The Visitor's Centre in the Fuencaliente lighthouse is a window opened to the sea, to its universal essences and current problems and also to possible solutions.

The marine reserve of the island of La Palma and unique characteristics to sustain a backdrop representing the fragility of the submarine world that exists at the foot of any cliff. It is a creative proposal offering strong visual solutions designed to make us think about the commitment needed for conservation and sustainable uses of the sea.

But the sea itself doesn't talk, it whispers; and this is why written information has been reduced to a minimum in the Centre. What is left to us is sight, touch and sound to express a twin reality, the opposite ends of the same phenomenon: the suffering sea and the joyful sea.

The beam of this lighthouse netrates our unconscious rather than our on. The visitor is confronted with parallel feelings of relaxation and repulsion through the contemplation of contrasting images: the abused beauty of the trapped dolphin, fossilized fishes, the bitter-sweet touch of bronze and lava rock, the fragile harmony of the submarine world littered with rubbish and waste... and all this through the amazin vision of a diver, in a atmosphere of music where the breathing of a submerged hu being is set against an unreal world of whale song and dolphin squeaks. A proposal of silence: a reflection on the fragility of the submarine world and the beauty of regenerated life.

ie marine reserve

ine reserve aims to be a e human beings and the et hand in hand, where ants, marine organisms ermen have to continue living in harmony.

> ain aim is to protect and the marine resources of hing interest, preserving inable areas where local rmen can maintain their traditional way of life.

educational tool for the nment and the fisheries. It es awareness of the need to rve the marine environment use the species of interest to umans in a responsible way.

The marine reserve is the heritage of all of us. Help us to preserve it.

La Palma Island Marine Reserve **Information Centre**

Refugio Pesquero s/n. Pto. de Tazacorte 38770 Tazacorte, La Palma, Tel/fax: 922 48 02 23 NIPO (línea): 013-18-042-1 NIPO (papel): 013-18-081-3 D.L.:M-9967-2018 reservasmarinas@mapama.es



gn of the centre and sculptures Miguel Mansanet© 2006



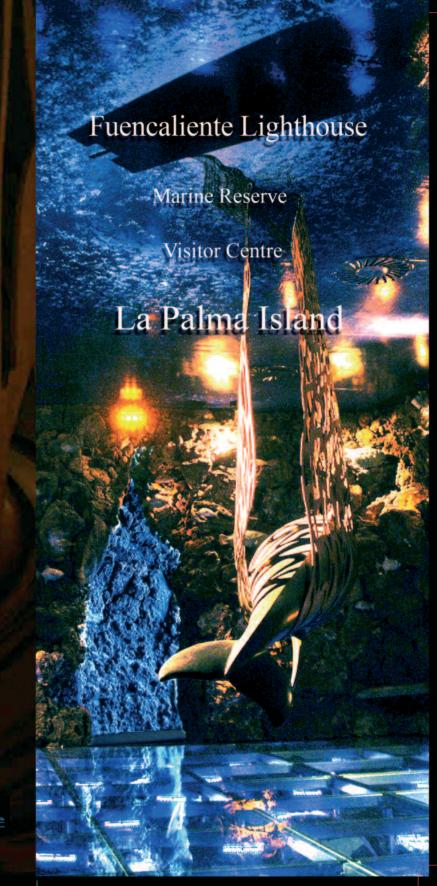
www.reservasmarinas.net













Each year 6.4 million tons of waste are dumped into the sea.

Of this waste, 70% ends up on the sea bed, 15% on the beaches, and the remaining 15% floats.

Thousands of whales, dolphins, turtles and marine birds die every year asphyxiated by plastic bags.

Sharks living at depths of more than 700 metres have been found with cigarette butts in their stomachs, in the Canary Islands.

The calculated ratio of plastic in the sea goes up to 13,000 pieces per km2.



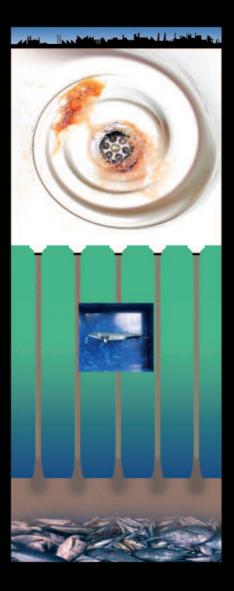
About 600,000 tons of oil are spilt into the oceans every year.

Most of the crude oil spills occur in routine operations when loading, unloading, cleaning, etc. and usually in ports or oil terminals.

But there are also accidents... in Spain alone, there have been more than 20 oil slicks caused by oil tankers that have sunk, making a total of more than 300,000 tons of spills on our coastline since 1969.

A high percentage of global tanker traffic passes by the coasts of the Canary Islands.

Since the Prestige catastrophe maritime oil traffic has increased by 12%...



Some 75% of the pollutants that reach the sea come from land activities, through rivers, gullies, waste pipes...

In 1994, 2,114 million people, or 37% of the world's population, lived less than 60 km from the sea.

In 2006 3,300 million people were living in this situation... and they dumped 300,000 m3 of waste liquid into the sea, 70% of it completely untreated.

In 2050, around 7,200 million people will be living in coastal areas.

In the Canary Islands more than 90% of the population lives less than 30 km from the coast.

"I am only one.
I can only do what one can do.
But what one can do I will
do!"
John Seymour

"In nature There are no rewards or punishments; there are consequences." Horace A. Vachell

"Whoever wants to move a mountain starts by moving the small stones."

"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." Chinese sayings

