

TENTative Structures



A Public Art Project Conceived by
Hilario Isola

Marrakech Biennale 6 | In partnership with Voice Gallery

TENTative Structures is a cross-disciplinary, public art project conceived by the Italian artist Hilario Isola in the context of the Marrakech Biennale and running from 24th February to 8th May 2016.

Coming to its sixth edition and included among the twenty most influential biennales worldwide, the Marrakech Biennale 6, “Not New Now”, questions, in the words of appointed curator Reem Fadda, how to surpass the cultural orientation towards newness, by occupying major heritage sites of the city.

TENTative Structures presents three public installations, displaced in key areas of the city of Marrakech: Place Jemaa El Fna - UNESCO world heritage site for intangible culture -, the Hotel de Ville and the Gare of Marrakech.

At the intersection between art, design and architecture, TENTative Structures are experimental reconfigurations of the archetype of the tent, each mirroring a peculiar disciplinary approach and encapsulating an attempt to question and overcome functional or figurative configurations of the tent as historically or commonly understood.

TENTative Structures are therefore small-scale architectures and big public sculptures, travelling and relational spaces embodying an understanding of the tent as a symbol of our contemporary nomadic wanders.

The project has been realised with the participation of the students of the schools of design and architecture Domus Academy (Milan) and VCUQatar (Doha). The tents have been produced in the R&D departments of Sublitex, European leader in sublimation technologies, and Ferrino & Co., global leader in emergency tents design, with the support of Miroglio Textile and Lavazza.

REMÓTE

Hilario Isola

REMÓTE contributions:

Project by **Hilario Isola**

Photography by **Massimo Bicciato**

Technical sponsor **Sublitex**

Realised with the participation and support of **Miroglio Textile** and **Lavazza**



REMÓTE, Place Jemaa El Fna | Photos © Massimo Bicciato 2016

REMÓTE by Hilario Isola are temporary meeting spaces that lie halfway between sculpture, photography and architecture. Installed in Place Jemaa El Fna, heart of the city of Marrakech and UNESCO site for intangible cultural and oral heritage, REMÓTE is an in situ installation designed to be both an architectural and a relational space.

REMÓTE, Place Jemaa El Fna | Photos © Massimo Bicciato 2016





REMÓTE, Place Jemaa El Fna | Photos © Massimo Bacciato 2016

The small suspended and scratched tents composing the installation become on-site travelling spaces thanks to the landscapes printed in the interior side of each structure. This photographic work by Massimo Bacciato displays and invites visitors to plunge into remote places on earth, hardly accessible for either geographical or political reasons. For this installation, the selected photographic series presents the Erta Ale volcano, in Ethiopia.

REMÓTE, Place Jemaa El Fna | Photos © Massimo Bacciato 2016



The semi-circular shape assumed by the installation points, moreover, to the tradition of the Al Halqa, the popular street stages that since 1050 AC vitalize the square and which still represent today the gathering places where musicians, storytellers and acrobats perform.

In an organic and rare dialogue with the square and thanks to the complicity of the cultural association Ana Can Bri Jemaa El Fna, REMÓTE became the space hosting the performance of some of the artists of the square during the opening week of the Marrakech Biennale.



REMÓTE, Place Jemaa El Fna | Photos © Massimo Biccato 2016

At the end of April 2016, the installation will further host a performance of the contemporary dancer and local activist Emmanuelle Jacquet with the sound designer Ivan Bert.

Finally, it will become the physical platform for an educational programme, Classroom. Proposed by curators Paola Nicolin, Giovanna Silva and Giulia Mainetti, the program will be conceived by Hilario Isola with the complicity of local cultural actors such as LE 18 and the curator Omar Berrada and will be opened to the students of the ENAM and the ESAV in Marrakech.

POP PUP

MOTOElastico (Simone Carena | Marco Bruno)

POP PUP contributions:

Project by **MOTOElastico (Simone Carena | Marco Bruno)**

Design Team: **Simone Carena, Marco Bruno, Juneho Kim, Barbara Charrue (VCUQatar), Yasmeen Suleiman (VCUQatar)**

POP PUP is supported by a **Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar Faculty Research Grant.**

POP PUP by MOTOElastico is an adaptation of a traditional Pup Tent to the context of a city. Traditionally, Pup Tents are cozy tiny spaces, minimal in material and plain in colors. Often used to move our first steps into nature, they are small interiors with a powerful force affecting the wilderness that surrounds them.



POP PUP, Hotel de Ville | Photos © Massimo Bacciato 2016

The Pop Pup Tent is a scaled up modular version designed to confront the Marrakchi's urban fabric. Its basic module is made of a hacked industrial aluminum ladder covered with colorful Senegalese mats found in the souks of Marrakech.



