

TERRATS



Ecomuseu Farinera
de Castelló d'Empúries
MNACTEC

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Ajuntament de
la Corral·la Vila de
Castelló d'Empúries

De l'2 de juliol
al 25 de setembre
de 2022

A l'Ecomuseu-Farinera
de Castelló d'Empúries

Terrats (Rooftops)

Rooftops are an incredible testimony of the human and everyday history of houses and towns. This picturesque corner conceals its particular memory of the passage of time, made of authentic snippets of life, minor family stories, sunny mornings, washing sinks and hanging clothing, cool summer nights, games and informal chat sessions. Rooftops, where interior and exterior blur together, are a household space with their own iconography. They are intimate, inspiring and even somewhat romantic. From rooftops, which are like lookout points open to the sky, we can enjoy unique, infinite views of the nearby landscape and the places where we live our everyday lives. They are also spaces whose meaning has changed in many diverse, interesting ways during the lockdown.

The exhibition 'Terrats' (Rooftops) suggests a reflection on rooftops as spaces, a testimony of the human and everyday history of houses and towns, turning this space into the target of a new look at the town of Castelló d'Empúries. The snapshots, which revolve around this (in)discreet space where you can see without being seen, encourages us to act like voyeurs as we enter an intimacy that is not ours in order to rediscover what we have in common and what we share from a new perspective.

This is an eclectic exhibition that brings together the voices and gazes of different artists who harness the magic of photography to make the everyday extraordinary, the present timeless. The participants in the show are total of 23 photographers who have climbed onto the rooftops of Castelló d'Empúries and Empuriabrava, true oases of calm within the town, to offer us unseen horizons and new compositions and forms of the landscape resulting from a personal view of these spaces of family and neighbourly enjoyment. The snapshots capture the essence of the rooftops and offer a new vantage point on the nearby, everyday landscape, while also reflecting on the very concept of the rooftop, turned into an object of suggestive metaphors and visual plays.

Also participating in the exhibition are several authors who accompany the photographs with their own inspiring texts, in homage to this intimate yet shared space, evoking memories and sensations, scenes and encounters.

Pilar Farrés
curator

Our rooftops are sunny and windy, like the Mediterranean itself. Made of adobe baked in the sun, with large awnings to keep the heat away, their reddish symmetry evokes the ploughed land. [...] Seen from a distance, from a bird's eye view, their cartographic diversity reveals the lives of those who inhabit them with surprising precision. Placed next to one another, in a fleeting gaze, they sketch a new map that doesn't appear in the guides, a geography that is never taught and may end up saying more about what we are like and how we live than even the nomenclature and usual treatment of streets and squares.

This exhibition is the outcome of a call for views of these spaces of living and distance which are rooftops; it suggests a photographic and textual exercise on these brick surfaces which have been lifted from the ground and moved to the roof. It is a pluralistic view which reflects on the unique experience of the rooftop. [...] A joint work that strives to capture the extraordinary capacity of these small spaces, where nothing seems to happen, to summon truths and lives.

With the light-heartedness of a happy moment, they spread a sense of freedom and aerial intimacy which we only experience when we climb up, in the city or town, as adults or children, now or in our grandparents' times, to this slice of earth which situates us much closer to the sky yet without leaving the protection of the home.

Cristina Masanés, writer

With the exhibition 'Terrats' (Rooftops), we are continuing the line we started years ago which placed our town and its inhabitants in the limelight. This time we are doing so through the gazes of 23 photographers whose works have afforded different views of these intimate urban spaces from all types of rooftops. And nine authors have reflected on these spaces based on their own experiences. These views coincide in some aspects and are personal, introspective, distant, reimagined gazes...

Photography is once again featured in the exhibition spaces to propose a journey to our rooftops, the internal, households ones... It is sure to transport all of us to an intimate, pleasant moment in which a rooftop was silently present in our lives.

Salvi Güell, mayor of Castelló d'Empúries

Rooftops trace a line that creates the skyline of towns and cities, which is both common to us yet diverse.

In this exhibition, we have climbed onto the rooftop in many different ways, although they also have something in common: the rooftop as an intimate space of refuge, a space of childhood memories, timeless lookout points...

The museum's spaces have opened up to photography as creative expression, an artistic process which draws from technology and advances with it. Gazes of a moment trapped in order to be shared.

Carme Gilabert, director of the Ecomuseu Farinera

Josep Algans - Maria Alzamora - Borja Balseira Morcillo - Helena Compte Pibernat - Andres Buhlmann - Montse Capel - Jordi Casals "Meli" - Manel Casanovas - M. Mercè Cuartiella Todolí - Jordi Cassú - Josep M. Dacosta Oliveras "Daco" - Xènia Gasull Sellés - Dolors Gibert Viñolas - Jaume Geli Julbe - Francesc Guillamet Ferran "Met" - Carme Huerta Martín - Roger Lleixà Bertran - Teresa Miquel Malé - Conxi Molons - Fiona Morrison - Jordi Puig Castellano - Alfons Martínez Puig - Mònica Quintana - Angel Reynal - Xavi Torner - Mayte Vieta - Anna Maria Puig Griessenberger - Lluís Vila Conte - Manel Puig Palmer - Enric Tubert Canada