



University of Brighton

ROBERT MULL

**THE ARCHITECTURE OF
DISPLACEMENT**

A collaborative architectural investigation of
placemaking with displaced communities

RESEARCH OUTPUT



Robert Mull directed and developed a set of masterplans, informal architectural designs and collaboratively built structures, co-designing with refugee communities, volunteers and students in international areas of deprivation, conflict and political change.

The process through which these designs and structures were developed both embodies and represents new forms of understanding of refugee placemaking practices, cultural identities and appropriate forms of architectural response. They constitute an alternative form of architectural and urban practice that directly challenges the practices deployed by larger non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and state actors, which generally involve externally imposed architectural solutions and structures that take little account of refugee identities and cultures.

The research has been primarily realised in:

- Basmane, the 'New Syria' quarter in the centre of the city of Izmir, Turkey
- Informal farm camps around Torbali, Izmir Province, Turkey
- Pikpa Camp, Lesvos, Greece
- Moria Camp, Lesvos, Greece



The research outcomes at these sites were developed through research-led housing and community initiatives. The architects and architectural students of the Global Free Unit (GFU), founded by Mull in the context of earlier phases of his research, worked directly with displaced populations, running live project classrooms.

The research utilised a range of investigatory practices, including: drawing, modelling, design, exhibition and curation, website production, GFU studio practice and pedagogy, and the production of masterplans. These led to developmental community co-production of structures and related activities, generating new insights as to the relationship between displaced communities and their sense of place.

Mull's research within the refugee crisis is carried out within the context of two funded research projects: Wellbeing, Infrastructure and Housing in Turkey (WHIT) and Displacement, Placemaking and Wellbeing in the City (DWELL).

(top) **Construction of the Solidarity Dome**
Pikpa Camp, Lesvos, 2017

(bottom) **Dream catcher workshop**
The farm camps, Torbali, Izmir, Turkey, 2019

HOUSING, COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION IN BASMANE, TORBALI AND THE FARM CAMPS, IZMIR, TURKEY 2016-20

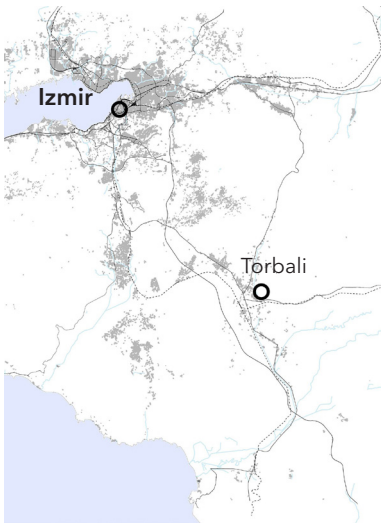


Housing and community facilities in Little Syria, Basmane District, Izmir, Turkey

Basmane is known as 'Little Syria' and is the quarter of the city where Syrian families settled once the deal between the EU and Turkey prevented them from crossing to the EU. Families, mainly led by widowed women, live in derelict housing controlled by aggressive private landlords. Mull's research focused on using participatory methods to win trust, and then exploring, with local NGOs, ways of upgrading the existing housing stock and forming new patterns of tenure that give the displaced population security and access to education, medical services and employment. The project involved the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, Yaşar University, Izmir, Professor Hanif Kara of Harvard University and AKT engineers, alongside two NGOs based in Izmir.

Strategy for refurbishment/additions to the Tiafi Community Centre, Izmir, Turkey

Since 2018, Mull has collaborated with the Tiafi Community Centre in Basmane, Izmir. Tiafi provides support to 2,000 Syrian families, the majority led by women who have lost husbands in the Syrian war. The families have limited access to education, medical care or work. Tiafi provides education, medical support and training; it also runs a kitchen that supports poor local Turkish families. Mull, with volunteers and students from the GFU, Umeå University and Yasar University, has worked to make short-, medium- and long-term proposals for Tiafi, including housing for vulnerable families on the roof. The proposals were developed in partnership with Tiafi and their refugee clients using participatory and co-design methods, presentations in Tiafi and the involvement of a client forum.



(top)
Little Syria, Basmane, Izmir, Turkey, 2020

(bottom)
Map showing location and relative density of Izmir and Torbali, Turkey

Providing accommodation, education and infrastructure in the farm camps, Torbali, Turkey

Working closely with local NGO, The Tribe Projects, Mull was involved in the planning and implementation of projects within the farm camps outside Izmir. The farm camps host Syrian families working as migrant labour on private farms. The emphasis has been on improving and making safer shelters, building temporary schools and providing guidance on the preparation of land and provision of services. All projects have been realised on a shared funding model with displaced families co-owning their homes and partnering in the delivery and running of educational and community facilities.

The Architecture of Displacement



Tiafi Community Centre, Basmane, Izmir

(top left and right)
Existing building: street façade and roof site

(above left) Clients in the Tiafi workshop that gives training and employment opportunities to displaced families

(above) Working with displaced families in Basmane through slow drawing and portraiture

(left) Study by student of Umeå University for a new entrance and façade to Tiafi

The Architecture of Displacement

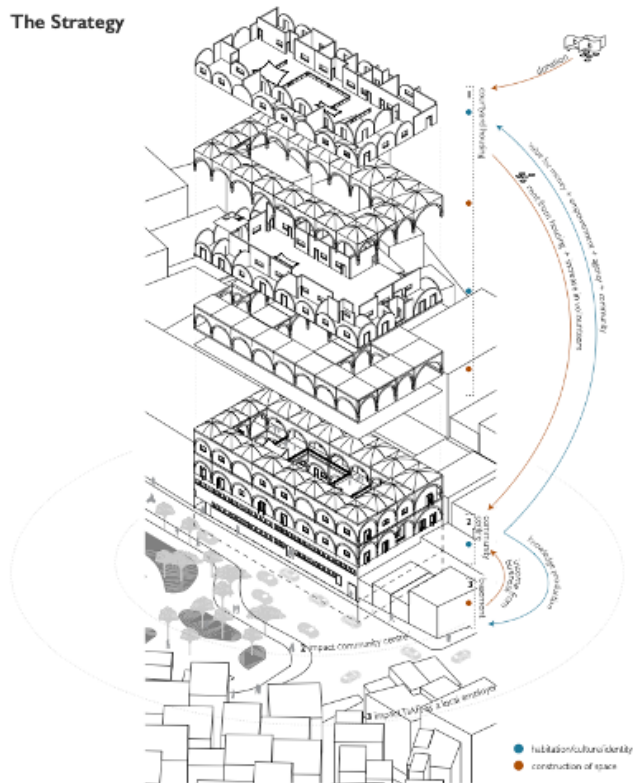
IMPACT & VALUE



micro moments



The Strategy



(top) Proposals by students of Umeå University for Tiafi Community Centre, Basmane, Izmir. 2020

(bottom) Map of community and ethnic integration around Tiafi Community Centre

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Replacement homes in the farm camps, Torbali, Izmir, Turkey, 2017

(top) Original informal camp panorama

(above right and left) Informal homes and unsuitable smoke evacuation practices

(left) Unloading equipment for new constructions

(below left) Informal school supported by The Tribe Projects

The Architecture of Displacement



(above)
**Replacement home in the farm
camps, Torbali, Izmir, Turkey, 2017**



(bottom)
**Example of former, extant
temporary building in Torbali**

PIKPA AND MORIA REFUGEE CAMPS, LESVOS, GREECE, 2016-2020



Masterplan for Pikpa Refugee Camp, 2016

Pikpa camp supports vulnerable and bereaved refugees who have arrived by dinghy from Turkey; it provides medical support, counselling, clothes, food and legal advice. The research envisioned new external spaces, two public buildings, and addressed surface water and drainage issues. The design used recycled materials and was built by unskilled volunteers. The drawing (page 09, top) was included in the 2016 Royal Academy Summer Exhibition and formed a key part of the fund-raising campaign.



