

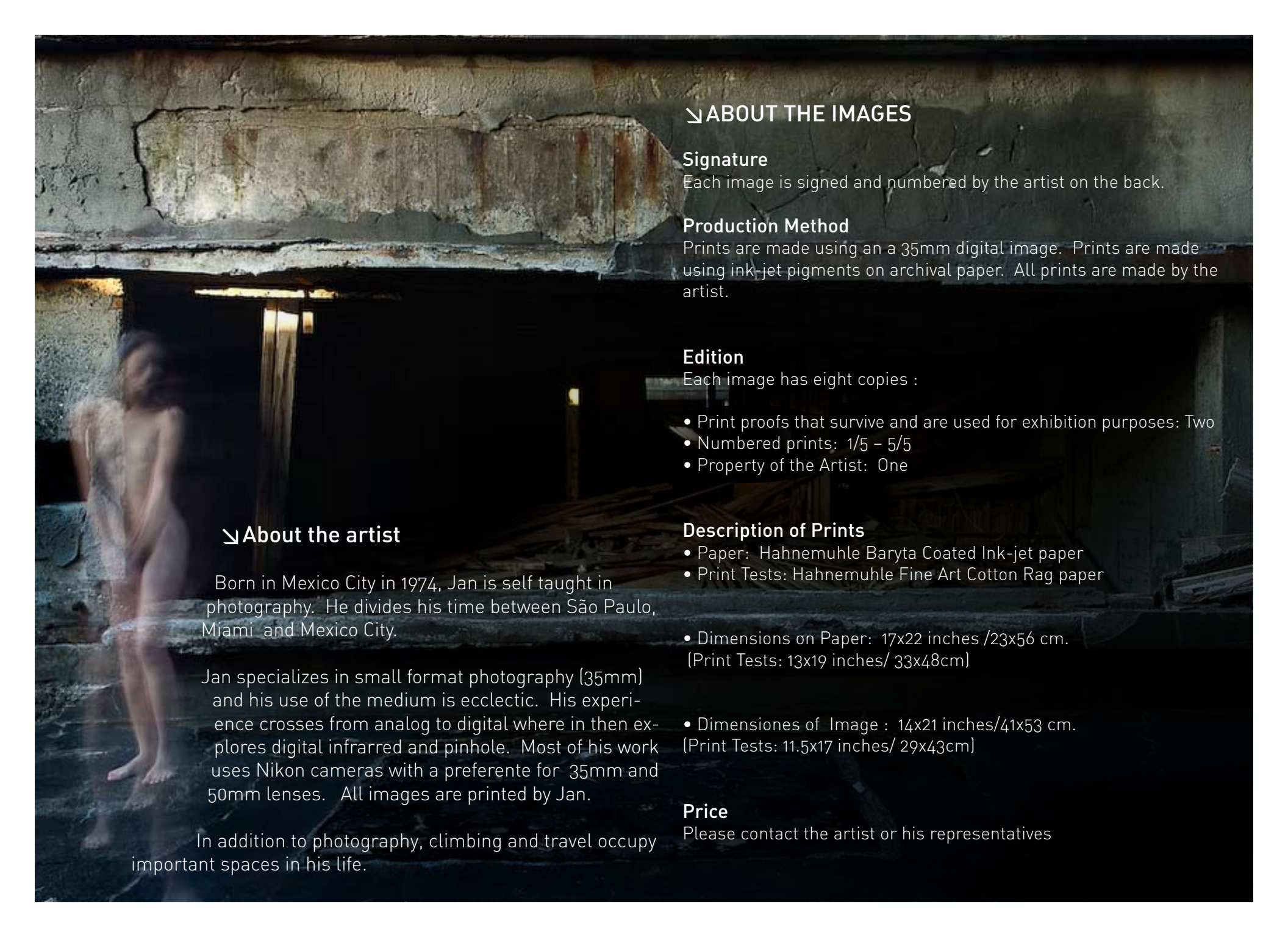
➤ Ausencia y Abandono IV

↳ Jan Smith

↳ Gunkanjima, Japan 2008



jan smith | photography



## ▾ ABOUT THE IMAGES

### Signature

Each image is signed and numbered by the artist on the back.

### Production Method

Prints are made using an a 35mm digital image. Prints are made using ink-jet pigments on archival paper. All prints are made by the artist.

### Edition

Each image has eight copies :

- Print proofs that survive and are used for exhibition purposes: Two
- Numbered prints: 1/5 – 5/5
- Property of the Artist: One

### Description of Prints

- Paper: Hahnemuhle Baryta Coated Ink-jet paper
- Print Tests: Hahnemuhle Fine Art Cotton Rag paper

- Dimensions on Paper: 17x22 inches /23x56 cm.  
(Print Tests: 13x19 inches/ 33x48cm)

- Dimensiones of Image : 14x21 inches/41x53 cm.  
(Print Tests: 11.5x17 inches/ 29x43cm)

### Price

Please contact the artist or his representatives

## ▾ About the artist

Born in Mexico City in 1974, Jan is self taught in photography. Hé divides his time between São Paulo, Miami and Mexico City.