POP PUP, Hotel de Ville | Photos © Massimo Bacciato 2016

Pop Pup can be arranged in different configurations to respond to the stimulations of the site.

POP PUP, Hotel de Ville | Photos © Massimo Bacciato 2016



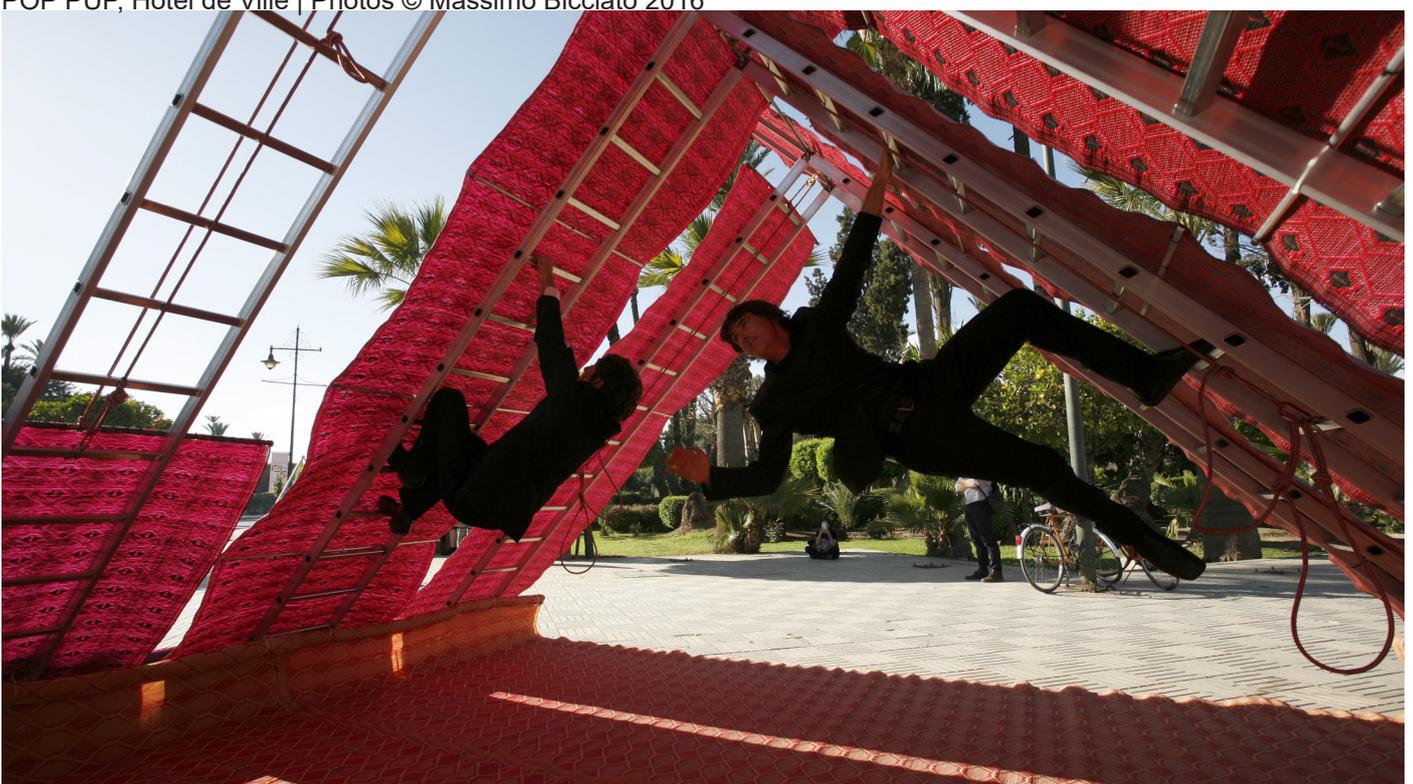


POP PUP, Hotel de Ville | Photos © Massimo Bicciato 2016

The installation is designed in order to allow the audience to interact with the tent by rolling up and down the mats deciding the level of privacy they want to keep in the interior space and, complementarily, the level of openness towards the urban context.

Pop Pup is a public intimacy container done in rub-a-dub style.

POP PUP, Hotel de Ville | Photos © Massimo Bicciato 2016



ParTENTition

**Pamela Basanez Beltran Y Puga / Prerna
Khaitan / Israa Sammoura / Stephany Tanios
Karam**

Project designed in the **Workshop Design of Spaces**
Master Course in Interior & Living Design, Domus Academy

Project leader **Manfredo di Robilant**

parTENTition contributions:

Project Leader **Manfredo di Robilant**

Course Leader **Francesca Vargiu**

Tutor **Eleni Pefani**

Project by **Pamela Basanez Beltran Y Puga, Prerna Khaitan, Israa Sammoura,
Stephany Tanios Karam**

Photographic installation by **Luca Astorri**

Photos by **Catalytic Action, Odysseas Mourtzouchos, Monica Stromdahl**

Technical sponsor **Ferrino & C. S.p.a.**

Photographic printing **Sublitex**

Master in Interior and Living Design

Domus Academy, Milan

ParTENTition was developed in the context of the Workshop Design of Spaces of the Master Course in Interior & Living Design, Domus Academy led by Manfredo di Robilant.