The Solidarity Dome, Pikpa Camp, 2017

As part of the masterplan a dome structure was constructed as a centre for women and children, and as an emergency facility. Drawings, models, designs, and a masterplan were produced in spring 2016 and the Dome installed in summer 2017. The designs and masterplan were presented at the Papers Festival at the Barbican, June 2016, which provided insights from visitors leading to the designs being refined further prior to installation in 2017. The Solidarity Dome is one of a series of projects realised by collaborators in Pikpa up until the camp's demolition by the Greek authorities in 2020. These include a building to provide medical and logistical support to new arrivals from the nearby beaches, a kindergarten, a grey water treatment scheme, shading structures and productive gardens.



School for 1,500 pupils commissioned by Stand By Me Lesvos, Moria Camp, Lesvos, 2020

Led by Mull, researchers and students of the GFU worked in and around Moria Camp, Greece from 2017. Moria Camp was designed for 1,800 residents and, prior to it being burnt down in 2020, housed up to 20,000 migrants and refugees in appalling conditions.

(top to bottom)
Moria refugee camp
Lesvos, 2019

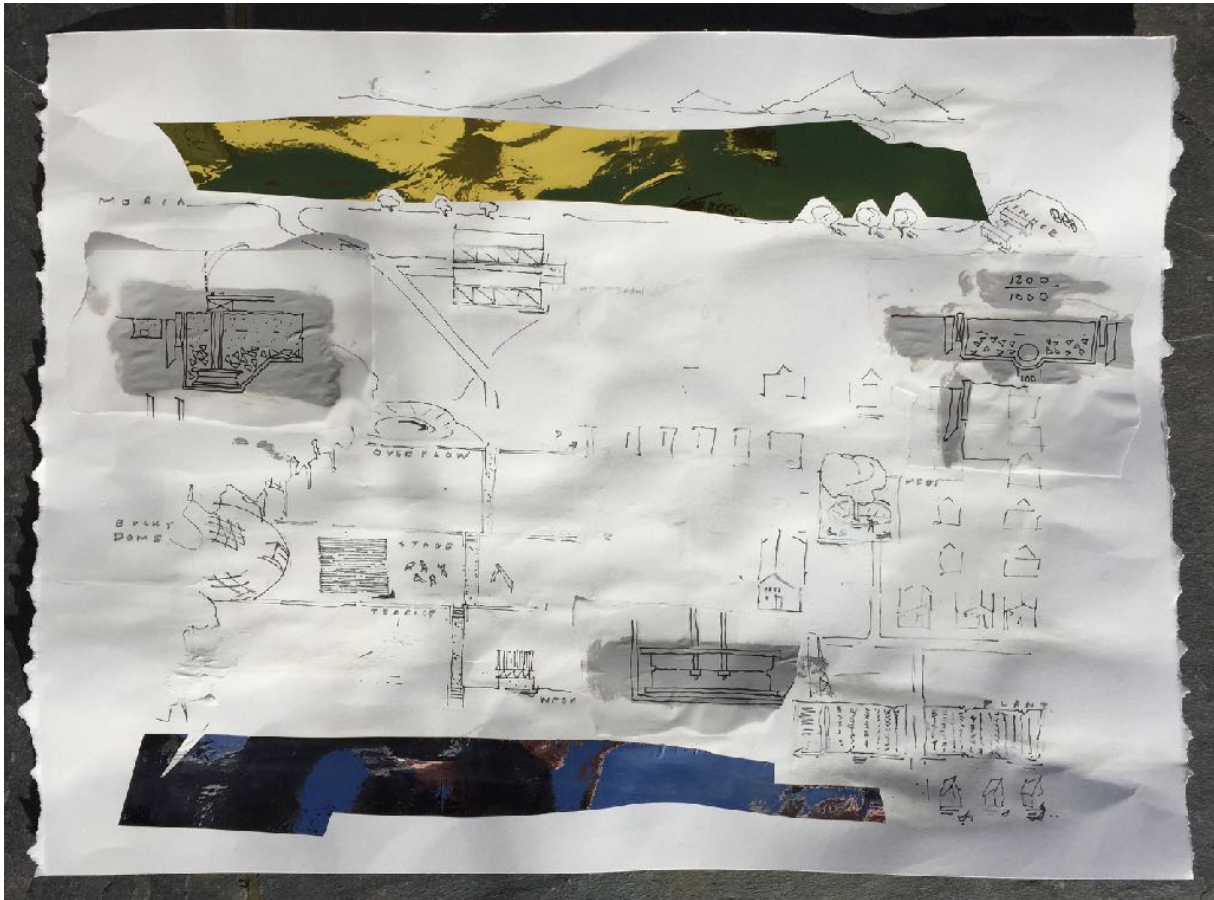
The burning down of
Moria camp, 2020

View from the site of
the school rebuild
Moria camp, Lesvos, 2020

Mull and team collaborated with groups working in the camp, including the Office of Displaced Designers, Lesvos Solidarity and Stand by Me, Lesvos. In 2020 Mull and team were appointed by Stand By Me Lesvos to rebuild their school outside Moria Camp, which was burnt down by fascists in early 2020.

The school provided education for 1,500 refugees as well as critical medical and psychological support. Proposals were developed for the replacement during the summer of 2020 and focused on a rapidly deployed canopy constructed from polytunnels under which a series of classrooms were co-designed and built by refugees over a longer timescale. Work was due to start on site in October 2020. In September 2020, Moria Camp itself was burnt down and its occupants dispersed across the area; however, work was then begun with Stand By Me Lesvos to design and build a series of mobile classrooms.