Jan specializes in small format photography (35mm) and his use of the medium is eclectic. His experience crosses from analog to digital where in then explores digital infrared and pinhole. Most of his work uses Nikon cameras with a preferente for 35mm and 50mm lenses. All images are printed by Jan.

In addition to photography, climbing and travel occupy important spaces in his life.

## → ABOUT THE SERIES

Jan's work lives in the realm of what hides itself from us and that which hides itself just in approaching us. His images show themselves and at the same time withdraw from us. What he presents is already and always disappearing, leaving the spectator with a subtle taste of time, the ephemeral, and what remains."

Jan uses the technical interplay of low ISO and long exposures to draw attention to the vanishing presence of his scenarios and subjects.

### Ausencia y Abandono

There is a certain glory in what is constructed being defeated by the forces of time. Void of human habitation, a patina of self-identity emerges from the structures and substitutes the original man-made baptism of name and function. These spaces anthropomorphize when they are empty.

When we enter them, they die. With our presence they become shells for the purpose and habitation of our consciousness, and their essence retreats and surrenders its intangible namelessness. Such structures exist for themselves only when they are abandoned. Without stewards, they achieve this transformation in exchange for mortality and disappearance from our memory.

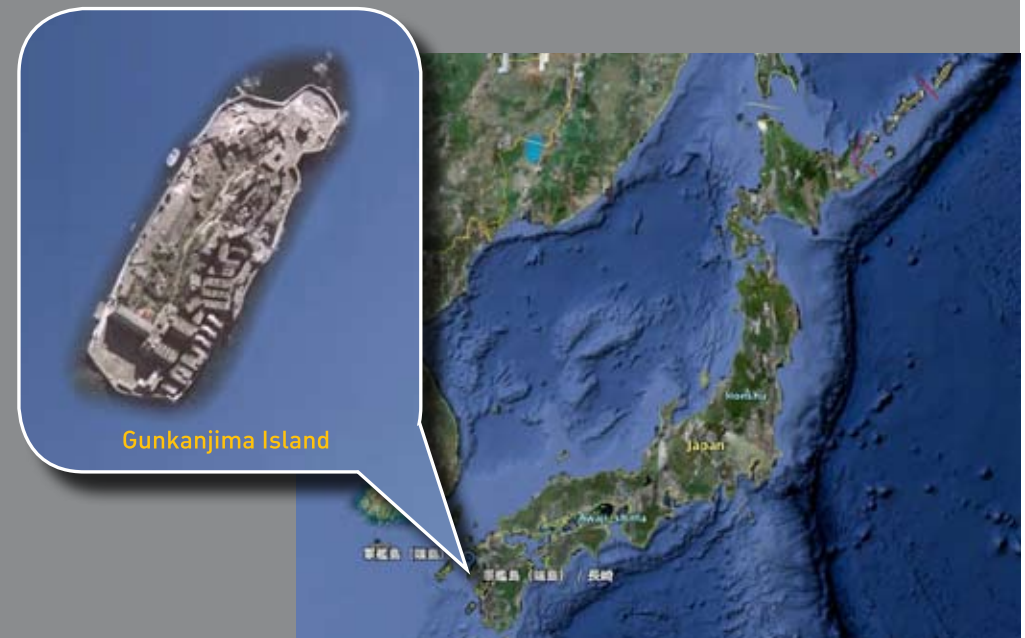
They live in a realm that shows itself and at the same time withdraws from us. Their acquired consciousness is like a horizon that defines itself by what we see, but also more largely by what remains veiled. The threshold of our arrival in these spaces leaves them balancing between the resurrection of our memory of them, and the renouncing of their own identity. In between these moments what remains is a subtle taste of time.

Absence creates stillness and the need for new consciousness. Abandonment allows Being to become imminent and show itself because it withdraws just in approaching us.

### ↳ Gunkanjima, Japan

Its name translates as "Battleship Island" and is the nickname for Hashima Island in Nagasaki Prefecture. It functioned as a Mitsubishi owned under-sea coal mine from 1880 to 1974, and was key in shaping Japan's industrialization. It holds Japan's first large concrete housing project. At its peak it was home to over 5,000 workers and their families. At 1,391 persons per hectare (139,100 people/km<sup>2</sup>) it holds the record for highest population density ever recorded worldwide. Travel to Gunkanjima is currently prohibited.

Jan was able to spend one morning on the island.