The project, designed by students Pamela Basanez Beltran Y Puga, Prerna Khaitan, Israa Sammoura and Stephany Tanios Karam is a draft proposal for an emergency tent prompting from the observation that refugees tents are actually inhabited, in many situations, for longer periods than for what they have been designed.

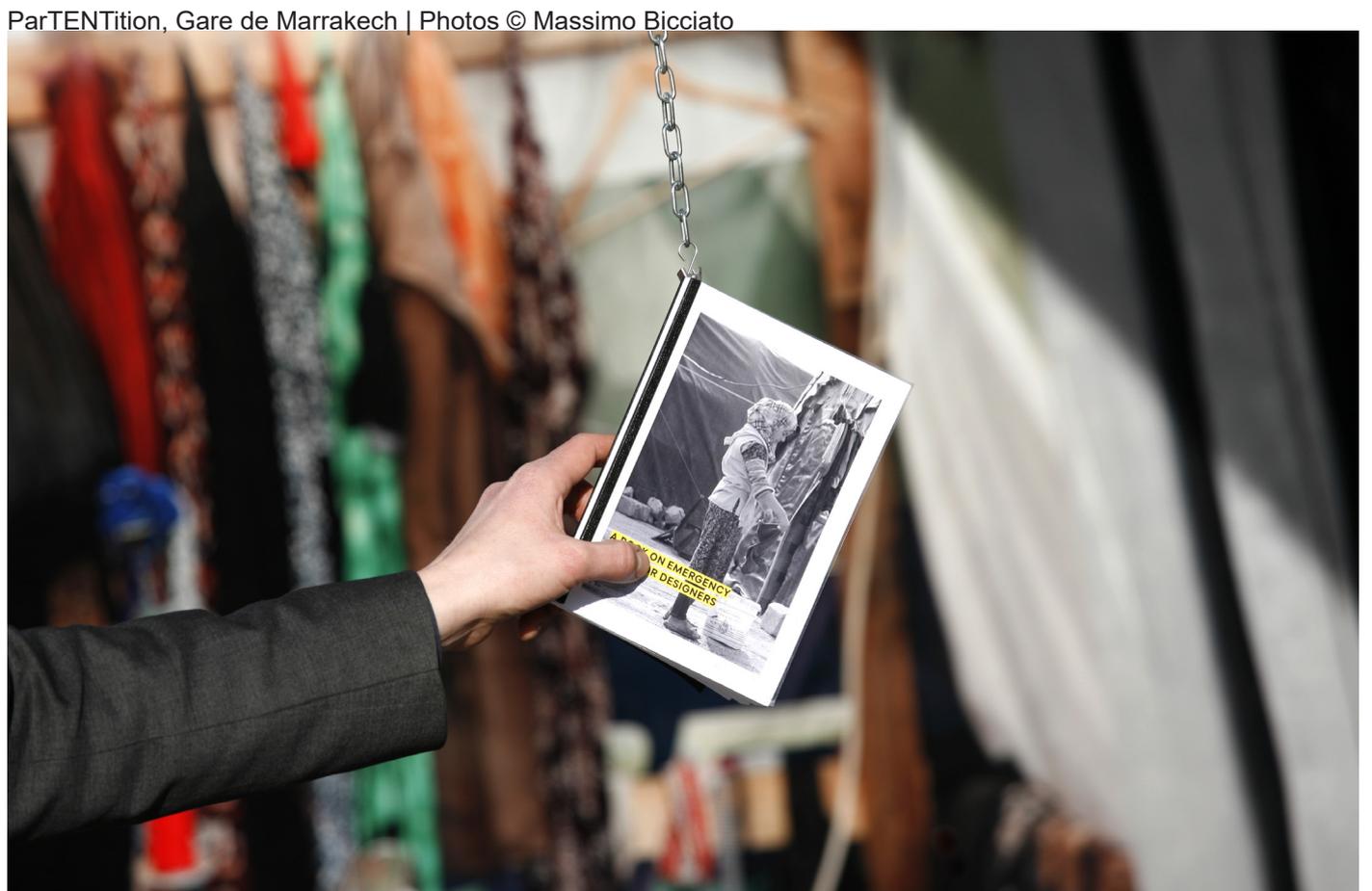


ParTENTition, Gare de Marrakech | Photos © Massimo Biccato

To respond to this condition the project proposes to import an element from traditional masonry architecture, the *partition*, a key element for allowing privacy and intimacy, and for improving hygiene and cleanliness.



