

# FOR A MANIFEST HOSPITALITY FILMS THAT ARE LACKING

Columns, reports, images, rumours, everything tends to prove it: our present time seems hopelessly doomed to unprecedented violence against those forced to seek refuge in Europe. Today, the Mediterranean Sea is one of the most dreadful mass graves in the world. Yet, at low tide, on sea and land alike, some people welcome those who seek refuge among us. But these acts of hospitality seem isolated and without a future. Indeed, despite a few narratives, including films, circulating about these civic movements, everything suggests that hospitality would be the last resort before the end of everything.

We are assuming that a completely different way of imagining what is taking place today is lacking, confining us to an inability to think about what might finally take place tomorrow. We are assuming that not taking into consideration the significance of these already existing gestures is to let them die and contribute to the prevailing disaster.

This is why, on the initiative of PEROU (Pôle d'Exploration des Ressources Urbaines) and Image de ville, **a counter-investigative work is being undertaken about the power and beauty of the acts of hospitality taking place today, all around the Mediterranean Sea.** This project is part of PEROU's initiative to process a request to UNESCO to have these acts recognized as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

In the heart of cities as in the folds of valleys, gestures of welcome are happening today and are already drawing the outlines of a world to come by bringing about in their wake encounters, languages, relationships, exchanges, places, dreams, desirable stories. We are working now to put to the fore these lively and vital constructions.

In order to listen to and make other voices heard than those that isolate us in awe and powerlessness, to renew the repertoire of our imaginations and to reconsider "what we form as being together", Image de ville and PEROU call on filmmakers from here and elsewhere to turn their gaze as closely as possible to the acts of hospitality taking place today in order to emphasize these gestures that build a world to come. We invite them to make short, even very short, films that will show how much humanity as a whole cares about these gestures, how much each one of them makes our humanity consistent. This way, we are launching a collection of "act-films", which will then travel from city to city, from the screens of their cinemas to the walls of their streets, from place to place, all the way into our homes. Like an endless film, the footage will respond to one another, calling out for other ones.

**A first selection will be presented next October, for the 2020 edition of Image de ville Festival.**

Thus, we wish to contribute to the UNESCO procedure requiring that a "5 to 10 minute edited film" should be presented to the International Committee as evidence, as a document testifying for the contemporary value of the act of hospitality and its capacity to "make humanity". Based on selected films presented before the end of 2020, and in collaboration with their authors, we will produce the "edited film" to be presented at UNESCO in 2021.

Image de Ville and PEROU  
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**To confirm your interest and commitment to submit your film proposal before September 1st, 2020, please send an email jointly to [contact@imagedeville.org](mailto:contact@imagedeville.org) and [contact@perou-paris.org](mailto:contact@perou-paris.org)**