## ↘ AWARDS & EXHIBITS

### ↘ Awards

- Lucie Awards (IPA) 2008
- Lucie Awards (IPA) 2007
- Master's Cup International Color Awards 2007
- Black and White Spider Awards 2006
- Club Fotográfico Mexicano 2005

### ↘ Exhibitions

- Club Piso 51, México City, 2009
- Casa Cor, São Paulo, 2008
- Atelier Art gallery, Miami 2008
- Ausencia y Abandono III, Fotoseptiembre México 2007
- X-treme Bar gallery, Miami 2006
- Club Fotográfico Mexicano, México City, 2006

### ↘ Art Publications

- The World's Greatest Black and White Photography 2008
- Photography Masters Cup Yearbook 2008
- Annual 2007 IPA Awards
- The World's Greatest Black and White Photography 2006



↳ **Detruire, Dit-Elle** Gunkanjima, Japan 2008



↳ Pas de regard, pas de question Gunkanjima, Japan 2008



↳ C'est Tout Gunkanjima, Japan 2008



↘ **Aujourd'hui je regarde** Gunkanjima, Japan 2008



↳ Au revoir Hashima Gunkanjima, Japan 2008



↳ **Pacience** Gunkanjima, Japan 2008



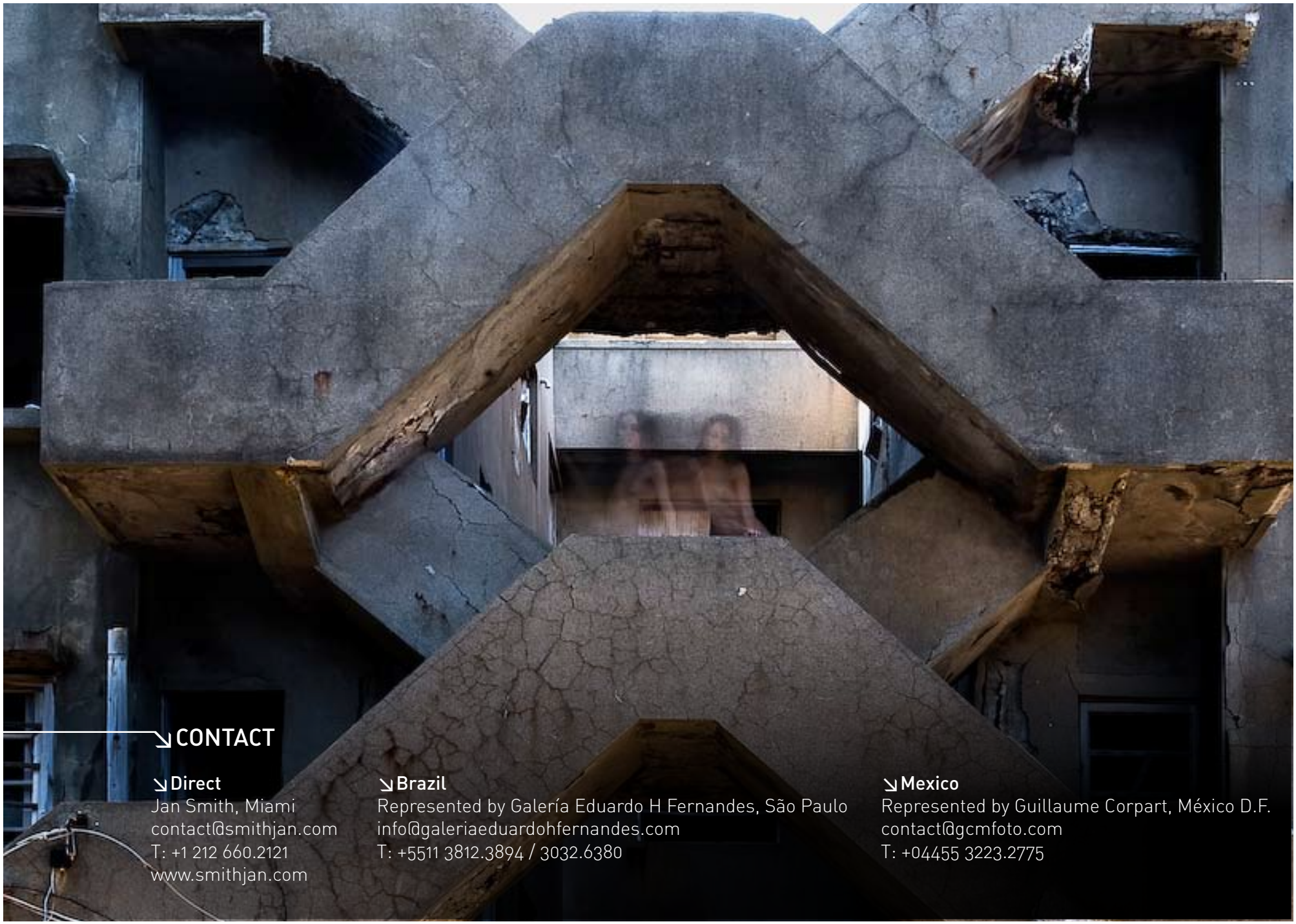
↳ Pour venu me voir Gunkanjima, Japan 2008



↳ **L'Homme Assis** Gunkanjima, Japan 2008



Je passe inaperçu Gunkanjima, Japan 2008



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