

SHELTER

Five stories, five photographers

Gianni Cipriano
Jean Revillard
Michela Frontino
Henk Wildschut
Roger Eberhard

Habitat Project is a research platform for unconventional housing phenomena and their possible declinations. A collection of heterogeneous perspectives by photographers, artists and researchers in urban issues, dealing with potential forms of the contemporary living.

HILL OF SHAME

Gianni Cipriano

The so-called Hill of Shame is a hill in the island of Lampedusa, half-way between Sicily and North Africa in the Mediterranean Sea, where hundreds of migrants lived in poor conditions in improvised tents during the migration crisis in April 2011. In 2011, about 53,000 North African and Sub-Saharan migrants arrived in the so-called “Door of Europe”, stranded on the island in appalling conditions. Migrants weren’t provided with the most basic humanitarian assistance such as shelter, medical care, blankets and access to sanitary facilities, while thousands slept outdoors.





JUNGLES

Jean Revillard

[...] It was in 2006, I had to cross the Atlantic by boat. On this trip, I was repeatedly confronted with the problem of illegal immigration.

In the port of Tangier when children clung to my boat to join trucks. In the Canary Islands as it was at that time in full boom of the arrival of African boats on Lanzarote. Finally the Caribbean night when I come face to face with the smugglers who were organizing a massive transfer of Haitian immigrants to Guadeloupe. I promised myself that when I return I would work on this issue. It took me a long time to understand that I did not want to do a reportage on illegal immigration but rather a more reasoned work, more curious, a work that would stimulate the observer in a more universal way. [...]





ORO ROSSO

Michela Frontino

People who lives in these shelters are seasonal workers of Rignano's ghettos to reach Daunia lands, a district nearby Foggia in South Italy, where they normally spend 12 hours a day working in the fields to fill up an average of 10 to 12 harvest bin of tomatoes. They emigrate from Morocco, Tunis, Togo, Mali, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Poland, Romania, Albania. They arrive in Italy to look for accommodation and a job in order to send money to their relatives. They end up becoming enslaved workers with no chance of changing their condition, instead.





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Henk Wildschut

The film '4.57 Minutes Back Home' takes place in Calais with the sea as its backdrop. The sea, as a barrier between the dream and reality. For the film, Wildschut asked an Afghan boy to 'phone his family – something that would normally be impossible for him because of the expense. The telephone conversation reveals a deeply human image of a boy who lives between two worlds; on the one hand his hopeless situation as an illegal immigrant in Calais, on the other the world that he left behind.





SHANTY TOWN DELUX

Roger Eberhard

Roger Eberhard, through his clean and detached photographs shows us those which at a first glance would seem the typical colored shacks of the suburbs of South African cities; at a closer look we realize we are observing the elegant rooms of a 4-star resort hotel in the center of South Africa.



