

Fig.116 Sequence of backpackers while living in a hostel. After renting out my apartment so as to finance the making of my ark I got to live in a dormitory and met many travelers with their many life-stories to share. Unable to travel outside of Europe I was then able to get in touch with people from all corners of the world.

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In the later years of the project the world became far less open than I had experienced in the first years. New conflicts and pandemics got my life limited to Europe alone. For a time then I have been building my ark in Italian alps while living in hostels back in Sweden. It was in these hostels that I got to meet people from all over the world. If I no longer traveled intercontinentally, I anyway got to meet backpackers like two lovely sisters from Alaska, a Bulgarian chess champion and many other interesting characters. Becoming a bit too old for that kind of backpacking lifestyle I anyway was able to refresh my view of the world and get back in love with the international vibe. With the evolving of the project not only did I get old myself but generally humanity became more conservative. It is true that the digital medium opened up many possibilities; my project in many ways was born with it. The feeling was that with one click anyone could fly to another country and study or work abroad. Anyone could bypass all the old fashion borders; the planet was becoming a place for nomads migrating from one spot to another. I grew up in this historical moment of openness but soon also witnessed how this very openness began to close. Overall life was much more fun when it was more fluid.