

# Lot-Ek

Based in New York City and Naples, Italy, Lot-Ek has been consistently practising what it's preached since Ada Tolla and Giuseppe Lignano founded the firm in 1993. Among their stated missions is to find man-made objects and systems and 'upcycle' them by transforming or elevating their uses. Case in point, Lot-Ek is well known for its smart incorporation of shipping containers into architectural projects.

lo-tek.com

Lot-Ek



Photos Danny Bright

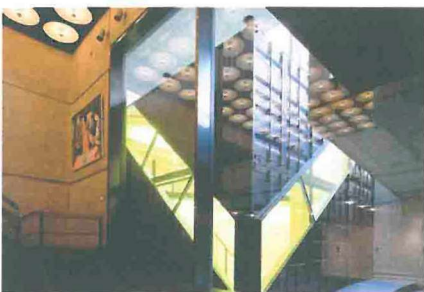
In 2010 the outfit gutted and renovated an East Village apartment. Originally two units combined by the previous owners, the space was completely reconfigured by Lot-Ek; the designers transformed the forgotten and uninteresting parts of the space into the most important and beautiful ones. Lignano: 'What we do in the architectural world is look to objects and systems that exist, but are somehow being dismissed. Instead of using those objects in any nostalgic or decorative way, though, we push them in a futuristic direction.'

Shop

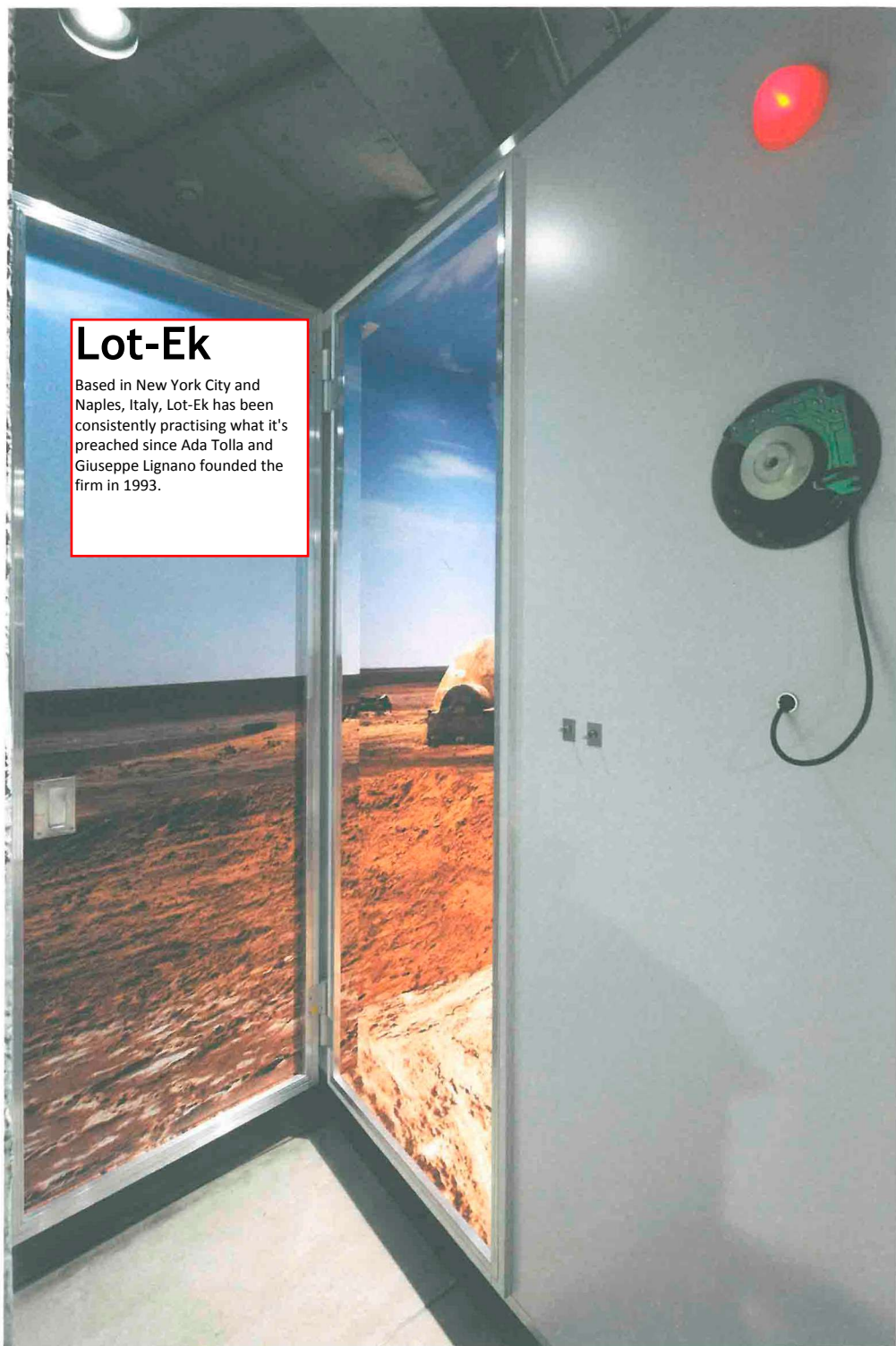


In 2011 Lot-Ek designed Van Alen Books, an event space and bookshop highlighted by dramatic, 4-m-tall 'seating steps' made of 70 recycled doors.

122



Among Lot-Ek's recent projects is last year's commissioned design for the Whitney Museum in New York City: a space in which to house the Whitney's education programme, while the rest of the museum is busy relocating to Lower Manhattan. Using six shipping containers stacked on two levels, Lot-Ek created a monolithic cube sliced by a dramatic yellow skylight: a structure that will sit in the museum's iconic moat until 2015.



## Lot-Ek

Based in New York City and Naples, Italy, Lot-Ek has been consistently practising what it's preached since Ada Tolla and Giuseppe Lignano founded the firm in 1993.

To offset the 'laboratory' feel of the retail space, Sternberg of Band of Outsiders wanted the fitting rooms to act as 'portals'; one allows visitors to enter a scene from *Star Wars*.



'Cultural references from my childhood are important'

One fitting room, or 'portal', is lined with vague beach-scene references.



Lot-Ek

Shop

123