

Do you remember of your first hut? Probably we all have built a tree-house, a hut, a shelter or a hideout when small, or, at least, we imagined it. But this magic desire of building our own universe alone or in company goes further than a child's play.

Roderick Romero for instance, started designing tree-houses when he was 5, assisted by his older brothers. Now he runs a studio in New York City next to his wife, Anisa Romero. *Romero Studios* is his label since 1997. He's in charge of the most intuitive part of the dialogue between the nature and the tree's structure 'in situ', and she's responsible for all the technical and architectural drawings. Among their clients there're big names such as Justin Timberlake, Joan Baez, Sting, Donna Karan, Val Kilmer and Julianne Moore.

This phenomenon based on the return to a primitive state, and meanwhile contemporary, both as an aesthetic and conceptual vision, is noticeable in the past decades, and not only among famous people as the named ones. That's a trend we can find everywhere, from the most amateur to the most commercial version as hotels, restaurants, construction companies and any other business that, using huts, adds technology and design. In most cases they're affordable options for a medium consumer. We can appreciate it in *Treehotel*, a hotel complex in the north of Sweden and only 60 km from the polar Arctic circle. There we can enjoy six tree-houses designed by different architects, each one with its own style. New Zealanders *Pacific Environment Architects* and Germans *Baumraum* do also have similar projects, but developed in group.

Apart from this commercial line, we must reference the one which is known as the biggest tree-house in the world. Ten floors lead this tree-house up to 30 meters held up by six trees. Horace Burgess is the owner and the builder of this magnificent hut situated in Tennessee, USA. It was built 16 years ago, when Burgess started to give shape to that big 'House of the Lord' as he says, after having an illuminating vision.

It's clear, there're huts that go beyond the architectonic and formal interest, and there're others that are just magic, a kind of 'huts for thinking'. That's exactly the travelling project's title of Galician Eduardo Outeiro, a plastic artist and researcher from Galicia, northwestern of Spain. The curatorial work lies with Alberto Ruiz de Samaniego and Alfredo Olmedo. Among the three, they have articulated a very carefully job whose interest focuses on the everyone's need of meeting again with themselves, and... is there any better place than nature? It's completely necessary to run away from the city as a therapy, but also to get inspired and reach the perfect state for creativity. Many philosophers and artists had their own tailor-made-huts, with different styles and appearances: Henry David Thoreau, Martin Heidegger, Virginia Woolf and Lawrence of Arabia among the most distinguished. All these shelters were exposed at institutional level in the Luis Seoane Foundation (A Coruña, Galicia) in the spring of 2011 and in the Centro José Guerrero (Granada, Andalusia) until 22nd January. The project will continue travelling through different spaces for contemporary art in Spain and Portugal. In addition, we must mention the existence of a paper publication of Maia Editions.

We all live in different spaces, hide in many corners, but, which one is really ours?