ParTENTition, Gare de Marrakech | Photos © Massimo Biccato



ParTENTition, Gare de Marrakech | Photos © Massimo Biccato



ParTENTition, Gare de Marrakech | Photos © Massimo Bacciato

Images from real camps are printed on the sidewalls of this exhibition-booth. On the central panels are printed study drawings showing how a sturdy partition might improve the daily life conditions in a refugees tent.

ParTENTition, Gare de Marrakech | Photos © Massimo Bacciato



On the Participating Artists

Hilario Isola is a visual artist primarily working with installation, drawing and sculpture.

He graduated in Art History and Museology and his interests still span through art history, architecture and natural environments. He creates delicate, often visually subtle installations that respond directly to the context and exhibition spaces, the landscape or any particular environment.

He has activated since 2003 several collaborations: with artist film-maker Matteo Norzi with whom he has worked as the duo Isola & Norzi, with architects such as Studio LSB and Studio SCEG, and composers and musicians Enrico Ascoli and Ivan Bert. Isola has presented his work in Italy and abroad in shows at public and private institution at NMNM Nouveau Musée National de Monaco, Montecarlo; Art in General, NY; Artists Space, NY; Sculpture Center, NY; CCA Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal; Museion, Bozen; David Roberts Art Foundation, London; Fondazione Bevilacqua la Masa Venezia; Fondazione Sandretto Re Rebaudengo and GAM Galleria Civica d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea Torino.

MOTOElastico is an orbiting Space Lab founded in Seoul by Simone Carena and Marco Bruno and currently working on architecture, interiors, exhibition and art projects.

Born and educated in Italy, specialized in California and rooted in South Korea since 2001, in all its projects MOTOElastico is using irony to critically challenge and playfully celebrate local customs and behaviors. The design process is similar to the one used by Dub DJs: enhancing rhythms and underlying features of existing songs, with the purpose of generating new yet familiar design tunes. MOTOElastico research and art projects have been widely presented internationally. Borrowed City, a research book exploring the flexible boundaries of Korean public space, received the DAM (Deutsche Architektur Museum) Award as Best Architecture Book of 2013 and was presented, throughout an interactive piece, in the award-winning Korean Pavilion at the 2014 Venice Architecture Biennale. The work is now part of the Archive of the National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art (MMCA) in Seoul. Large scale space installations were featured at the 2005 Anyang Public Art Project (Architeutis); 2009 Gwangju Design Biennale (Illegal Business); 2009 Seoul Museum of Modern Art at Kimusa (Happolice); 2011 Venice Art Biennale (Tank Bang) and at the 2013 Tasmeeem Doha Conference (Shademobiles). Simone Carena is currently teaching Digital Media and Space Design at IDAS, Hongik University, in Seoul, Marco Bruno is teaching Interdisciplinary Design in the MFA program at VCUQatar, in Doha.

Manfredo di Robilant is an architect and a scholar in history of modern architecture.

He has been research associate to the 14th Venice architecture Biennale directed by Rem Koolhaas, and in 2012 was Visiting Scholar at the CCA Montréal after completing a post-doc at the Polytechnic University of Turin from which he holds a Ph.D. in history of modern architecture. He teaches at Domus Academy, Milan, where he also acts as advisor for the school cultural and didactic activities. He lectured at the Turin and the Milan Polytechnic Universities, the Samfox School in St. Louis, the Bremen University, the Harvard Studio in Rotterdam, the Strelka Institute in Moscow. He has been assistant to the editor of the monthly «Il Giornale dell'Architettura» and published on “Domus”, “Log”, “Arch+”, “Baumeister”, “World Architecture”.

Among his recent publications, the books dedicated to ceiling and window (Marsilio and Rizzoli International, 2014) of the elements of architecture research project for the 14th Venice architecture Biennale (with Rem Koolhaas, AMO, Harvard GSD). Among his recent writings, Architects aren't Gourmets, and Chefs aren't Architects, in Arts & Foods (Electa 2015), Das Wohnhaus als Puppenhaus in Wohnen Zeigen (Transcript Verlag, 2014), Looking up. Nationalism and internationalism in ceilings 1850-2000, in Nationalism and Architecture (Ashgate, 2012). His recently completed “Urban house with big window” in Cambridge MA is published by “Architectural Record”, “The Architects Newspaper”, “Domus”, “Dezeen”. Since 2014 he shares his professional activity with Giovanni Durbiano and Alessandro Armando in DAR office.

Conceived by | **Hilario Isola**
Curated by | **Hilario Isola, Manfredo di Robilant, Rocco Orlacchio**
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With the Participation of | **Voice Gallery, Marrakech Biennale 6, ENA Marrakech**

Exhibition opening days: 25th February - 8th May 2016
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