

A black and white photograph of a man playing a trumpet. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a light-colored shirt. The lighting is dramatic, coming from the side, which creates strong highlights on his face and hands while leaving much of the scene in deep shadow. The background is dark and indistinct.

cantiere/site #1

bar west

In un bar ai confini dell'impero tutte le sere suonano gli ABG. In una lingua mista anglodialectale spruzzata d'italiano si snoda un masticato, quotidiano concerto fatto di canzoni, poesie, preghiere che ha come tappeto un flusso musicale ininterrotto, ipnotico, sgembo. Gli equivoci del presente, la disperazione di trovarsi non più in una terra misteriosa e poetica ma in un supermarket nel mezzo del far west, la genesi biografica di questo "miracolo negativo" che ognuno di noi sperimenta, la gioia di sciogliere l'angoscia nel rotolare ossessivo del rock and roll... tutto si fa rito notturno, laica domanda di senso attraverso l'inseguirsi di suoni e voci che si alzano imperterriti e vanno *from the province of the empire to the empire... listen empire... I'm talking to you empire...*

The ABG play every evening in a bar at the empire's edge. In a hybrid language of English and dialect with a sprinkling of Italian, a chewed-over, daily concert unfolds, with songs, poems and prayers against a non-stop flow of music, hypnotic and eccentric. Present misunderstandings, the despair at no longer finding yourself in a mysterious and poetic land but in a supermarket in the middle of the far west, the early life story of this "reverse miracle" which each of us experiences, the joy of overcoming pain in the relentless undulation of rock and roll... all this becomes a night ritual, a secular questioning of meaning through sequences of sounds and voices raised insistently and moving *from the province of the empire to the empire... listen empire... I'm talking to you empire...*

bar west

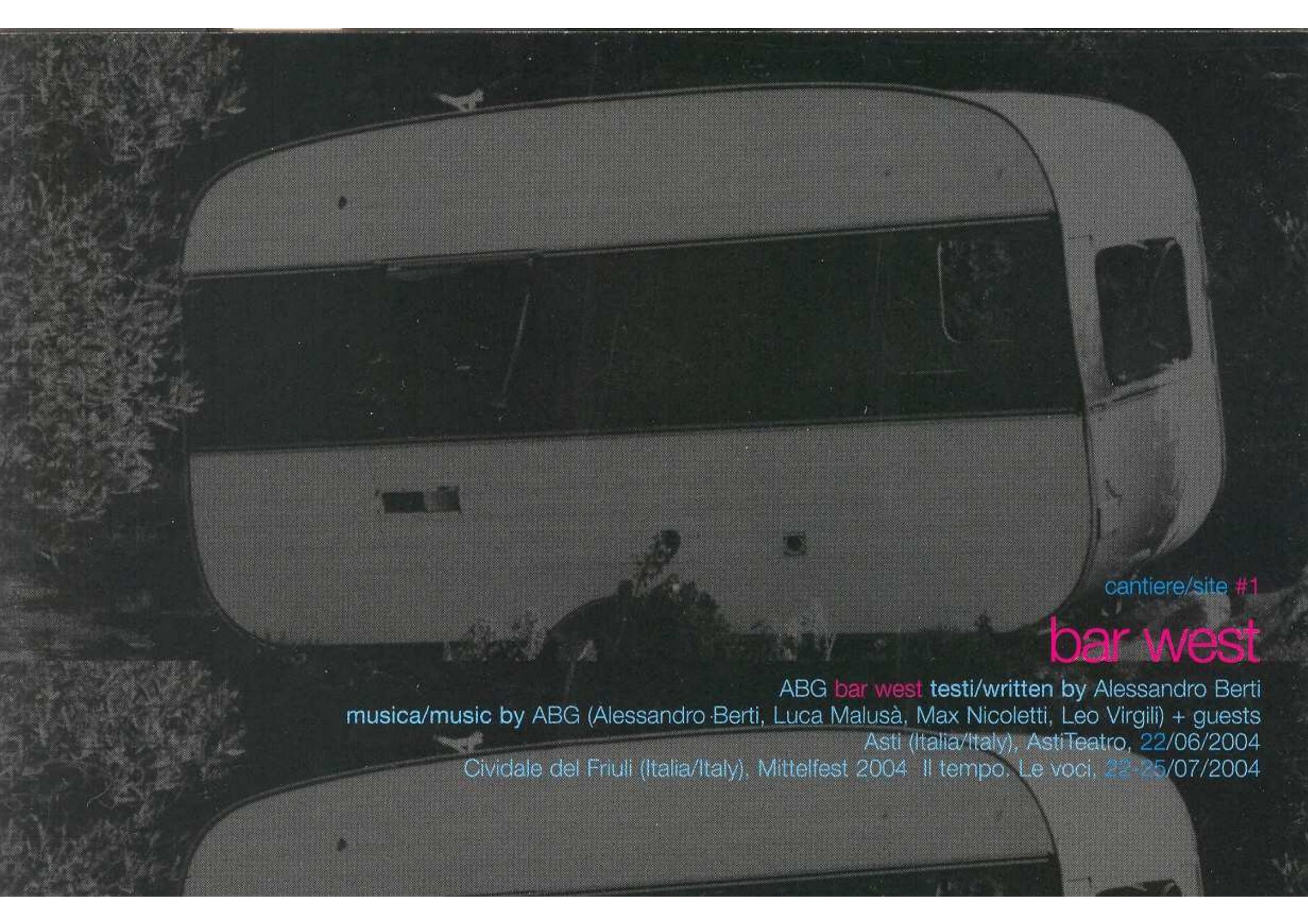


Con tot col ch'ian fat i mee per fermia gnan naser la miseria
Inveci a l'ò naseda e come
A l'ò tocheda sé cun col man ké
I did touch it
I touched the Thatcher recession
In those gloomy misty streets
We kids brought there to learn
The language of the future

Al dé d'incoo s'at perel mia l'ingleis at vee da nissona pèrta ragasol
Everybody was saying it was thinking it
Down there in hot Emilia
Int al lavor ormai l'è kse ghe gnint da fer
E srà selimper pio' kse plo' ndom avanti
And I did learn it
I learnt it very well
Fast and meticolous kid as I was

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ABG **bar west** testi/written by Alessandro Berti
musica/music by ABG (Alessandro Berti, Luca Malusà, Max Nicoletti, Leo Virgili) + guests
Asti (Italia/Italy), AstiTeatro, 22/06/2004
Cividale del Friuli (Italia/Italy), Mittelfest 2004 Il tempo. Le voci, 22-25/07/2004