

Art

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**MLADEN STILINOVIC**  
Ahmet Ergenç wrote a farewell to the Croatian artist that we lost last month

**ÇAĞRI SARAY, TUNCA, MEHMET ÖGÜT**  
Nazlı Pektaş visited their shared studio in Yeldeğirmeni

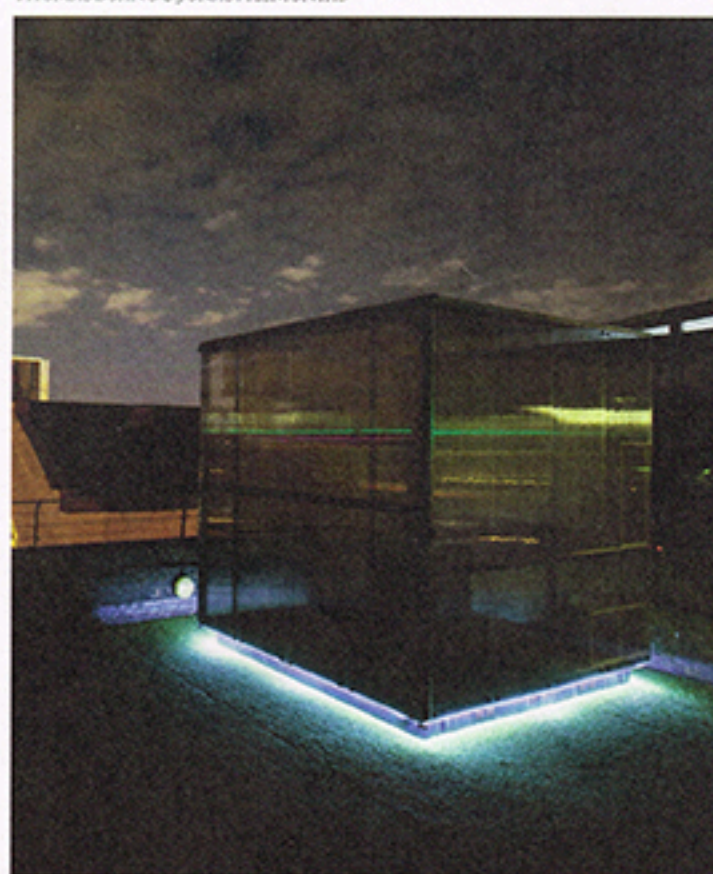
**GÜLSÜN KARAMUSTAFA**  
Gökcan Demirkazık reviewed her exhibition of Hamburger Bahnhof

**TANER CEYLAN**  
Mujde Bilgütay meet the artist just before his London exhibition

## Creativity as an industry



THOMAS BOANO & JONAS PRISMONTAS



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Bright minds need a nurturing atmosphere to flourish. While developed countries of the world measure their levels of development by looking at how much they can sustain their creative people, there is an eye opening solution for countries like us who try to stop (or not stop) the brain drain: *Minima Moralia*.

The installation proposed by two young architects Tomaso Boano and Jonas Prišmontas at the London Festival of Architecture was in fact aimed at raising consciousness about how London takes for granted its creative young people or made them suffer. The owners of this mini-studio named after Theodor W. Adorno's namesake book describe their project as follows: "We have started building this studio as a conceptual critical piece of architecture in our backyard. The reason it is critical is that it was conceived after our desperate and unsuccessful search of affordable studio workspace. This is a real problem for young artists and other creative in London. It just so happened that the theme of LFA this year was about community and artist integration. Our project proposes to place these pop-up studios

around London in the unused back gardens in residential neighborhoods, giving local artists the opportunity to practice their craft."

It was indeed a coincidence that while the project named after the German philosopher was on view, the streets of London were literally echoing with the aftershocks of Brexit. The echoing sound came from a truck carrying a ginormous triangle painted in yellow, pink and blue with an inscription saying "Dear Start-ups, Keep calm and move to Berlin". The budget needed for the truck to tour London's Westminster and Shoreditch areas for 12 hours came from the German political party FDP.

The two young architects draw my attention to an article saying "UK's Creative Industries generate nearly £9.6 million per hour" (at [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)) an add: "The creative industry plays a substantial role in UK's economy, and if people are not given opportunity to explore and develop their talents, that has a direct impact on the whole country. But it is not our intention to talk about the big picture. We are simply trying to draw attention

to the fact that there is a significant lack of local workshops, studio or any other kind of affordable spaces for making stuff and it can be quite frustrating. Life in London, as everywhere else, is easy when you have money. Artists tend to usually not have money, unless they are famous – but we are not addressing celebrities with our project. We are talking about the people who are passionate and creative, but cannot make a living with their art and have to have a full time job to be able to afford rent. Having a full-time job means the best you can give to your art is the weekends, maybe evenings, lunch breaks and train/bus journeys. And it is fine if the work you do only requires a sketchbook or laptop. But the problem becomes more clear when you want to design a piece of furniture, or make a large painting, design a dress, make a sculpture etc. Residential properties are not power-tool friendly. I'm sure I don't need to list issues related to using oil paint, angle grinder or soldering tools in your living space." OT