

Balearic Islands  
Spain

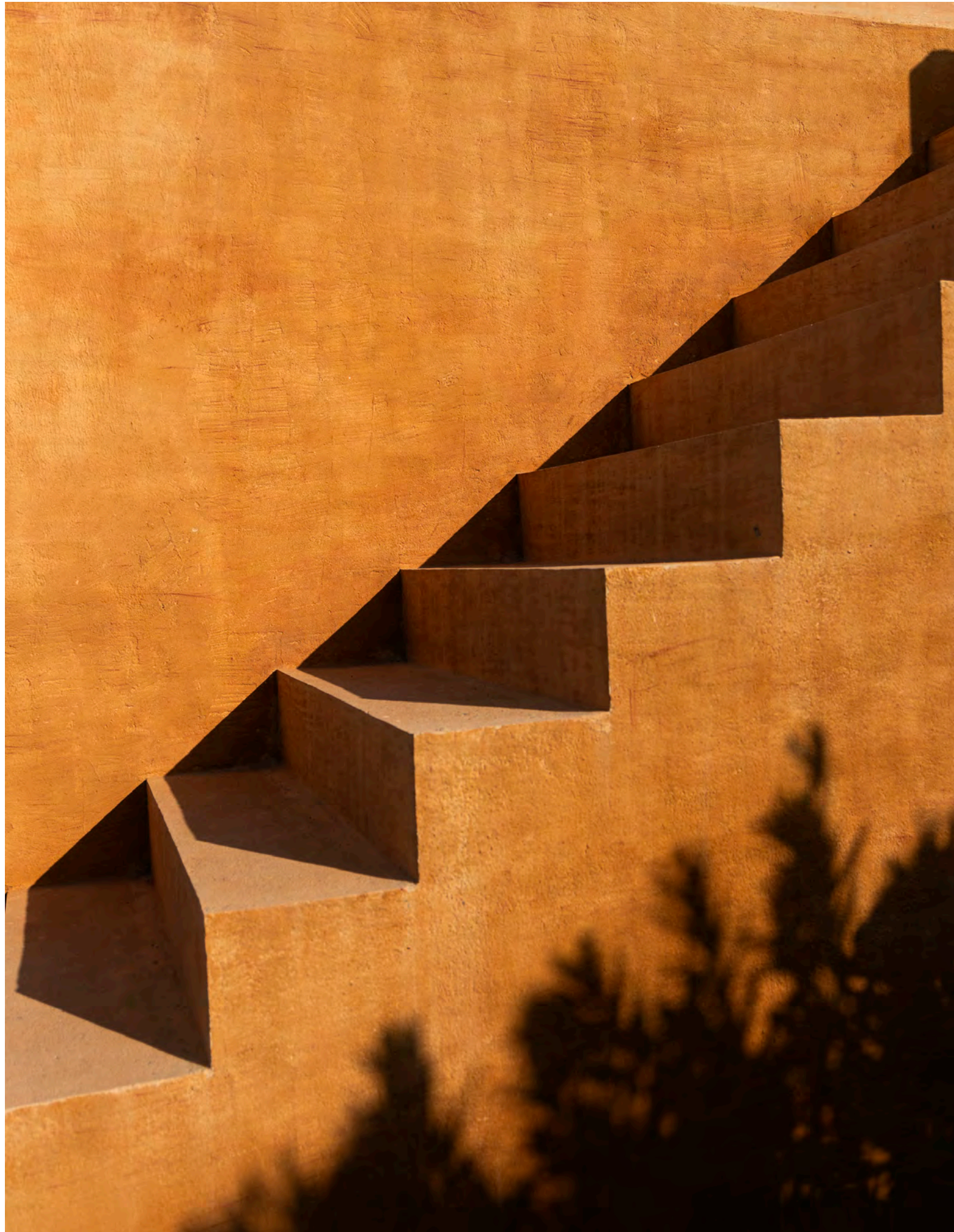
# MALLORCA

Behind the Mediterranean Sea coast, in unspoilt rural Mallorca, in the south of the island, lies the country estate of the family of Spanish architect Mariana de Delás. Her family has owned this land for over five hundred years, which was formerly cultivated by farmers and shepherds. In the 1920s, Mariana's great-grandfather built several small cottages and refuges on the site, so these men would have a place to sleep, seek shelter and store their equipment.

