



A residence for artists turns Belalcázar into a revitalizing centre of Córdoba's culture

LOCATION: Belalcázar (Córdoba)

DURATION: 1'41''

SUMMARY: La Fragua is a residence for artists located at Belalcázar, a small town of the province of Córdoba with a little more than 3.500 inhabitants. It occupies a part of the Saint Claire Convent of the fifteenth century. Here arrive artists from different countries and parts of Spain, looking for a place where they can unleash their creativity. Since the project was born three years ago, more than 100 have lived inside their walls.

VTR:

Belalcázar, a small town in Córdoba with a little more than 3.500 inhabitants. It is the place chosen by artists from around the world to create, in the middle of the Pedroche's Valley. In 2010, Javier Orcaray and Gabrielle Mangeri transformed the fifteenth century Santa Clara Convent at La Fragua into a residence for this collective.

Javier Orcaray
President of La Fragua
Association

"La Fragua isn't a hotel for artists. Although we are in a rural area this is an investigation and experimentation centre that could be in a big city. That conjunction of what a person brings and finds here is very interesting."

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Tommy Hovik
Resident

"I'm a Norwegian artist. I am working with sculpture, painting and video. And you have this convent, it also gives a lot of time to focus."

PABLO CAPITÁN DEL RÍO
Resident

"I am a sculptor; I am going to make a series of pieces that will be exhibited later in Córdoba. You have time to read, think and rethink the pieces. It is other work rhythm."

The relationship between the artists and the inhabitants of this town is very close. They also live in the town and many of them give their works away neighbours, like Chato, to thank them for their hospitality.

CHATO PECESS
El Chato Bar

"They come from very far. Each one from a different part of the world. I try to be nice to them. For example, Anders gave me a picture or Cassima comes back after three years."

From this small town the cultural life of Córdoba is revitalized with exhibitions of the more than a thousand artists who have lived inside the walls of this convent.