



## FIFTY HIGH SEASONS SHANE LYNAM

Self-published  
First Edition of 750  
Hardback  
210mm x 325mm  
116 pages  
48 images  
ISBN 978-1-5272-2355-4  
Section-sewn, swiss-bound  
Offset printing at Kopa Kaunas  
Texts in English and French  
Design by Joe Miceli  
Publishing consulting Andrew Miksys

*Shane Lynam's first photobook documents unusual 1960's holiday resorts in the Languedoc region of southern France.*

*Mission Racine was a regional housing plan launched in France in the 1960's, involving the construction of a series of innovative resort towns along the coast between Montpellier and Perpignan. Shane Lynam takes this idea as his starting point and adds his own lyrical stamp to create a semi-fictional space that is best experienced in the book form.*

*Shot over seven years, the resulting images are a reflection on the history and psychology of public space and the photographer's affection for the towns involved.*

## **Fifty High Seasons**

In 1963 President de Gaulle initiated a regional development plan known as 'Mission Racine' to develop a wild and windy stretch of French coastline between Montpellier and Perpignan into a series of resorts. Avant-garde architects were hired to construct unique and unusual spaces, which would be responsive to the local environment and focused on the individual. Although the project provided a new source of income locally, Mission Racine was not only about enriching the region. It included an 18% quota of social housing to allow more French citizens to take advantage of their time off work.

"I have spent the majority of my summer breaks in the region since 2003. From the very beginning, I felt compelled to photograph the surfaces of the colourful surroundings in a way that I have never experienced elsewhere. Although much has changed in my life since I began making the work in 2010, this project has maintained a constant presence." - From artist statement.

Fifty High Seasons reflects on the cumulative effect of half a century of tourism on the innovative built environment established by Mission Racine, while showing why I fell for its unique charm.

## **The Book**

After pre-selling 260 copies of Fifty High Seasons in June 2017, Shane was able to self-publish the book on his own terms in September 2018 and create a physical object which was consistent with his vision. Fifty High Seasons was designed by Joseph Miceli, a Turin based designer who specialises in artists' books and type design. It was printed at Kopa Printing House in Kaunas under the guidance of photographer Andrew Miksys whose self-published books, 'Tulips' and 'Disko', have received critical acclaim.

It aims to add a new layer to the work with pastel colour splashes which act as palette cleansers as the viewer moves from image to image, while at the same time amplify the unusual colour scheme that runs through the imagery. The open spine binding allows pages to lay completely flat so that the viewer is able to see every detail of the image. The archival postcards, made during the construction of the resorts, which open and close the book serve as a historic backdrop to the images without interfering with or diluting the effect of the edit.

## **Fifty High Seasons Awards**

Curtin O'Donoghue Photography Award, RHA Annual show, June 2018.  
Gallery of Photography Solas Ireland Award, November 2015.  
Renaissance Photography prize finalist 2014, 2015.  
Prix Pictet nomination, 2015.

## **Press**

The Guardian, Der Spiegel, The British Journal of Photography, Irish Arts Review, The Huffington Post, Cara Magazine, Lensculture, Booooooom, Ain't Bad Magazine, Paper Journal, Photomonitor, VICE, ID Magazine, Thispaper, Fisheye Magazine, Murmur Magazine.

"The book is an accomplished summation of a long-term engagement with place and an excellent example of what that kind of dedication to a subject can achieve."

