

Panama Canal

Artefact: Map/Compass **Costume:** High Vis Jackets

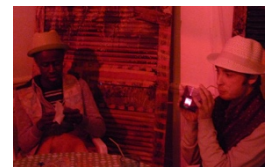
Environment Low End: Crates and cargo to pack and load; cereal boxes, plastic bottles, egg boxes, shredded paper, bubble wrap, shakey bottles. Platform on wheels with rope, wages. Salsa bar - bar, tumblers and cocktail accessories, bowl of fruit, pineapple chunks and bananas to taste, pink lemonade. Dressing up - waistcoats and hats, scarves and frills, flowers for hair, make-up, hairbrushes. Maracas, castanets and shakers, carnival drum. Merengue/salsa rhythms.



Docks The cargo is all mixed up - sort, stack, drop, roll, pack the crates with individual items, feel textures of packaging, sing as you work, help each other fill the crates ready for loading. Build rhythms with bottles filled with beans/pasta, lentils. Dance as you work, having fun. The sound of the container ship can be heard in the distance. Pull the rope and heave it into the docks. Load all the crates onto the ship, pulling pushing, helping each other lift and stack, then pull/push the 'platform' off down the canal. Work is done, remove work jackets and collect your pay.



Shanty town bar Get dressed up for a night out on the town - hats and waistcoats, frills, flowers and make-up. Salsa rhythms get your feet tapping and hips swaying, dance together, add instruments and have a party, spinning around the space, shaking rhythms and singing as you go. The bar opens. Take your wages and pay the barman, who will bring you drinks and bar snacks to taste and share. It is midnight, time to conga home - early start tomorrow



Observations The cargo sorting section worked even better than expected, with engagement of all kinds from people who often just sit and watch (wonder if it was a reminder of tasks often performed in Day Centres? Easy, achievable independently - with wages at the end.) Gave opportunities for playful interactions and cooperation. The packaging provided alternative textural exploration for those who prefer experience to activity. Shakey sound bottles added a rhythmic dynamic which was enjoyed by all. Salsa bar - fun and high energy, loved dressing up and seeing selves in big mirror. Lots of dance and movement inspired by the Panamanian music and rhythms. Maracas not very rewarding - need some new ones!. Food and drink as always much appreciated

