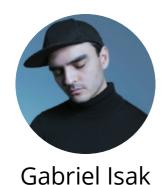


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The main feature of this issue is the work of Mária Švarbová (page 3) where she showcases a selection of her work. Mária's work is featured by a lot of huge players (Vogue Italia, Nehera, Behance, The Guardian, Instagram, Forbes and many more) and winner of multiple international photo awards in 2016. I asked Mária from which other photographers she feels a strong connection in her work and she made the following list:



(page 15)



Dayana Montesano

(page 27)

Ben Thomas

(page 39)



Ben Zank

(page 51)

Enjoy their stunning work and make sure to check their portfolios for more amazing work. Get inspired! ~ André Kreft, Founding Editor-in-Chief

Colophon

Editor-in-Chief: André Kreft

Design & Production: GIM Media, The Netherlands

Cover: Pool Without Water Series. Photography & Art Direction: © Mária Švarbová. Styling: Martina Siranova. Model: Natalia Muchova.

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Mária Švarbová

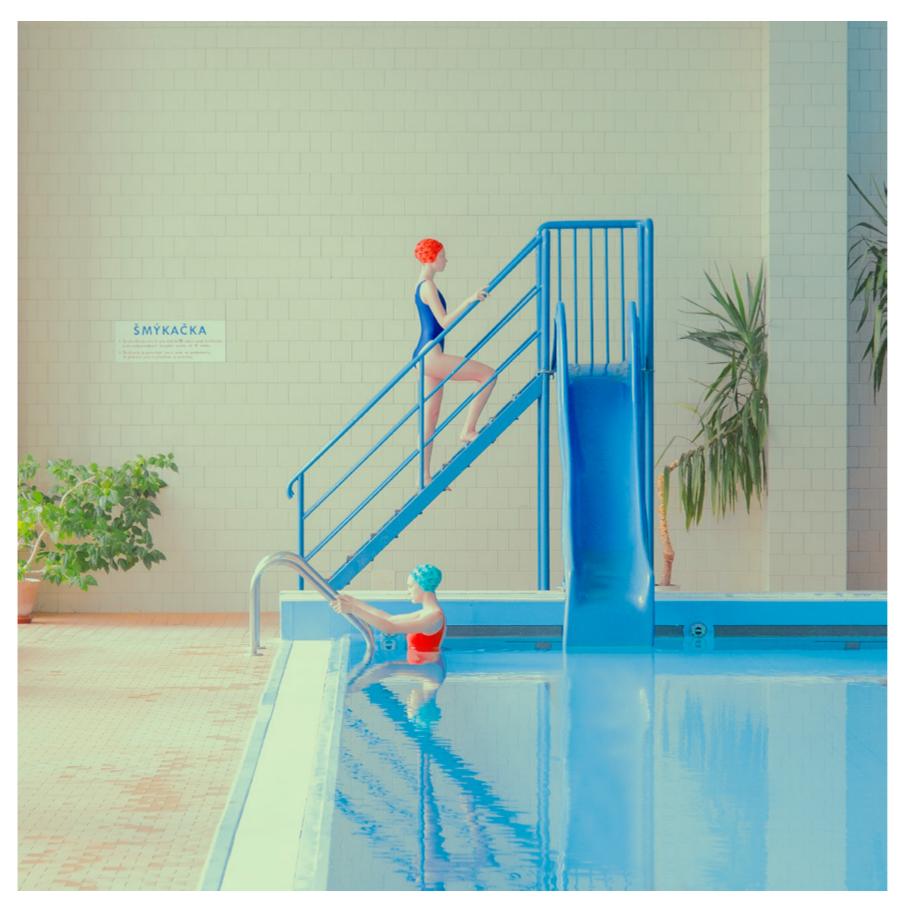
Maria Svarbova was born in 1988 in Slovakia. Despite studying restoration and archeology, she found a medium for her artistic expression in photography. Since 2010, she has focused on developing her own photographic language, quickly gaining international recognition. Amongst awards, solo and group exhibitions, her work has been featured in Vogue, Guardian, Instagram, and many other publications. Highlights of her commercial work include commission for promotional poster displayed at the Taiwanese landmark, 101 skyscraper.

Maria has developed a distinctive style early on – departing from traditional portraits to focus on experimentation with space, colour and atmosphere. Her interest in architecture and public spaces, usually build in the Socialist era, led her to create unique sceneries. Human body in Maria's photographs is more or less a prop, without individuality or emotions. As part of careful composition, beautifully alien figures create still, dream-like scenes with ordinary objects. There is a silent tension, the drama is hidden under clean, smooth surface. Even in her more ornamental, nostalgic works there is a sense of cold detachment. Everyday actions such as sports or doctors visit are frozen in a moment and through Maria's eyes, given a new meaning. Soothing pastels, geometry and visual purity give a sense of otherworldly order, undisturbed visual pleasure that is unattainable in real life. Through her photographs, Maria stops the time and shares her vision: she is not afraid to address the loneliness and isolation, nevertheless she chooses to celebrate its still, calm beauty.

Winner of International Photography Awards 2016.