The Architecture of Displacement



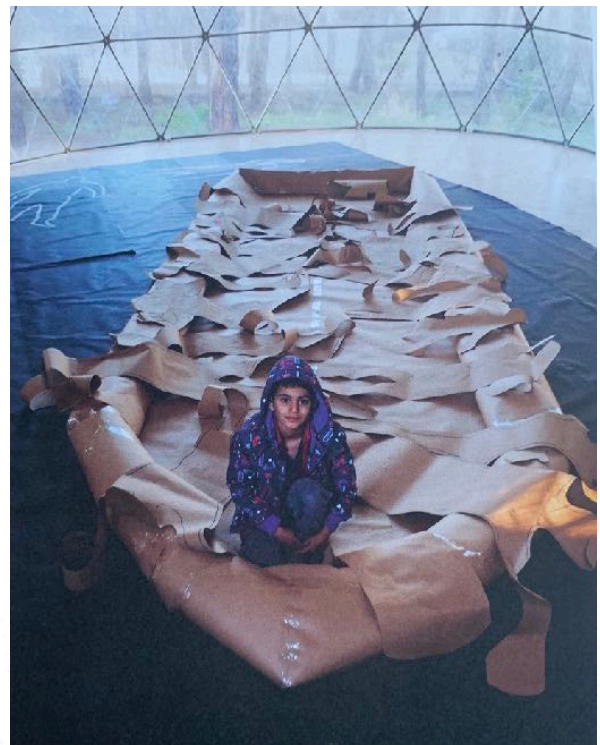
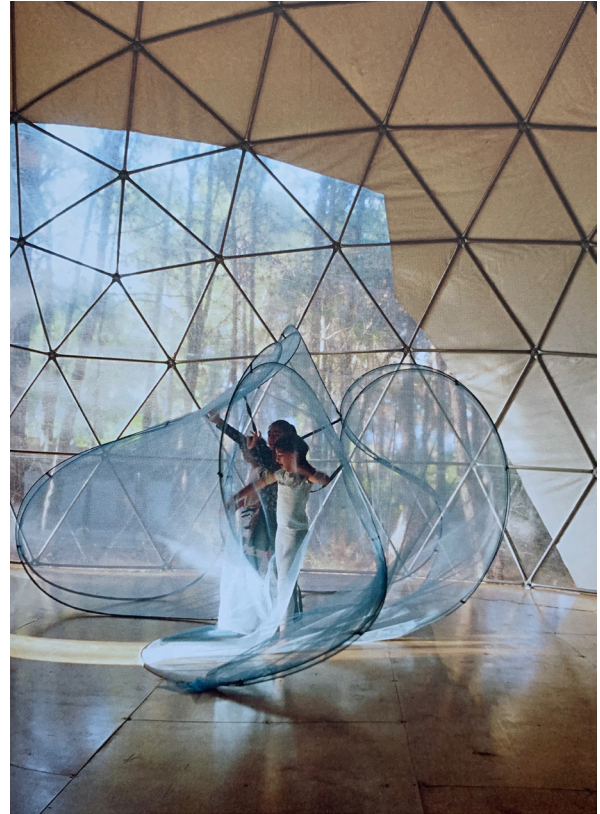
(top) **Interactive drawing made with volunteers and refugees describing a masterplan for Pikpa Camp, Lesbos, Greece, 2016**

This was one of a series of interactive drawings made by Mull with refugees and volunteers at Pikpa Camp on Lesbos, Greece. It was included in the 2016 Royal Academy Summer Exhibition and formed a key part of the fund-raising campaign



(left) **Early drawing for construction including the Solidarity Dome**

The Architecture of Displacement



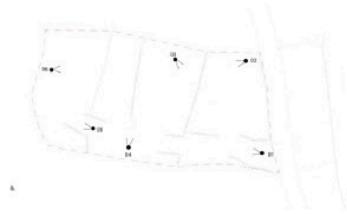
**Constructing and using the Solidarity Dome,
Pikpa Camp, Lesvos, Greece, 2020**

Photographs by Knut Bry

The Architecture of Displacement

Site Images

The available site presents is divided into 4 levels



Reference Site Plan of Site Views

Not to scale

The previous centre was burned down as a result of widespread fascist attacks in February 2020 which targeted personnel and centres supporting the displaced community



