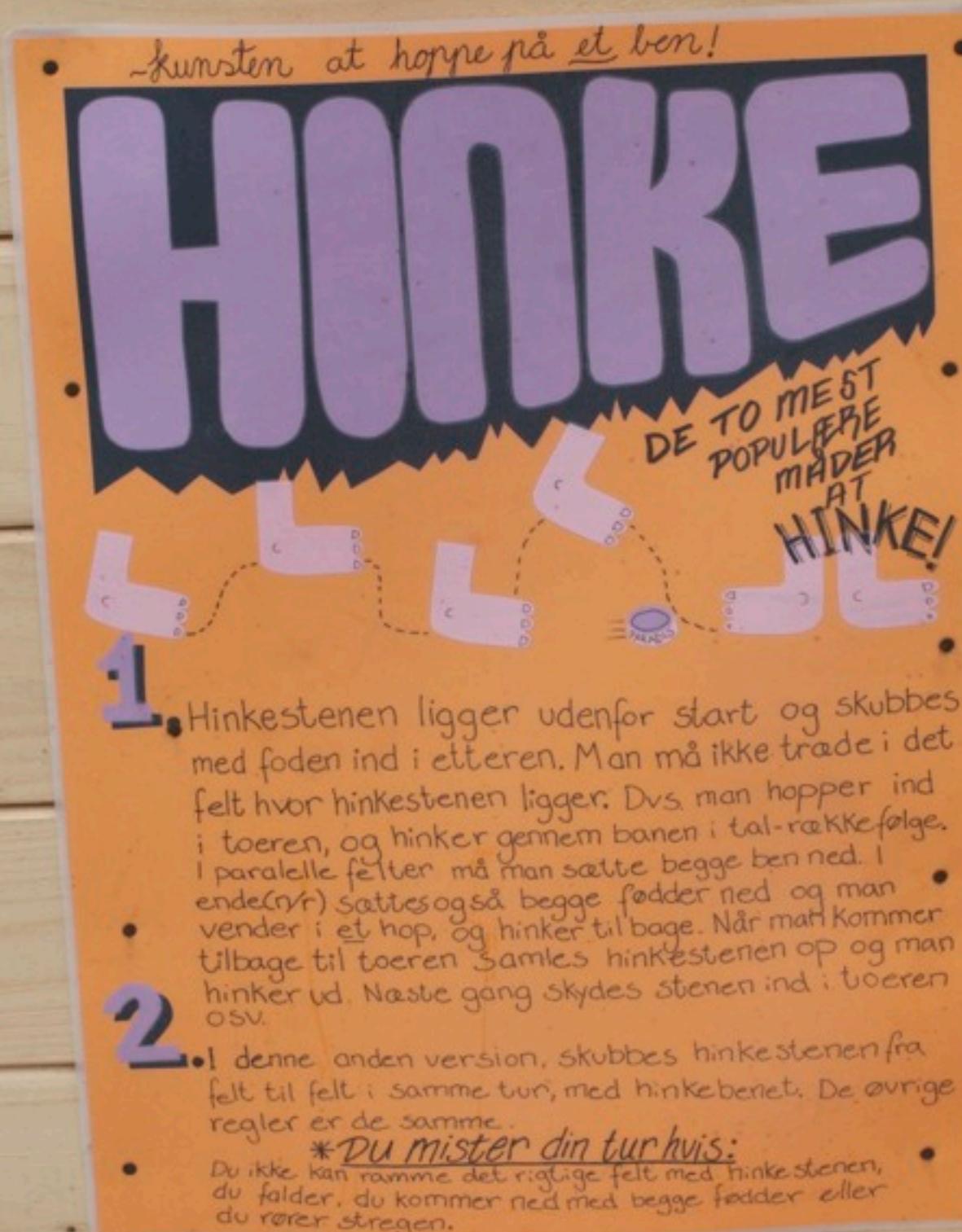


DENNIS DESIGN CENTER

ENGAGING THE SOCIAL

DENNIS DESIGN CENTER ENGAGING THE SOCIAL

Engaging the social through play



FREE FURNITURE



TALL BIKE ARENA

DENNIS DESIGN CENTER
ENGAGING THE SOCIAL



Modifications of everyday objects and furniture

A photograph of a mobile wooden design center built from repurposed wooden pallets. The structure is a compact, open-sided box with a dark blue door. It features a small balcony-like platform with a blue railing. Inside, a person is visible sitting at a desk with a laptop. The walls are made of vertical wooden planks, and there are some orange hazard signs on the interior wall. A blue car is partially visible on the right side.

