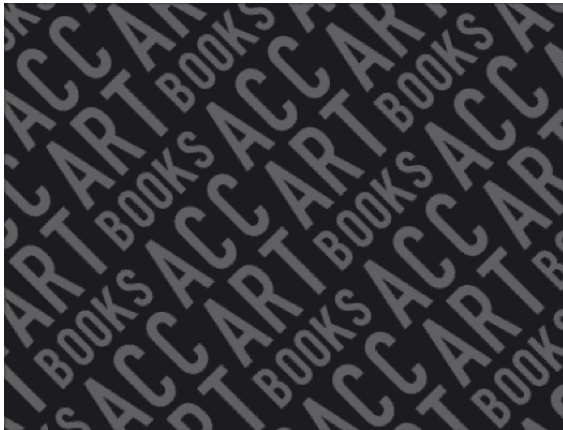




Entity of Decolonization

The Profanation of Colonial Fascist Architecture

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Edited by Sandi Hilal

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- An important contribution to highly topical discourses on fascist and colonial architecture
- Proposes new ways of engaging with material remains of violent histories
- Investigates how difficult heritage can be reclaimed, reimagined, and put into new collective use
- DAAR was awarded the Golden Lion for Best Participant with their exhibit *Entity of Decolonization—Borgo Rizza* at the 18th International Architecture Exhibition of the Venice Biennale in 2025

Entity of Decolonization explores the afterlives of colonial and fascist architecture in Europe through artistic, architectural, and spatial interventions that challenge conventional approaches to preservation. Centered on the transformation of Borgo Rizza, a rural settlement established under Fascist rule in Sicily, the book investigates how difficult heritage can be reclaimed, reimagined, and put into collective use.

Drawing on the work of DAAR (Decolonizing Architecture Art Research), the book documents a series of projects that confront the material legacies of colonialism and fascism through acts of profanation, reuse, and public engagement. Combining critical essays, project documentation, archival research, and photographs by Luca Capuano, Pietro Onofri, and Rehaf Batniji, **Entity of Decolonization** examines how architecture can become a site of decolonial, antifascist, and antiracist practice. Through themes of difficult heritage, collective care, public art, and radical preservation, it proposes new ways of engaging with the material remains of violent histories while imagining alternative futures.

Alessandro Petti is an Italian-born architect and researcher whose work examines the political agency of architecture and the spatial legacies of colonialism, occupation, and displacement. He is a co-founder of DAAR (Decolonizing Architecture Art Research), an interdisciplinary practice based in Bethlehem and Stockholm that combines architecture, art, pedagogy, and political engagement. **Sandi Hilal** is a Palestinian architect, artist, and educator whose work investigates architecture's relationship to refugeehood, statelessness, and decolonisation. co-founder of DAAR (Decolonizing Architecture Art Research), an interdisciplinary practice based in Bethlehem and Stockholm that combines architecture, art, pedagogy, and political engagement. **Emilio Distretti** is an Italian-born, London-based architect, researcher, and educator whose work focuses on decolonial practices, critical heritage, and the politics of the built environment. He is a research tutor in the Royal College of Aart's School of Architecture in London. He has previously served as director of the Urban Studies and Spatial Practices program at Al Quds Bard College for Arts and Sciences in Abu Dis, and was a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Kenyon Institute in East Jerusalem.