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Stephanie Duprie Routh *Atlas of Invisible Things*

Text by Stephanie Duprie Routh
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Between Photography and Prose: A meditative exploration of place, identity and time in Morocco

A luminous blend of photography and prose, *Atlas of Invisible Things* captures the essence of Morocco through shifting light, layered narrative, and quiet reflection. Stephanie Duprie Routh invites readers on a sensory journey where place, identity, and time intertwine, offering a meditation that is as visually arresting as it is intellectually engaging.

At the heart of the book is *Soul*, a long-form essay photographed and written by Duprie Routh. Blurring fact, fiction, and fantasy, the essay explores two Moroccan cities—Marrakesh and Essaouira—through the ethereal lens of »*Soul*.« This is not a travelogue, nor a conventional narrative: it is a story of place, a reflection on gender, and an inquiry into time itself. Temporal dimensions fold upon one another, creating a layered narrative in which photography and prose work together to transform the familiar into the mysterious.

Duprie Routh's imagery is both vibrant and nuanced, tracing shadows on ancient walls, capturing the geometrical shapes cast by light, and rendering Morocco in a spectrum of color and atmosphere. The accompanying text mirrors this fluidity, guiding readers through a journey that is immersive, contemplative, and open-ended and prompting reflection on history, memory, and the unseen forces that shape our experience of the world.

Beautifully designed and richly atmospheric, *Atlas of Invisible Things* is at once enigmatic and deeply affecting—a work that lingers long after the final page is turned.

From the text by Stephanie Duprie Routh:

(...) *The life force instantly set off toward the desert with such momentum she sent a blustery wind into Marrakech without warning. In doing so, she named and caused herself to be 'Soul.' When Soul reached the Sahara, two hundred thousand particles of sand rose to create her physical form. The flecks moved as one just as the 200,000 souls living in the Medina collectively functioned. Now with a name, a being and a form, Soul was instantly in Marrakech. A city, she intuitively felt, that was female. Rammed earth hardened over centuries in the sun surrounded the Medina, protecting the beating heart of its people. Soul, warmed by soft, reflected light bouncing off faded red walls, flowed through the city center, feeling clandestine and clever and curious. (...)*

Stephanie Duprie Routh is a photographer and writer based in Austin, Texas. Her work is held in both private and public collections. *Atlas of Invisible Things* is her third monograph.

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