Photographs of the previous educational centre

SITE ANALYSIS

Moria Refugee Camp, Mytilene, Greece



01 Site Entrance



02 View from Ground Level



03 View from First Level



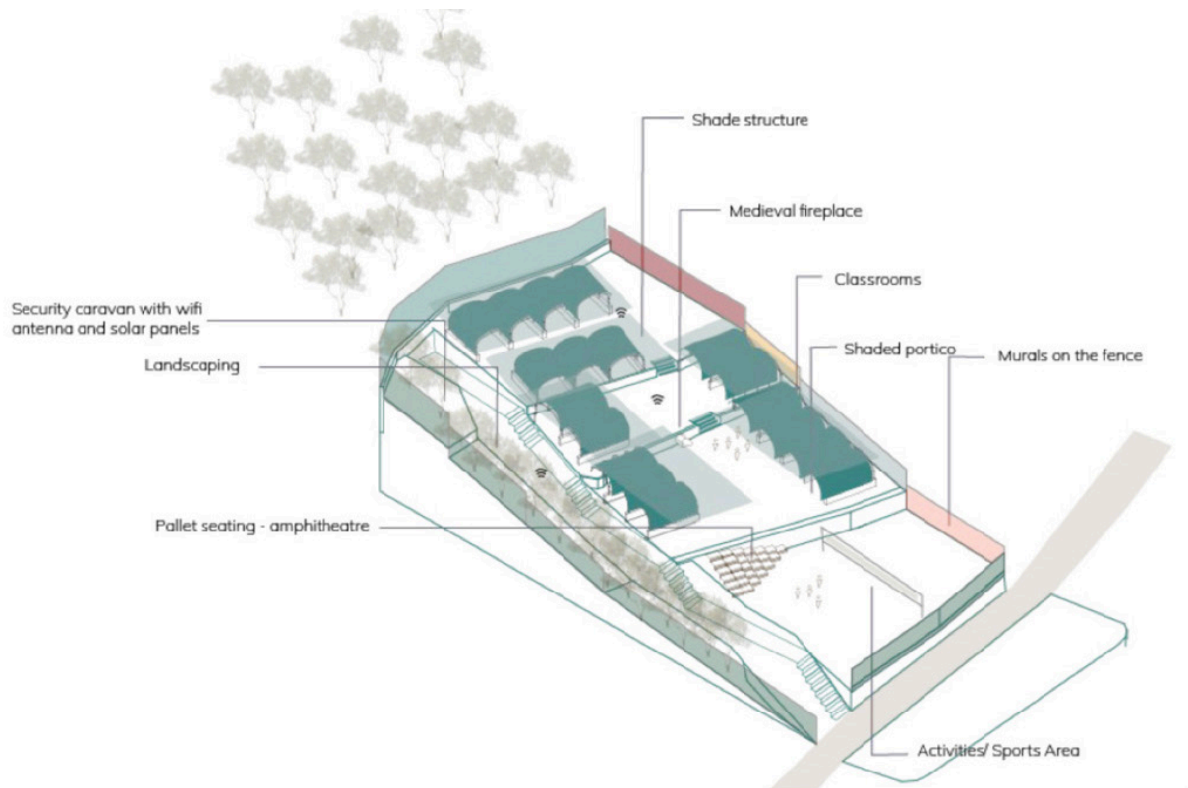
04 View from Road on Site



05 View towards Security Caravan



06 View from Top Level to the Site bottom

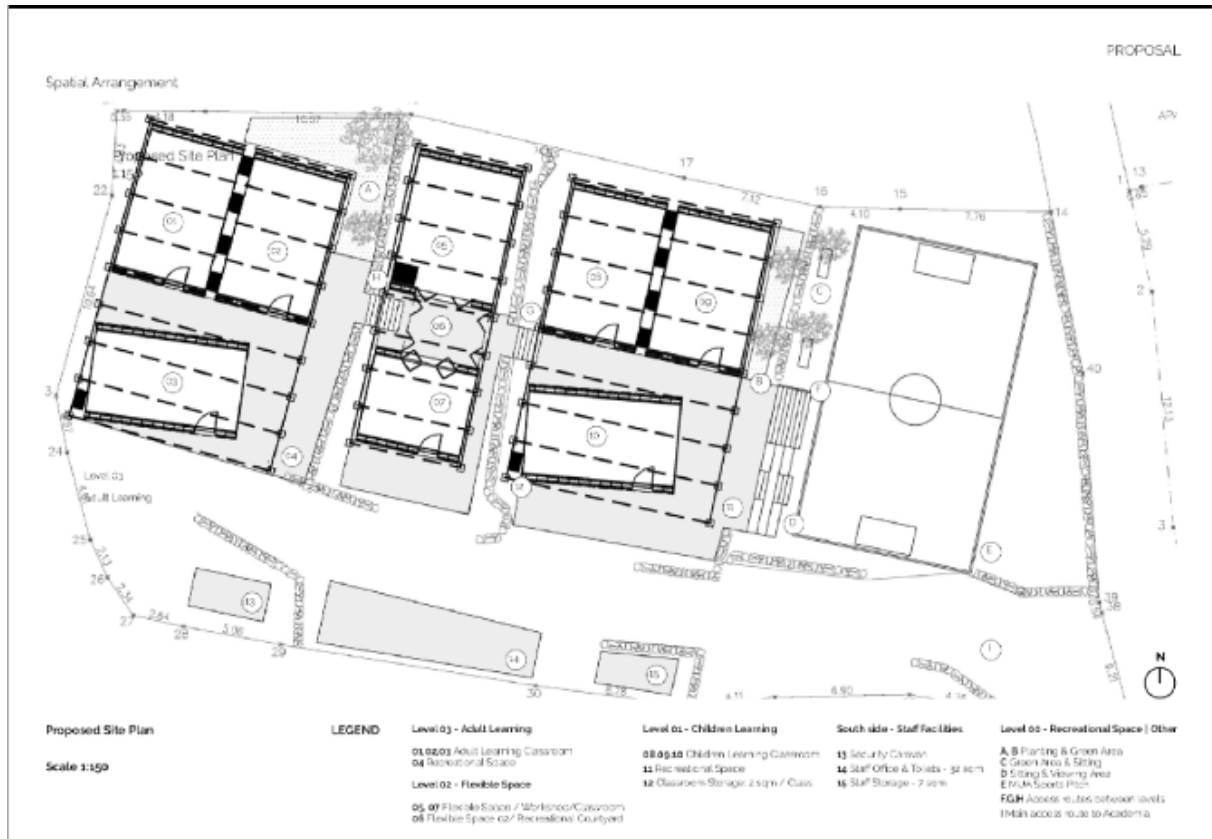


Moria Camp, Lesvos

(top) Site analysis

(bottom) Three-dimensional study for the new school for Stand By Me Lesvos by volunteers and students of the GFU 2020

The Architecture of Displacement



Moria Camp, Lesvos
 Plan and services study for the new school for
 Stand By Me Lesvos by volunteers and
 students of the GFU, 2020

RESEARCH QUESTIONS



One of the gardens made by volunteers and refugees at Pikpa Camp, Lesvos

Mull's research asks questions as to how displaced populations establish and maintain their identity whilst in transit.

Practice-based approaches and participatory methods are used to generate and communicate distinct new insights and knowledge into the ways displaced people use architectural and cultural strategies to maintain their culture and wellbeing in informal camps and host communities within the global refugee crisis.

The central research questions were:

1. Through what kinds of placemaking processes in physical and digital spaces do displaced people inhabit, build, give meaning and derive wellbeing?
2. How can intervention in the temporary environments which house displaced communities provide effective collaborative design to improve wellbeing and respond better to the needs of the community?
3. What strategic architectural and policy interventions can advance wellbeing for displaced communities in urban spaces and how can these be replicated and scaled across multiple displaced communities in response to the current global refugee crises?

RESEARCH CONTEXT

Globally, over 65 million people are displaced because of conflict, war and poverty, amongst other reasons. Over half of the 24 million refugees, and approximately 80 per cent of internally displaced people, live in urban areas (UNHCR, 2016).

Contemporary displacement is typically protracted: on average it lasts over two decades or more. Displaced people have varied backgrounds but share common struggles for wellbeing, notably in the areas of housing, access to space for livelihoods and leisure, and services such as education and health. As the number of vulnerable and enduringly displaced populations in urban areas will continue to rise in coming decades, better ways of managing these dynamics are critical for creating secure, inclusive and safe cities and settlements.

Mull's research in Izmir and Lesvos sits within the context of WHIT, a British Academy-funded research project, involving the Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex, Yaşar University, Izmir, Professor Hanif Kara of Harvard University, AKT engineers and two NGOs based in Izmir. The research is strengthened, extended and disseminated through related projects undertaken concurrently by Mull.

He is co-investigator on an EU-India Social Science and Humanities Platform (EQUIP)-funded project, Displacement, Placemaking and Wellbeing in the City (DWELL), with the Institute of Development Studies, the Oslo School of Architecture, Aalto University, Helsinki, and Ambedkar University, New Delhi. This project examines the ways urban and peri-urban contexts receive displaced populations, examining and disseminating best practice. Mull's contribution focuses on a collaboration with the Kent Refugee Action Network (KRAN) based in Folkestone, UK. The project resulted in a live build project for KRAN and the mapping of the formal and informal support mechanisms for 15-18 unaccompanied refugees in the South East of England.

Mull's research into what can be learnt from the architecture and culture of informal refugee camps when considering the design of more formal settings was focused by his work in the informal migrant camp in Calais known as the Jungle. In 2016, Mull curated the Papers Festival at the Barbican Centre, London, which examined the art, architecture and culture of the refugee crisis. He went on to curate two shows

