

A REVELATION OF TRANSIENT STATES THROUGH STEAM

A once stirring site for grand shipping machines defines the heart of Refshaleøen Holding. Deep carvings in the earth pronounced the birthplace of vessels, as they arose from the earth to travel the billowing seas. Within the depths of Refshaleøen Holding exists another flux however: geothermal energy. Craving to rise and weave with the water and the sky, the intertwining of these elements is the foundation from which CLOUD arises. The project seeks to bring the elemental earth and water together to establish a ritual of cleansing environment and body as one, connecting people and nature in a dynamic system of ever changing currents and flows.

CLOUD evokes the culture of Copenhagen. A series of three steaming sculptures in the landscape of Refshaleøen Holding give rise to a cleansing ritual of body and environment. The landscape is altered to create a shallow pool on the north end in which three sculptures are anchored. Careful consideration was taken to ensure that no earth was removed from the site, but instead earth dug out for the shallow pool would be used to create a raised area that would contain changing chambers below. A deeper understanding of the forces and processes are formulated as people progress through the site. Trails of steam rising from each sculpture envelope visitors as they arrive on site. Once visitors emerge from changing rooms located underneath the mass of raised earth, they surface into the shallow pool with whirling steam above, producing a sensual understanding of the forces to be harnessed. Within the shallow pool are sl deeper channels that lead people into the sculptures quence embraces traditional bathing customs as vi themselves in the cool water before entering the steam ture. In the winter the sculptures, like ships, cut through ice and mist with a wind shell designed to redirect wind flows on the site. Oscillating steam turbines then become visible as people slip into the steam rooms within the sculptures. The contemplative space inside allows for an intimate experience between people and technology.

CLOUD is a purifier of body and environment. As people use the sculpture to cleanse their body, the sculpture cleanses the surrounding water of impurities which becomes valuable for the environment and ecosystems of Refshaleøen Holding. The purification process is also the generator of the power, since it is the same steam that powers the turbines for energy. The result is a compelling relationship between people and technology, and people and environment.