DISPERSED GEOGRAPHIES

Artist: Molly Gochman

Date: 2024 Medium: Vinyl

Dimensions: 16" wide x 2' to 5' in length

In dialogue with her sculptural series, *UKR*|*RUS*, which physically embodies the Ukraine-Russia border using reclaimed materials, Molly Gochman's *Dispersed Geographies* offers a contrasting medium. This installation translates the border into a two-dimensional form, cut from white vinyl and placed on sidewalks throughout New York City.

By fragmenting the silhouette of the border into 16-inch wide segments that range from two to five feet long, and situating them primarily in historically Ukrainian neighborhoods like the East Village and Brighton Beach, the work explores interconnectedness across distances and communities. The segments, sometimes mere inches apart, at other times separated by entire blocks, highlight the liminal spaces between places and people. These gaps serve as bridges between the local and global, the individual and the collective.

The sidewalk, a ubiquitous public space that facilitates movement and connection, becomes the canvas for *Dispersed Geographies*. Transforming this familiar ground into a site of contemplation, the installation prompts viewers to reflect on their own journeys. The border fragments become a shared iconography, points of recognition within the neighborhoods where the white silhouettes reside.

Dispersed Geographies invites viewers to see the city as a microcosm of the world, a place where diverse histories and cultures intersect. By transforming the sidewalk into a canvas for reflection and connection, the installation aims to foster a deeper appreciation for our shared humanity and the intricate web of relationships that bind us together.

#DispersedGeographies