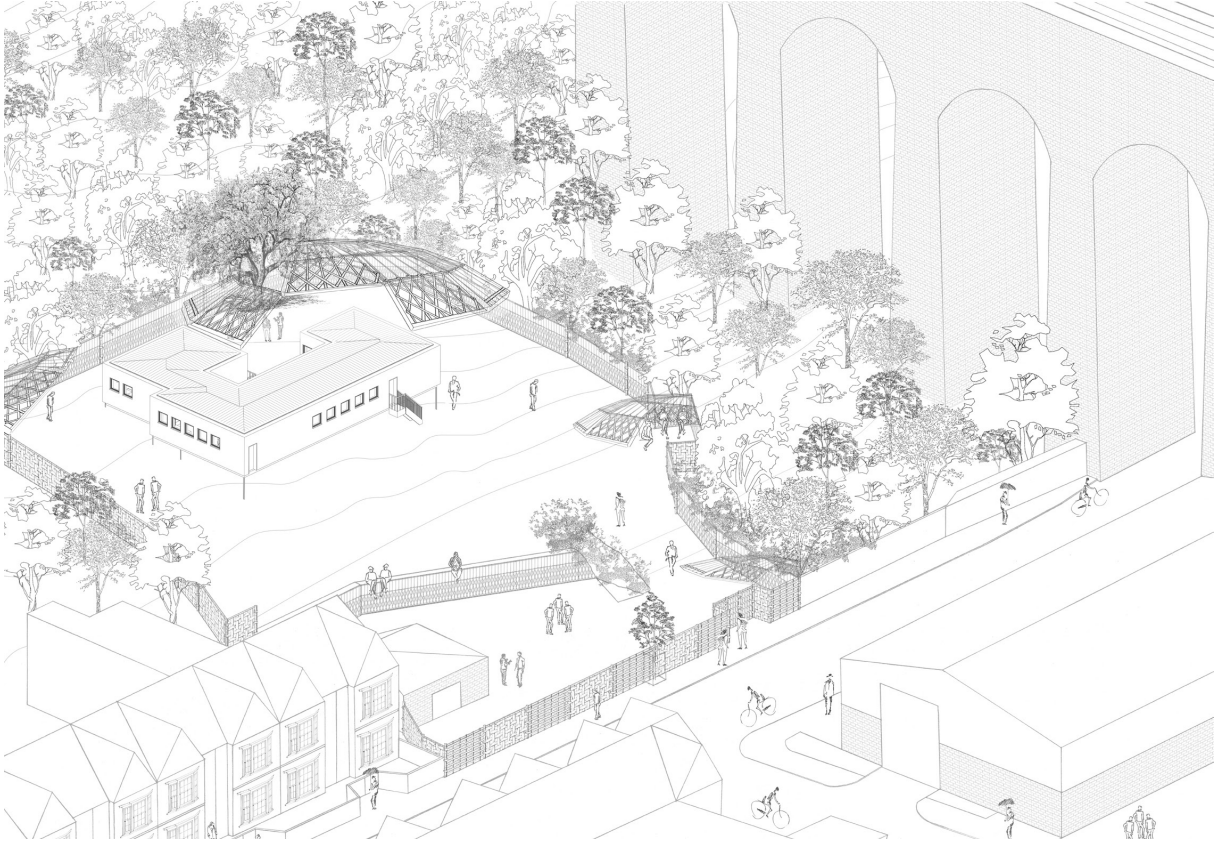
at the South Bank Centre in London as part of the Festival of Love, which explored the urbanism of the Calais Jungle, including 'Blue House on the Hill' by refugee artist Alpha Diagne, who collaborated with Mull.

Another key resource and delivery mechanism for Mull's research is the Global Free Unit (GFU), a transnational, independent educational initiative created and led by Mull from 2004. The GFU supports architecture students to structure and deliver self-directed projects in difficult contexts of deprivation, displacement and political uncertainty. By 2015, graduates of the GFU were distributed across the globe continuing initiatives they had started as students. Capitalising on this spread of graduate ability, GFU worked in live project 'classrooms' in areas of deprivation, conflict and political change across the globe. This includes ongoing work within the refugee crises, with community groups, with educational partners, NGOs and in prisons.

In addition to the work described in Izmir and Lesvos, the GFU has other active classrooms including: Bosnia, working with the Most Mira project, promoting post conflict reconciliation; Folkestone, working with the Kent Refugee Action Network; and collaboration in South Korea, Sweden and Italy, with a very recent example being developed in Columbia, addressing issues of displacement and identity in response to Venezuelan migration. In each of these contexts, the GFU not only provides training to students, but also routes into education and employment for refugees, prisoners, volunteers and locals.

A number of the classrooms are supported by educational partners who validate their work and provide formal academic credit under the European Credit Transfer System. This allows students to accumulate academic credit as they attend different classrooms and carry that credit with them into formal education. This accumulated credit can then be bolted together to give them formal academic awards and professional registration. Similarly, the other participants, be they refugees, prisoners or volunteers can develop a portfolio that helps them enter formal education or employment.

The Architecture of Displacement



Proposals for Kent Refugee Action Network (KRAN) Folkestone, UK by students of the GFU, University of Brighton, 2019, part of the DWELL research project

(above) Drawing presented to KRAN as part of the gift project showing temporary structures to be constructed by young unaccompanied asylum seekers



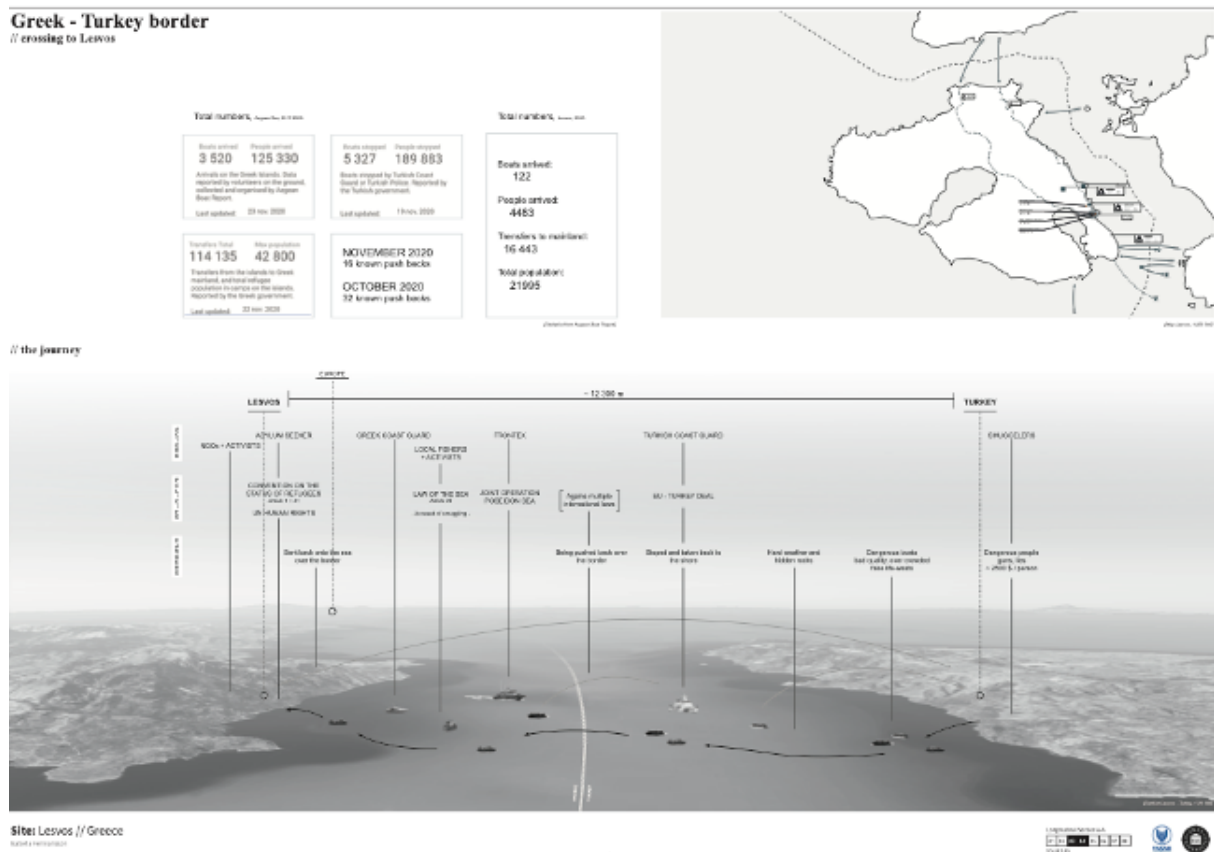
(left) An analysis of the layers of the final proposal
Every layer provides training and employment opportunities to the asylum seekers and volunteers