DENNIS DESIGN CENTER ENGAGING THE SOCIAL

Setting the scene for street parties and meetings

A photograph showing two young boys focused on a task in a workshop. One boy, wearing a dark blue zip-up hoodie over a white t-shirt, is sanding a piece of light-colored wood. The other boy, wearing a dark blue t-shirt with a yellow graphic, is holding a piece of wood. In the background, another person's hand is visible, and there are various workshop tools and materials. The overall atmosphere is one of concentration and hands-on learning.

DENNIS DESIGN CENTER ENGAGING THE SOCIAL

Workshop

A photograph showing two women working on wooden planks outdoors. One woman, wearing a black t-shirt and purple pants, is kneeling on the grass, focused on sanding a piece of wood. The other woman, wearing a pink long-sleeved shirt and a pink cap, is also kneeling and working on a piece of wood. Several wooden planks are scattered on the grass around them. In the background, there's a concrete structure and some tools.

DENNIS DESIGN CENTER
ENGAGING THE SOCIAL

Workshop

DENNIS DESIGN CENTER



The designer is a participating teacher and craftsman helping people to create their own every day design

WHAT IS PERFORMATIVE URBAN DESIGN?





SPATIAL ENGAGEMENT

Performative speech acts:
the designs draws its meaning from the
socio-materiel situation

“The oeuvre of its citizens”
Spatial agency depends on interaction
and engagement from the social

SPATIAL ENGAGEMENT HOW TO DO THINGS WITH THE CITY?



High Line

Engages people by choreographing the existing aesthetic qualities of the city. The 10th ave. Plaza is a site of immersion and contemplation. A performative stage in the ‘affective urbanism’



