What makes a home?

Response 31

Welcome to The Response, a collaborative artistic endeavour produced by Fabrica volunteers in reaction to the current exhibition. Within this magazine you'll find illustrated our ideas and thoughts in visual, verbal and photographic form.

Harley Weir's Homes prompted much discussion when we were considering the theme of our artist call-out. We were wary of the ethical implications of the work and our reactions to it; we talked at length about the nature of photographing the vulnerable and the refugee crisis. The more we spoke, the more we realised our precarious position, and it took us several hours of discussing the ethical problematics of the images until we decided on a point of departure, 'What makes a home?' Our aim with this question was not to belittle the experiences of people through a crude comparison of material wealth but rather to show how the interpretative properties of such a word as 'home' are malleable and unfold from person to person.

The materiality of the final product was led by our conversations about the textural nature of the photographs hanging in Fabrica. We considered the transitory quality of the scaffold debris netting, a fabric whose life-span is dependent upon the solid, metal structure it surrounds. When seen up close and touched, the characteristics of the material shift from the gentle silkiness it purports to inhabit when viewed from afar to something rough and durable. We believed the inherent contradictory duality of this fabric worked in tandem with the ideas structure behind Weir's images; materials / fabrics adapted for temporary dwellings that eventually began to betray their weaknesses as construction materials. As more and more people pick up, handle and leaf through The Response, the structure of the magazine will weaken, edges may fray and the characteristic fragility of humanity will be laid bare.

Written by Naomi Cooperman

















Home

It is the place you want to come back at night. Where you feel peaceful.

It is where you fall asleep in the arms of the person you love. When you feel safe and free.

The first glimpse of light in the morning



Peter Rabbit Home

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