The Architecture of Displacement



The Blue House on the Hill, Alpha Diagne
The Calais Jungle's art school was rescued before the second demolition by Mull and collaborators, and exhibited in an exhibition curated by Mull as part of the Festival of Love, South Bank, London, 2016

RESEARCH PROCESS



The Atlas
Students of Umeå University representing the passage of refugees between Izmir and Lesbos, 2020

The research process investigates methods of collaborative community design and identifies how the needs of displaced communities for shelter, community buildings, schools, heating, cooling and water management can be co-designed to reflect identity and culture through a number of stages.

Establishing the classrooms and identifying project friends

The focus is on long-term engagement within the context of the GFU 'classrooms'. Typically, these rely on local host partners who help structure and host the classrooms. Examples include The Tribe Projects' involvement with Tiafi Community Centre in Izmir, and, in Pikpa Camp classroom, Lesbos Solidarity, Stand by Me and the Office of Displaced Designers. These are strengthened by international research partners and local universities, such as Yaşar University, Izmir.

The classrooms bring together student workshops and individual students, professionals and volunteers who work within the culture and economy of the host and can be embedded for two weeks or several years. The GFU manages the academic, legal, professional, health and safety, and ethics infrastructure of its classrooms.



**Working with
Kurdish refugees**
Basmane, Izmir, Turkey, 2016

The host benefits from working with the GFU by receiving student, research and commercial funding, raising its profile, increased opportunities for fundraising, new buildings and infrastructure, training opportunities and routes into education and employment for its local volunteers and refugees or other clients.

Individual students working within the Global Free Unit are also asked to identify ten project friends. Project friends can be their clients, experts, participants or fellow students and tutors. The friend structure establishes an invaluable resource but also represents an alternative power base and authority to that of their tutor, their institution or their professional context.

Taken together, the classroom, its host, participants and project friends form a vital and novel community of practice that underpins and facilitates Mull's research, the GFU, and associated funded research and dissemination.

Surveys of movement and modes of reception by host communities

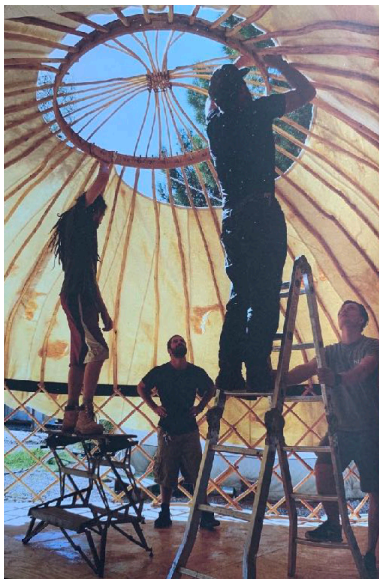
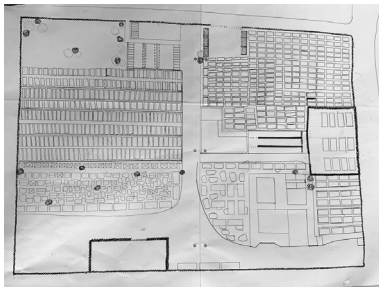
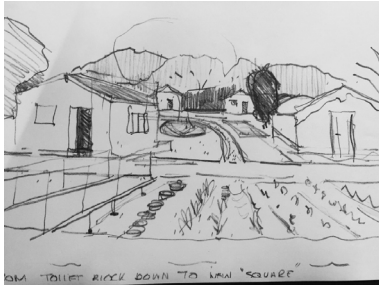
Initial surveys include an examination of the movement of displaced populations, how they have travelled, and how they will travel, and to where. This includes interviews with NGOs, volunteers and displaced groups and an examination of the social media and informal networks they rely on.

Within the camps and the urban and peri-urban areas where displaced people have settled, including Lesvos, Basmane, Torbali, but also Calais, the south coast of England and recently Barranquilla in Columbia, Mull and his research team record the ways host communities have received the displaced population and the modalities of reception they deploy. This includes an examination of building typologies, land preparation, utilities, informal and formal construction methods, forms of tenure and models of community and self-governance.

In all contexts, Mull investigates the value of the informal physical, cultural and social structures displaced people have used to maintain their identity and wellbeing under extreme circumstances. This has been explored successfully through a focus on art, architecture and culture.

Methods of capturing and recording the informal include traditional measured surveys, surveys using the body as a measure, drawing in public, experiential mapping and, in closed camps such as Moria, where photography is forbidden, memory maps. In well-established classrooms such as Lesvos and Izmir, Mull and members of the GFU will interact with the displaced population through workshops such as the dream catcher workshop in Torbali or by sharing food, such as the breakfasts staged in Tiafi Community Centre, or through celebrations, performance or simply spending time together.

Within the WHIT and DWELL projects, collaboration with the Institute of Development Studies and the University of Sussex have complemented the GFU's survey methodology. Methods drawn from social sciences included the Integrated Wellbeing Survey methodology and the Bath Wellbeing in Development approach, undertaken with displaced populations and led by Charles Watters, University of Sussex, and Dolf te Lintelo, Institute of Development Studies.



(top to bottom)

Public drawing

Pikpa Camp, Lesvos, 2016

Memory mapClosed section of Moria Camp
Lesvos, 2019**Yurt building**Construction of one of the yurts
that form the kindergarten
Moria Camp, Lesvos, 2019

Participatory design and collaborative construction

Having established live project classrooms, formed local collaborations and understood the context and process of designing, Mull and classroom participants used online and face-to-face participatory methods including:

- Co-authored drawings where refugees, volunteers and workshop participants work together on a drawing, sharing and debating their initial needs, hopes and potential solutions in real time as the drawing evolves.
- Model making at all scales including quick sketch models made with junk by children, through traditional architectural site and building models to the full-scale prototyping of architectural elements, details and material and environmental strategies.
- Detailed design development with users of plans, construction details, construction methods and manuals, all with an emphasis on the use of unskilled labour and local procurement.
- Interactive masterplans co-authored by multiple users and stakeholders that capture multiple voices and represent complex time-based proposals using storytelling, storyboarding, collage and text.