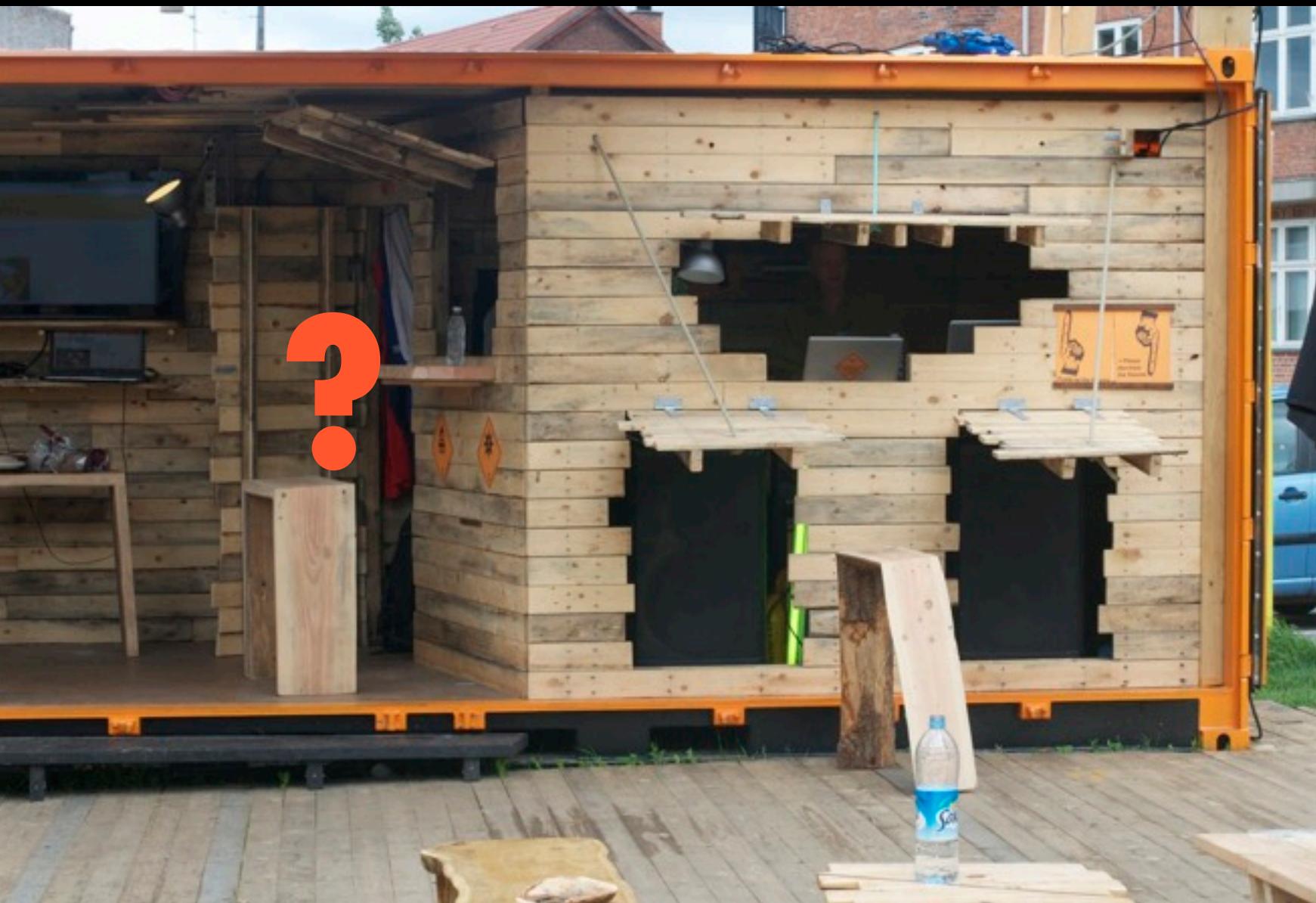
SPATIAL ENGAGEMENT HOW TO DO THINGS WITH THE CITY?

Carlsberg City

Interaction is expected to take place as the bodily and sensorial engagement with the space in between.

In a broader context the Carlsberg Group seeks to engage people with the site

SPATIAL ENGAGEMENT HOW TO DO THINGS WITH THE CITY?



Dennis Design Center

Through workshops, children's games and a stage where locals can perform and produce their own design objects, DDC suggests that design is a relational act in social life. However, without performers on stage, the design looses meaning

A photograph showing a low, rectangular wooden structure resting on a dark, textured surface. A large, solid red question mark is superimposed over the center of the structure. In the background, the lower legs and feet of a person walking away from the camera are visible.

THE PERFORMATIVE CITY

Performative designs perform within the affective and sensorial regimes of the city.

“Cities can be seen as rolling maelstroems of affect. Particular affects like anger, fear, happiness and joy continually manifest themselves.” (Thrift 2004: 57)

‘Affective urbanism’ (Anderson & Holden 2008)

A photograph showing a wooden ramp or ramp-like structure made of two wooden planks leaning against each other on a dark asphalt surface. A large, solid orange question mark is overlaid on the middle of the ramp. In the background, a person's legs and feet are visible walking away from the camera.

THE PERFORMATIVE CITY

“performance gains many of its effects through the speculative manipulation of space and time.” (Thrift 2000:557)

“Affect is the change, or variation, that occurs when bodies collide, or come into contact. As a body, affect is the knowable product of an encounter, specific in its ethical and lived dimensions.” (Parr 2005: 11)



DESIGN AND THE PERFORMATIVE CITY

It is not the value of the design object itself but its ability to *act*

Urban designs are diagrammatic stages

Takes the socio-material specificity of the site as the point of departure

Both means and ends in the production of an affective urbanism