

## CRYSTALLINE PORT[AL]S

Inspired by Oslo's position as a model of sustainable urbanity, in which its citizens act as not only consumers of energy, but also producers, *port[al]s* harvests the kinetic energy generated by the footsteps (and dance moves) of festival-goers. The applied mechanical stress creates an electric charge in the quartz crystals of a piezoelectric flooring system, which is harnessed to provide electricity for powering a network of phone charging ports. Cumulatively, these ports act as an ambient light installation, as they are backlit with pastel LEDs to emit a cloud-like glow and beckon festival-goers to an area of prospect and refuge. Manifested formally as a field of crystal shards, whose distribution becomes denser the closer one gets to the main tower elements, the effect in its entirety is other-worldly (a portal), amplifying the surreal atmosphere of a music festival. The hyper-scaled crystal form of the ports was chosen to bring awareness to the crystals beneath the surface which makes the entire system possible. The crystal field ascends toward the paramount point of Tøyenparken, where a bridge containing a piezoelectric surface is positioned parallel to the highest topographic line of the site. A gently sloping berm softens the southern edge of the bridge, blending the terraced landscape toward the main stage. The 10' high northern face of the bridge is left exposed to allow the carving out of conversation nooks, creating an area of refuge. This quiet area is parallel to a main path, ensuring easy access, and also sheltered from the loud music by the berm (south side) and a row of trees adjacent to the path (north side).