One example of collaborative design is drawings made in public. Mull and collaborator situate themselves in public areas of the camp and draw the existing context and proposals, inviting passers-by to collaborate and comment. In Pikpa Camp, Lesvos, this process led to the development of a drawn masterplan, which outlined incremental changes and work packages, including ground preparation, sanitary infrastructure, productive gardens and the Solidarity Dome, a reception area for new arrivals and kindergarten. In parallel, site surveys, ground works and the construction of full-scale prototypes and mock-ups are made in public inviting others into the process and winning trust.

In 2016, in Basmane, where families live in terrible conditions, a similar process took place. A collaborating artist spent many weeks with the families quietly drawing. Over time families would tell their stories, ask to have their portraits drawn and share their needs and hopes for the future, informing what became WHIT.

Within the WHIT project, Mull and collaborators used the Tiafi Community Centre as the focus for a sustained process of participatory design and consultation, developing and refining strategies for new housing prototypes for displaced people in Basmane and Torbali. This includes working breakfasts with volunteers and refugees, exhibitions of proposals and the formation of friends of WHIT, which brings together refugees, volunteers and the authorities to present and refine proposals.

When projects reach the construction phase, a distinctive feature of the research is that the process of building remains participatory and co-design continues.

Local partners, labour, training and transferable skills

Wherever possible, proposals were designed to test and establish the capacity for relatively unskilled people, volunteers or refugees to build them. The design also investigated ways in which the construction of the building could be a training opportunity, giving volunteers and refugees transferable skills that can help them to move into employment or further training. Consideration was also given to health and safety so that the buildings could be built in a safe way without the need for excessive amounts of temporary works, equipment, lifting or working at height.

In all cases projects used local materials, suppliers and tradespeople, thereby building connections with the host community and evidencing the generation of trust and understanding. For example, in the farm camps of Torbali the simple shelters provided by The Tribe Projects were fabricated in partnership with local Turkish metalworkers and in Lesvos the first stage of the refugee school in Moria was to use polytunnels no longer required on the island.

Buildings for displaced communities were also seen as an opportunity for experimentation with new forms of construction, occupation and procurement. In many of the contexts where Mull and his research team work there are strict controls on what can be built. For instance, in Lesvos and the Torbali farm camps, all interventions have to be temporary and cannot have conventional foundations or mains services.

A key technical and social consideration is the provision of services. In Pikpa mains water and electricity was available and drainage was to a series of overloaded and fractured septic tanks. In Torbali, some farm camps had electricity and mains water but others did not, and in most the landowner charged for access to services. In many, drainage and sanitation did not exist. Mull's research investigated alternative forms of power, heating, cooling, local drainage systems, rainwater harvesting and grey-water recovery in these locations.

Proposals and identity

Mull and the teams formed with architectural students, NGOs and local charities use the innovative processes outlined above to identify how the needs of refugees in camps for shelter, community buildings, schools, heating, cooling and water management can be co-designed to reflect identity

and culture. The methods ensure that the new knowledge embodied in the designs and temporary construction is recorded and communicated to reveal how displaced populations preserve their cultural identity in the informal architecture and urbanism they make.

The designs that are made and realised are as diverse as the volunteers, students and researchers themselves, and the displaced populations they work with. At its best, the process of engagement with displaced populations was found to allow students and volunteers to connect their own life experience and identity with those of the people they were working with and for.

An example in Izmir was the exploration of a student group into what it means to create a home and an identity and the manifestation of such notions as housing strategies addressing integrity, wellbeing and ownership. Other students addressed issues related to gender and the situation of women and children by exploring these areas through crafts, education and employment in close discussion with existing NGOs, and through the planning of events and activities aimed to empower displaced people. Other students focused on urgent issues like the supply of drinking water, insulation and the needs for sanitary solutions, through the making of full-scale prototypes and material investigations.

Long-term commitment, establishing schools, sustainable businesses and employment

Ultimately the practical aim of the research is to identify and support local sustainable employment and income generation and to empower those participating in the classrooms to return to education and training. Plans for the Tiafi Community Centre in Izmir, for example, aimed, through short-term, medium-term and long-term interventions, to provide sustainable support for and promote wellbeing among the bereaved Syrian women and children supported by the centre. To this end, the project investigated the viability of these intervention systems for training and employment and supported the refugee community in fundraising and raising awareness.

RESEARCH INSIGHTS

The research provided new insights and knowledge into the ways displaced people use architectural and cultural strategies to maintain their culture and wellbeing in informal camps and host communities within the global refugee crisis. By harvesting these insights for design purposes, the research provided policies and architectural designs that were appropriate for the particular displaced community that it served.

The participatory methods have led to more materials and essential skills being sourced from local suppliers and tradespeople, building connections with the host community and generating trust and understanding. This, in turn, provided insights into the ways in which this inclusive and novel way of working can produce improved results. This is true not only in the design and construction of the buildings and in their ability to meet the needs of the displaced communities, but in improved trust and wellbeing of the community they serve.

This research delivered insights into the relations between formal and informal housing infrastructures and wellbeing outcomes for low-income groups, and specifically how to:

- Foster good housing and urban wellbeing in Turkish cities and Greek refugee camps by delivering innovative material and architecture solutions, as well as policy recommendations, which are based on empirical and experiential investigations of local conditions and culture. In Pikpa Camp, Lesvos, long-term immersion in the culture of the camp and in its physical, environmental and material qualities resulted in a time-based masterplan and built solutions realised by volunteers and residents over an extended timescale.
- Strengthen the evidence base on how formal and informal housing infrastructures for low-income and displaced Syrians and Turkish citizens are governed by different actors, to drive particular wellbeing outcomes at residential, neighbourhood and city-scales. A key example is the work in the Basmane district of Izmir where long-term engagement with the displaced population led to ways of understanding and

representing hidden and informal housing structures. Mull used this understanding to propose appropriate housing and community solutions at the scales of unit, city block and district. These proposals demonstrated the practical potential of the model as they passed through local NGO and city actors and resulted in consultation for implementation.

- Achieve new capacities for joint research and action across creative, civil engineering, architecture and development studies disciplines, as well as new capacities for low-income workers to achieve inclusive urban and rural integration with new sources of income, employment and educational opportunities. In the farm camps around Torbali, Turkey, the Tribe Projects, Turkey and the GFU worked with a multidisciplinary team to make and implement proposals that moved from ground preparation, sanitation, water supply and shelter through to participatory events and pop-up schools. In every case the proposals demonstrated the ways in which projects can involve local materials and labour and provide educational and employment opportunities to stakeholders.

The Architecture of Displacement



Resisting the demolition of Pikpa Camp
Lesvos Solidarity, 2020

DISSEMINATION

The outputs, insights and knowledge arising from the research have been shared and further developed in publications and through Mull's curation of and contributions to exhibitions and events including:

Exhibitions

Papers: A festival of the art, culture and architecture of the refugee crisis (12 June 2016) Barbican, London. <https://www.architecturefoundation.org.uk/papers-festival/>

The Urbanism of Calais Jungle and The Blue House (2016) Curated by Mull. Exhibitions documenting the culture and urbanism of the Calais Jungle. Festival of Love, South Bank Centre, London, 30 May – 30 September 2016. Installed from 9 July.