A few years ago, one of these traditional stone shelters became the favourite refuge of Mariana and her young family. Mariana runs her architectural firm from Madrid, Barcelona and Mallorca. The combination of the excitement of fast-paced city life and the peace and quiet of the countryside is something she has known all her life, and that's the way she likes it.

---





The ocean's rhythm guides Alberto's life. In his free time, he finds joy in activities such as surfing, horseback riding, motorcycling, painting, sculpture, and photography. They allow him to feel a connection with nature, the elements, and the stunning beauty of Mazul's seaside surroundings. Most of the time, he is accompanied by his two loyal dogs, Juju and Nova, who are as much a part of Mazul as the sea itself and are well-known and loved within the community.



Lamu Island is not the first destination that comes to mind for many tourists, but creative souls in search of freedom and beauty know how to find their way there. It's the nature that draws them to this island, as well as the simple, unhurried pace of life and the unforgettable sunsets. Anyone who ends up there more often than not is tempted to stay for a while and, in some cases, even for good. One of these washashores is Sandy Bornman. Born and raised in South Africa, she grew up close to nature with vast open spaces. Later on in life, Sandy moved to Zambia, where she started a family. Twenty-five years ago, she and her two young daughters, Jemima and Ruby, visited Lamu Island for a holiday, and they never left.



## FREE REIN TO THE WIND

---  
On a rocky stretch of coast on the northernmost tip of Ibiza, giant kites were left to the play of the wind. Frank brought homemade cloths with archetypal sea representations from the Netherlands to attach them to structures with bamboo sticks on site, transforming them into large kites. They sway over the sea on the rocky coves where they must surrender to the wind's will. The sea creatures seem to rise out of the water for a moment, only to be drawn back into it, longing for their home and the safety of the raging waves.

Alentejo  
Portugal

# MILE ONTES

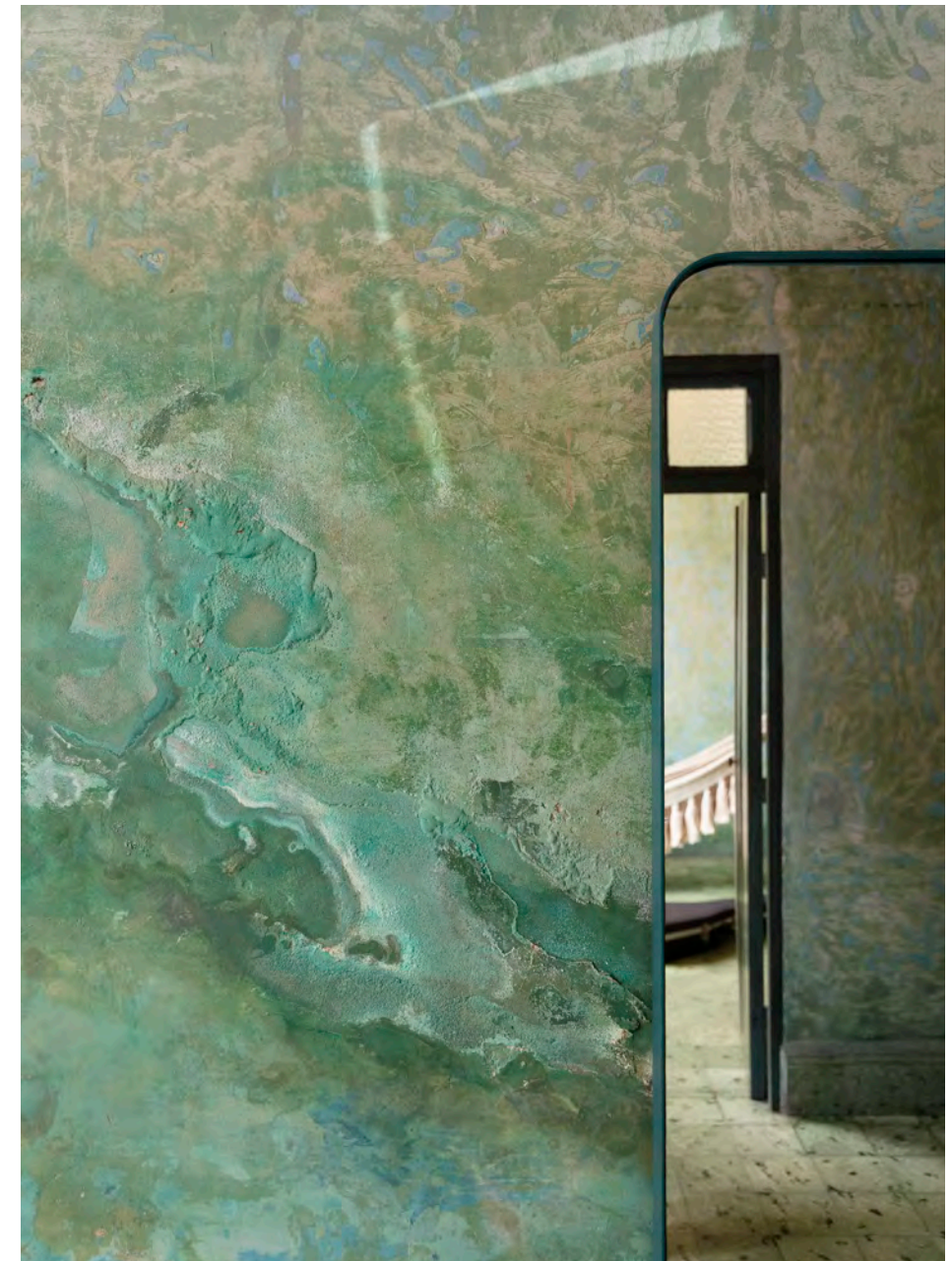
**The Atlantic** is everything in Olivia Piana's life. She lives next to and also on the water as much as possible: a professional windsurfer and Stand Up Paddle athlete, she has since ventured into the world of wing foiling. Sports play a significant role in her life, as a way of experiencing intense emotions and stepping out of your comfort zone. She finds it fulfilling to share these experiences with others. But Olivia's deep connection with nature is even more important to her. She lives in a camper van in the dunes on the southwest coast of Portugal and loves the simplicity and freedom that come with a nomadic lifestyle. Olivia's home is where the waves are.

