

ROOM 11, ETHIOPIA HOTEL

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From the window of Room 11 in the Ethiopia Hotel, which used to be an Italian army barracks during the Fascist occupation of Ethiopia, you can see many children on the street making ends meet by means of various jobs. Almost half of the children (n=180, under the age of 15) live on the street and struggle to survive each day.

The film starts with the sudden arrival of two street children, Yohannes and Sifalow, at room 11. They express their happiness and suffering with respect to living on the street, as well as their dream to leave, using improvised hip-hop and rhythm & blues. After some discussions with me, they decided to start a business on the street in order to improve their lot.

The film recounts the life of street children in Gondar, Ethiopia, by witnessing the communication and collaboration between two children, Yohannes and Sifalow, and myself in a limited spatial setting. This limited space allows the film to focus on our communication and captures some of the ideas that enable them to endure and survive on the street.

The entire film was shot in room 11 in the Ethiopia Hotel. The Kyoto international symposium will be its premier.

Duration: 25 min, **Medium:** DV, **Year:** 2006, **Location:** Gondar, Ethiopia

Keywords: Street children in Ethiopia, Enacting reflexivity within the filmic context, Camera as evidence of communication, Collaboration and advocacy, Limited film setting