Sheds, Palaces of Nothing (2017) Curated by Mull with Alexander Brodsky organised by Drawing Matter. 9 – 16 October 2017, Hauser & Wirth Maltings Gallery, Somerset. <https://drawingmatter.org/projects/exhibitions/sheds-palaces-of-nothing/>

Royal Academy Summer Exhibition (2016) 'Proposals for Pipka Refugee Camp'. 13 June – 21 August 2016.

Seeking Refuge: Views of Displacement (16 March 2019) Royal Academy of Arts, London. <https://www.royalacademy.org.uk/event/alternate-languages-confronting-boundaries-architecture-performance>

Oslo Architecture Triennale, Enough: The Architecture of Degrowth (26 September – 24 November 2019) Oslo, Norway. The GFU exhibited as an example of a decentralised low impact educational structure. The GFU was represented by an orrery that described the GFU 'constellation' of classrooms and connections. <http://oslotriennale.no/en/archive/2019>

Publications

Mull, R. (2020) 'The Free World'. Harriss, H., Hyde, R. and Marcaccio, R. eds. *Architects after Architecture. Alternative Pathways for Practice*. Abingdon: Routledge

Press and media coverage

'The Places of Migration' (2016) *RIBA Journal*, 24 May. <https://www.ribaj.com/culture/mull-refugees>

Wainright, O. (2016) 'We built this city: how the refugees of Calais became the camp's architects'. *The Guardian*, 8 June. <https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2016/jun/08/refugees-calais-jungle-camp-architecture-festival-barbican>

Conferences and lectures

Mull has lectured widely on displacement and the GFU including recent public lectures in: Beijing, Copenhagen, Gothenburg, Izmir, Moscow, Oslo, Umeå and the United Kingdom.

Curated lecture series and conference, *Turncoats* (2015/16). <http://turncoats.uk>

Curated lecture series, *Twins* (2017) University of Brighton. <https://aia-brighton.org/2017/twins-lecture-series-launches/>

Mull, R. (2017) *The Expanded Field – Care*. Keynote. University of Sheffield, 21 November.

Mull, R. (2018) *The Architecture of Resistance – The Free World*. Keynote. University of Westminster, 4 April.

Mull, R. (2018) *Culture Without Borders - Dialogues with international cultural leaders*. Keynote. State Tretyakov Gallery, 17 April. <http://leaders.tretyakov.ru> <https://aia-brighton.org/2018/professor-robert-mull-joins-world-leading-cultural-figures-for-international-debate-in-moscow/>

Mull, R. (2018) *Global Education, Global Practice*. Keynote. Royal Academy of Arts, London, 5 July.

Mull, R. (2021) *Future School, Venice Architecture Biennale*. Mull is a co-curator of the Korean National Pavilion at the 2020 (delayed to 2021) Venice Architecture Biennale. Theme: Future Education. The pavilion will feature residencies by the GFU, live project classrooms including work in Lesvos, Izmir, HMP Wetherby and Bogota, Colombia. https://instagram.com/koreanpavilion_futureschool

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(top and middle left)
The Urbanism of the Calais Jungle
 Exhibition curated by Mull as part of the Festival of Love, South Bank, London, 2016

(bottom left)
Publicity for the refugee v locals football tournament
 Papers Festival, Barbican Centre, 2016

(top right)
Drawing by Syrian children
 Exhibition
 Papers Festival, Barbican Centre, 2016

(bottom right)
Mull leading the opening session, Duty of Care
 Papers Festival, Barbican Centre, 2016

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(top left and right)
The GFU's contribution to the *Oslo Architecture Triennale*, 2019

(bottom)
The Guardian coverage of Papers Festival, Barbican Centre, 2016

Architecture



Oliver Wainwright

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Wed 8 Jun 2016 16:09 BST



314 47

We built this city: how the refugees of Calais became the camp's architects



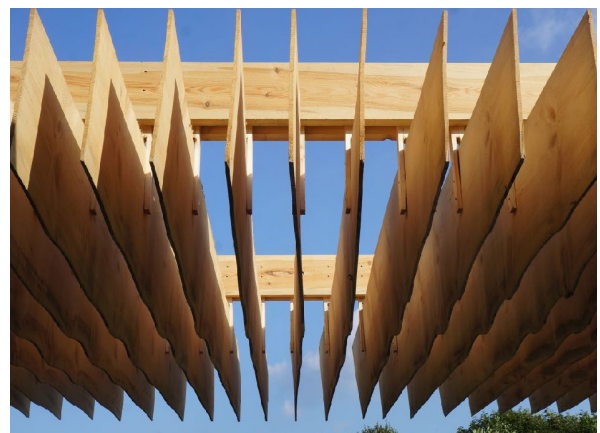
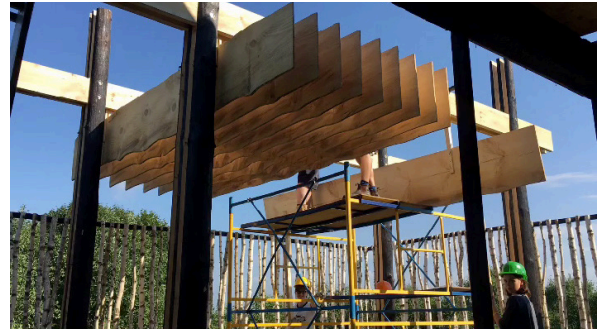
▲ Cocoon-like ... the women and children's centre in the Calais Jungle, designed by Gráinne Hassett, Kris Kelly and Stephen Bourke. Photograph: Gráinne Hassett

A nightclub, restaurant strip and thatched roofs - in the haphazard squalor of the Calais refugee camp, residents have found a way to make tents feel like home

Advertisement

GREAT ADVICE

Nikola Lenivets Art Park, Russia



Wetherby Young Offenders Institution, Kent, UK



Developments in expanded contexts

Using the growing methodologies and evidence of practicable community solutions, Mull and collaborators have brought projects to a range of displaced communities.

(top group)
Nikola Lenivets Art Park, Russia
Working with Art as Labour

(bottom group)
Wetherby Young Offenders Institution
Working with Skills for Effective Engagement
Development (SEED)

REFERENCE

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (2016) *Forced Displacement in 2016*.
UNHCR: Geneva, Switzerland.

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Mull's leadership of the Global Free Unit (GFU) has involved collaboration with 'classroom' leaders, independent researchers, students, universities, community groups, charities, arts organisations and institutions including prisons and camps.

With particular thanks to Xenia Adjoubei, Catrina Beevor, Elizabeth Cunningham, Shareen Elnaschie, Amalia Katopodis, Karl Lenton, Kelli Scott, Sangram Shirke, Anne O'Rourke, Mark Pearce and Lesvos Solidarity.

(overleaf)
**Exhibition plaque for
Global Free Unit**

The Architecture of Displacement