---





Gina and Fer are passionate about respecting houses as they find them. They feel that every (historical) dwelling has its own inherent value and that this should be preserved as is. Instead of embarking on a renovation, they prefer to be guided by the house, which, in some instances, dictates what should be done. The walls of their first Vagantes home are an excellent example of this approach. Originally painted white, the paint had broken down in places due to the humidity, revealing some blue, lots of green and even pink beneath it. The couple love that you can distill a house's history from these layers, the transformations it has undergone, and the personalities of previous occupants. To Gina and Fer, these decaying colours are quite romantic and highly unique and part of the house's personality, doing away with the need for lots of furniture or decoration.





Miramar is a true paradise, not only because of its history but also, and probably more so, because of its location: right on the beach, surrounded by palm trees. To Luna, the calmness and peace of the surroundings are what makes Miramar so magical. She cherishes a story that her father used to tell her: as a boy, he and his brothers and cousins used to spend their weekends cleaning up the area around Miramar, especially the beach, at a time when it was covered with cypress leaves. One night, a storm passed through, and the following morning, the sand was completely clean and white. "That was nature working its magic," Luna's father said.



**The Dutch shape their lives next to and on the water.**

Amsterdam's IJburg district is a fine example: this urban development project is situated in the IJmeer where it's built on reclaimed artificial islands in the lake. As such, it provides lots of opportunities for creative entrepreneurs to experiment and turn wasteland into people-filled happening places. Add a waterfront location to this already exciting mix and you have all the ingredients for something new and captivating. This is what drew Annette van Driel and Francis Nijenhuis of the UrbanCampsite foundation to IJburg. They organise pop-up open-air exhibitions of artworks in surprising locations and found a perfect spot on IJburg's Centrumeiland when it was still an urban wasteland, on a sandy plain directly on the water.

---



What makes UrbanCampsite's artworks so unique is that you can spend the night in them. Besides being an exhibition, the project is also a temporary campsite. By making the artworks available as accommodation, the usual distance between the work and the visitor is eliminated, and the works take on an additional layer of meaning. There were twelve unique artworks on the beach at IJburg: the names and the artists are listed on [urbancampsiteamsterdam.com](http://urbancampsiteamsterdam.com). Some focus on the interaction between the object and its surroundings, others on the transformation of residual materials into usable sleeping objects. Either way, visitors and guests are surprised, inspired and challenged to look at their surroundings differently. The artworks also spark conversations between like-minded people.