Darren Campion for Irish Arts Review

## **Book events:**

Launch at Unseen Photofair, Amsterdam, 22/09

Launch at The Library Project, Dublin, 25/10

Signing at the Irish Cultural Centre, Paris, 8/11

Signing at Le Bal Books, Paris, 10/11

Artist talk at the RHA, Dublin, 14/11

Guest tutor at 'Make a photobook' workshop with Read That Image, Dublin, 17/11

Self-Publishing workshop at the Gallery of Photography, Dublin 22/11

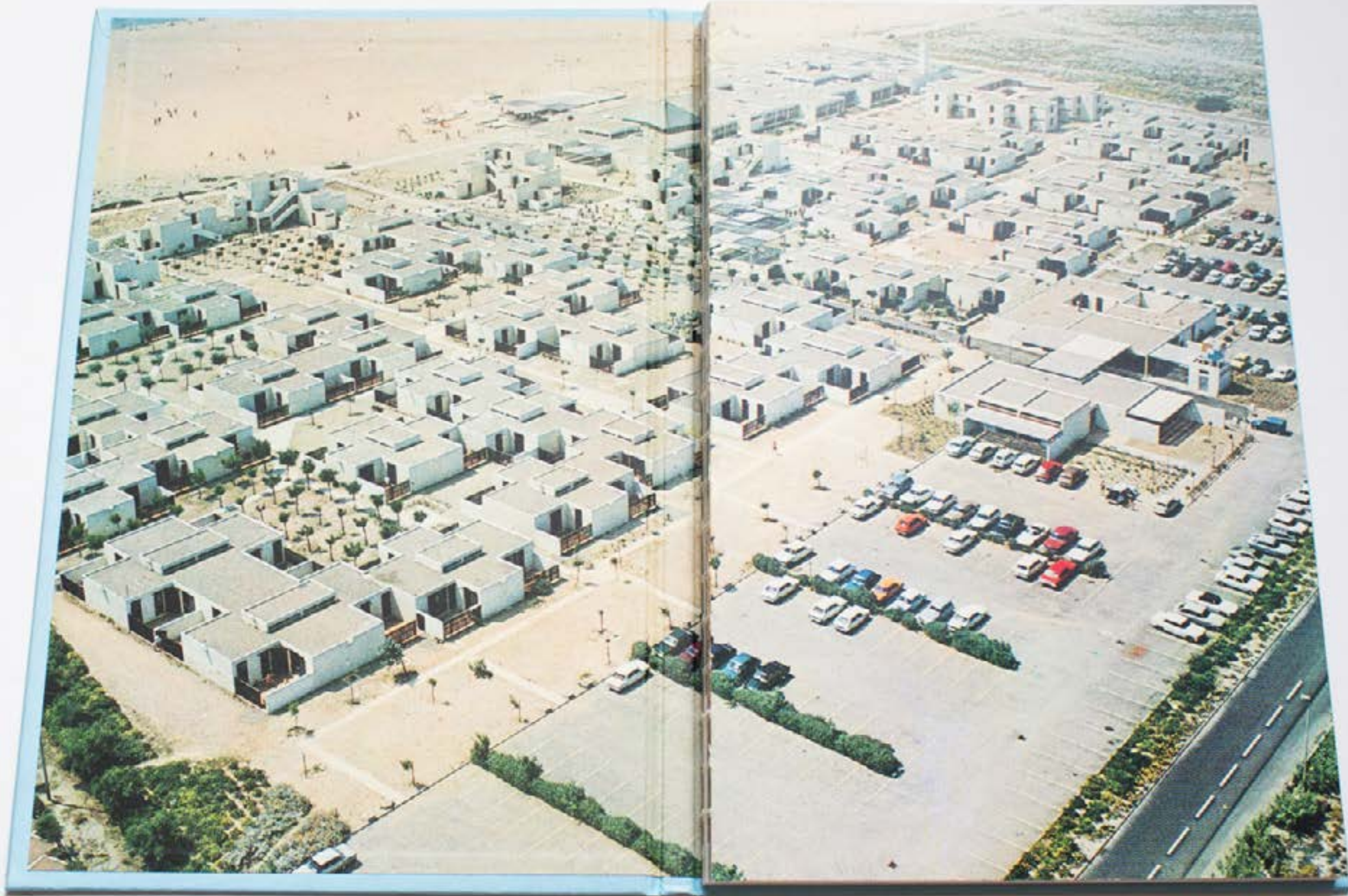
Dublin Art Book Fair, Temple Bar Galleries, Dublin, Launch 22/11

## **Shane Lynam**

Shane Lynam is an Irish artist and photographer. He grew up in Brussels and lived in Paris from 2006 to 2012, before moving back to Dublin in 2012. He studied Politics at UCD followed by European Studies at KU Leuven. After graduating, he worked in the health sector for a Paris based European patient association before he decided to focus on art photography. He completed a part-time MA in Documentary Photography at the renowned Newport School of Photography in 2012.

By immersing himself in built environments over a prolonged period and using a very particular visual vocabulary, his work seeks to reflect on the function and history of public space.























