



Winter

the way you live

Amanda Talbot

Photography : Mikkel Vang



OWNER: ANETTE HOLMBERG

LOCATION: SKABELONLOFTET, COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

Control isn't a need, it is a function to fulfil our needs. Our lives are a continual struggle to gain control in a way that will satisfy our needs and not deprive those around us, especially those close to us.

In Copenhagen there stands a rundown shipyard that was derelict before painter, Anette Holmberg discovered it. 'The old Burmeister and Wain shipyard had been vacant for years but when I came to visit this rustic building I could instantly see the potential, explains Anette. 'It can be lonely being an artist so I wanted to build a creative community around me in an inspiring space.

She has created a professional creative community in the enormous 1400m² warehouse. 'The aim was to create a place where a mixture of

commercial, artistic and innovative forces can meet and interact with each other.' Anette has filled the space with seventeen studios shared among fifty-two tenants who are mixture of architects, artists, designers, set builders and journalists. 'In a world where we feel increasingly divorced from the people around us, there's a yearning for community,' she says.

Each of her tenants are shown the space they can occupy but it is up to them to build their own walls and interiors. Anette's studio is vast allowing her to hang her large canvases and paint freely. She has built herself a cosy nook, including a kitchen and seating area to sit and enjoy a coffee or relax with her laptop on a worn leather chair.



'I knew I could change the mindset in giving way to the fatalistic attitude about this old shipyard to a sense of longing for something better — and, equally important, a belief that it could be achieved.'

Anette Holmberg, Copenhagen



- Create + Control: Anette Holmberg**
- _ Taking matters into her own hands
 - _ Reviving old skills needed to make objects from scratch
 - _ Recycling, Reusing and Reinventing
 - _ Encouraging personal creativity over mass-production
 - _ Bring a community together who share the same values and ideas

create + control : case study



'I'm certainly not frightened of an electric drill anymore. I love coming here to my space, throwing on my overalls and be in the world I have created for myself.

Anette's creative hub has sparked an interest in the area. An area that had become a ghost town is now seeing a growth in property values because of its newfound popularity with businesses and artists. 'By sharing with friends and neighbours, we become connected as communities, enjoying shared endeavours. Empowering each other, creating shared moral values and tackling local problems including crime and youth disfranchisement, says Anette.

Anette now receives visits from her government and other global governments to learn how to turn barren industrial areas into thriving community hubs.

With thriving cities short of housing, it is an exciting prospect to think that individuals are seeing the value of underused buildings and neighbourhoods. Combining business and creative hubs creates a very positive future.



'This project has served a purpose: it has helped me pursue sacred modern values — individual freedom, personal control and self-realisation. By sharing with friends and neighbours, we become connected as communities, enjoying shared endeavours.'

