

Az W PHOTO AWARD 2014
THINK GLOBAL, BUILD SOCIAL!
ARCHITECTURES FOR A BETTER WORLD



Photo: 1st prize daniel R mueller, LikLik House





EXHIBITION: 06 NOVEMBER 2014 - 01 DECEMBER 2014
AWARD CEREMONY: WED, 05.11.2014, 7 PM

In the framework of the "Photography Month" the shortlisted projects and prizewinners will be presented at the Az W from 06.11. to 01.12.2014.

Inspired by the major Az W spring exhibition "Think Global, Build Social! Architectures for a Better World", the Az W set up a photo award. Professional and amateur photographs were invited to search for alternative, socially committed built solutions and to submit their personal vision of a better world.

From a flood of very different pictures and moods a jury of experts selected the main prize-winners, who will be presented in the Az W shop.

Jury:

Carl Aigner, Director of the Landesmuseum Niederösterreich
Johannes Faber, Galerie Faber
Martina Frühwirth, Az W
Alexandra Viehhauser, Az W



1. PRIZE DANIEL R MUELLER

title LikLik House
photo East Sepik Province, Papua New Guinea, August 2014

statement

LikLik House means "small house". This is an alternative to toilet, as it is used frequently in Papua New Guinea.

The self-sufficient residents of remote villages on the Sepik River in Papua New Guinea are true masters in recycling plants as a building material. This is particularly impressive in the construction of their LikLik Houses (= small house), the toilets. Everything in this house is naturally degradable and each has its own architectural approach. Whether made of sago, banana leaves or bamboo, depending of what is available, it is used in a creative way. And if one is rotten, the next new one is just built. In the floodplain of the Sepik the toilets are built a few hundred meters away from the houses and accessible only by canoe.

In the Grass Country (wetland), there are LikLik Houses that are all year-round in the water and are accessible only by canoe. It is also nice to see how they build just a new one if one of the toilets has become a 'Bauruine'.

The LikLik Houses are never full. In general, the use is low enough so that the decomposition is going faster than they can be replenished. The climatic conditions are perfect, everything turns into a rather lively maggot feces biomass and builds itself off.

on the photographer

Media designer daniel R mueller (32 yrs) is scientific assistant at the University of Basel. Currently he is doing his PhD at the Kunstuniversität Linz. In 2014 he took time off to work on social-documentary projects in Nepal and Papua New Guinea.

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2. PRIZE KATI BRUDER

title **The rest of us**
photo **Athens, Greece, March 2014**

statement

Greece / Athens, March 2014: The economic crisis in Greece has allowed to increase the number of homeless people to about 20.000 in the past six years. Many of them find refuge in one of the dilapidated houses of the eight "Prosfygika-residential complex" buildings in the heart of the metropolis Athens. The Prosfygika-houses (English: migrant-houses) have become a melting pot of many social layers. The Greek government regularly threatens to demolish the eight listed buildings, built in 1922 in the Bauhaus style. At the moment, more than 500 people live at the Prosfygika.

The apartment blocks with 228 apartments were built in the twenties as an emergency shelter for the many Greek refugees who had to leave Turkey after the First World War and were hundreds of thousands to Athens. In the 1940s, army and communists fought on the site. Today, the houses, where the bullet holes are still visible from the Civil War, became a symbolic image for the social dilemma in which Greece has been stuck to the economic crisis. With demonstrations, squatting and hunger strikes, a group of residents and squatters have drawn attention to their situation over and over again – only without success.

The padlock acts as symbol. The Greek executive barred has the doors in a night-and-dagger operation, but without locks. The squatters have now an excellent burglary protection, with the padlock only they are able to enter the apartments. An employee of the state-owned company, which owns the majority of the flats, told the Reuters news agency that plans concerning the future use of the land exist. But whether they can actually enforce against the combative residents, will probably only show.

The photographer Kati Bruder spent a week with some residents of Prosfygika. The residents urgently need media support, the building complex "Prosfygika" will continue to exist as a place of humanity and cohesion, where political or religious convictions are of no importance.

The photo is part of the series "The rest of us", which includes 15 images.

on the photographer

Kati Bruder, who was born in 1978 in Graz, works as a portrait photographer in the field of publishing and magazines. Her principle interest is people in their environment and in her work she deals with viewers as a group and the relationships between visibility and representation in terms of image, view and gender.

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3. PRIZE BERND SIEBER

title Building for a better world - Insect Hotel. Example of the effort to formulate a target
photo Herrandgasse 24, Graz, Austria, September 2014

statement

The photographic work of Bernd Sieber is inspired by Arno Brandl Huber's statement (architect, Berlin), that "production of space" should be understood "not as the addition of aesthetic and constructive elements, rather than by the ordering of social relations by built".

The Insect Hotel corresponds to the "concept of relationships". In addition, the photographer is interested in how people can form from their own understanding and feeling "production of space or building tasks" in architecture and construction. The example of the Insect Hotel defines the concept of architecture as a way of solving demands and the question of use.

KEYWORDS:

- Building for a better world with an example and needs of individuals without architectural education
- No Third-World-project
- Formal course
- Aesthetics
- Living in the city / nature area
- Solution understanding
- Art Brut

Tags of the market:

- Job opportunities
- profitability
- Productivity
- Progress

on the photographer

Bernd Sieber, who was born in 1959 in Graz, lives in Graz and Vienna. Self-employed, engineering office, interior design, communal projects, housing, press and architecture photography, photo design, architecture photography and non-commissioned works.

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SPECIAL MENTIONS

Paul Bauer, "Ater / Rozzol Melara", "Il Quadrilatero" housing complex , district "Rozzol Melara", Trieste, Italy, September 2013

Pauli Beutel, "Erbmasse 3", Germany, April 2014

Martin Grabner, "Nørrebro", Nørrebro, Copenhagen, August 2014

Wiebke Susanne Homann, "Blickwinkel", Bielefeld University, Germany, June 2014

David Kraller, "40.000", Mondikolok, Kajo-Keji County, South Sudan, March-July 2014

Georg Oberweger, "Bau_Land", Neusiedlersee, summer 2014