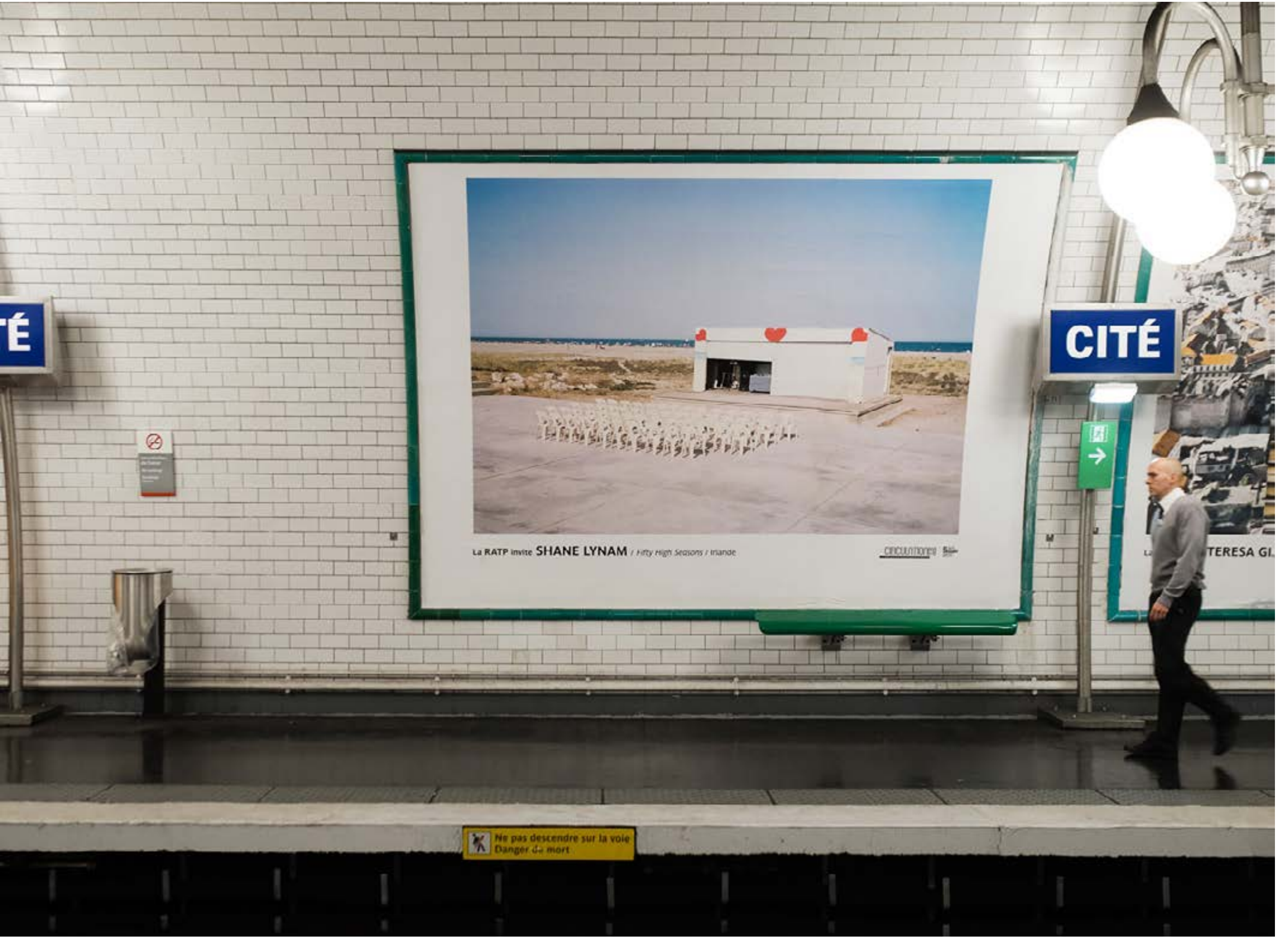






Circulations Festival, Paris, April 2016





Ne pas descendre sur la voie  
Danger de mort

Circulations Festival, Paris, April 2016



Solas Award Show at the Gallery of Photography, Dublin, December, 2015



Shot over 7 years,  
Fifty High Seasons  
examines a group  
of unusual French  
resorts developed  
in the 1960s  
to make it more  
affordable for  
French families  
to spend their  
summer holidays  
in France.



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