

NEW CONTAINER ARCHITECTURE

One of the youngest branches of architecture, container architecture includes a variety of different-purpose different-typology different-outlook buildings that have at least one thing in common: the ISO container. Like Lego blocks, containers can be combined to create almost anything. They are perfect for temporary constructions, public buildings, family homes, event architecture and everything in between. The diversity and high quality of projects successfully transforming the metal box from a cocoon into a butterfly merely underline that it is not so much what you build with but how. This book showcases a number of top container projects from around the world, including the most recent realisations. Several have already received prestigious national and international awards, while others, especially the most recent ones, may still receive their due acclaim.

NEW CONTAINER JURE
ARCHITECTURE KOTNIK

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LINKS

INTERIORS WITH CONTAINERS

Containers are being increasingly used to solve interior issues as well. Of course, the room into which you want to bring a container needs to be tall enough. For this very banal reason containers are usually used inside public buildings more than inside homes, although the latter also happens. They function as a special place inside a larger space, hosting an additional programme, functioning as a pavilion. They are useful for large open office buildings, because they have a cosmopolitan air about them and create a globetrotting atmosphere, and because they offer small enclosures that can be turned into a kitchenette, xerox room, relaxation room, a room for meetings, etc. Such offices are cool to work in, and are commissioned by companies with open-minded CEOs. Flip to p. XX to check out the cool office created and used by Group8, and go to page XX to take a look at the inspiring loft of the Wardell6Sagan family, which brought into their home two shipping containers that serve a practical purpose as well as complement the owner's collection of contemporary art.



With their cosmopolitan spirit, containers can spice up the inside of a home.
(Wardell Sagan Projekt)
Photo: Drew Kelly



A king size "interior" container project: Temporary event stage inside the Paris Grand Palais. By 1024 architecture and Cedric Denoyel.
Photo: Cedric Denoyel

Video: Setting up the container event stage in Paris.



Containers can function as thematic pavilions inside a vast open interior. Cargo offices by Group 8.
Photo: Regis Galay



Wardell+Sagan projekt Wardell / Sagan residence

location: San Francisco, California, USA

use: Office, guest room

collaborators: Pat Carson Studio, David Battenfield, David Strandberg

year of completion: 2008

photography: Drew Kelly

no. of containers: 2

In the middle of their spacious loft slash art gallery, a San Francisco couple installed the biggest art piece of all: a composition of two reused shipping containers. The sculpture houses a guest bedroom with bath, and a home office.



Back in 2007 Jeff Wardell and Claudia Sagan had found a new home in the former Chinese laundry and tooth-powder factory with column-free interiors. The loft covers 266 m2 (2,860 ft2) and lies on a north-south axis with large windows at either end. To showcase their large art collection and maximize daylight, they decided to keep the entire large space open, apart from the master bedroom which they positioned at the back. Being passionate art lovers and collectors, Jeff and Claudia thought the huge double-height loft perfect for a home gallery. High ceilings and large wall surfaces allowed them to display even large-scale street art pieces, and eventually encouraged them to install into their apartment the largest art piece of all: a two-level sculpture composed of two containers close to perpendicular to each other.

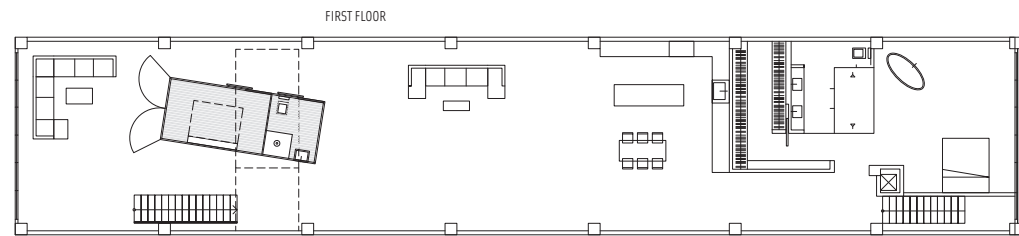
The containers were hand picked in the Port of Oakland and seem a natural choice for the art and travel enthusiasts Jeff and Claudia. Being true cosmopolitans who have travelled the world over, it seems perfectly fitting they should furnish their home with formerly globetrotting shipping boxes. The two containers are joined with steel tubes and lashed to reinforced floor joists to make them earthquake-safe in the California's lower Pacific Heights. The bottom orange container accommodates a guest room with a custom Murphy bed and bath. The fully glazed guest bath wall is in fact a liquid crystal "privacy wall", which changes from clear to opaque at the flick of a switch. The upper blue container is a home office with a napping nook. Entry to the office is off a staircase leading up to the roof, where the family has a wellness area.



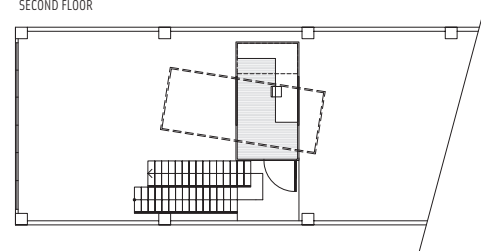
Dwell.com apartment presentation







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