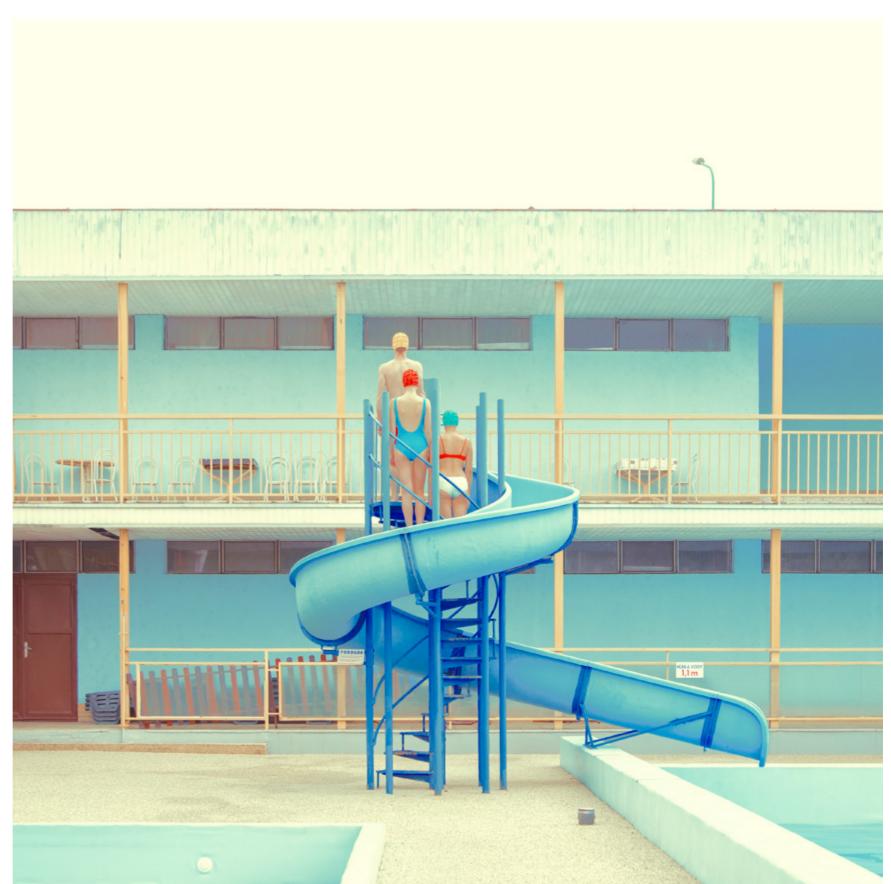
Listed in Forbes/Slovakia 30 under 30, the biggest talents of Slovakia and Top 5 of most viewed.

http://www.mariasvarbova.com/



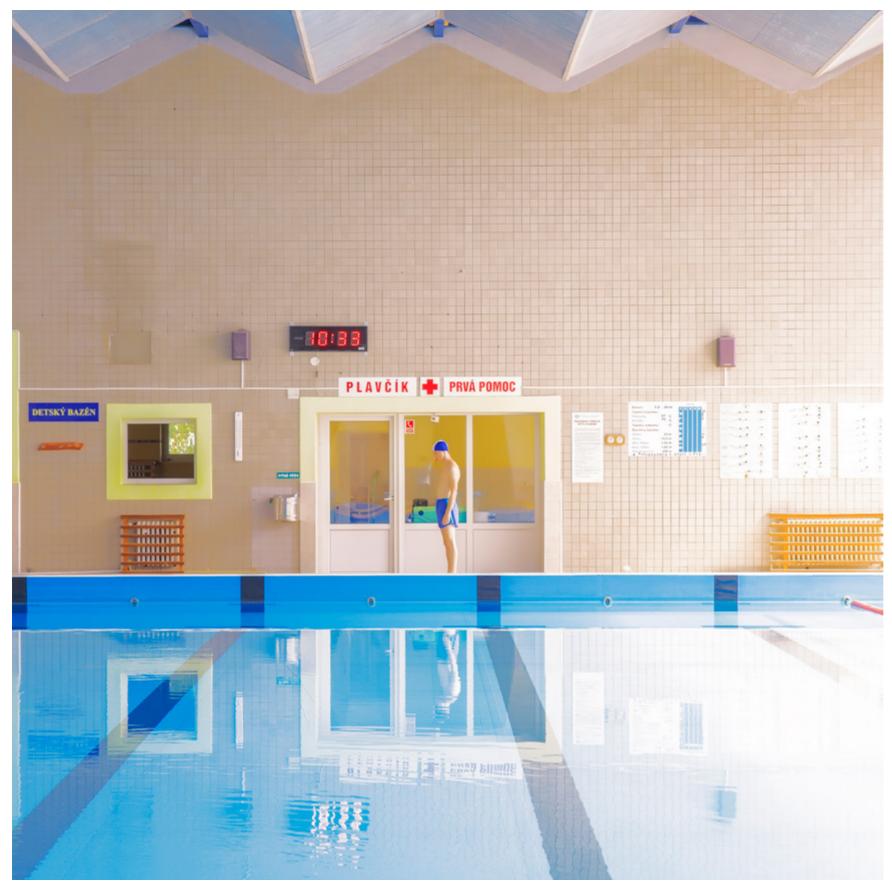
No Diving Series

Photo, Concept: Mária Švarbová Costume: Martina Siranova Models: Mix model management



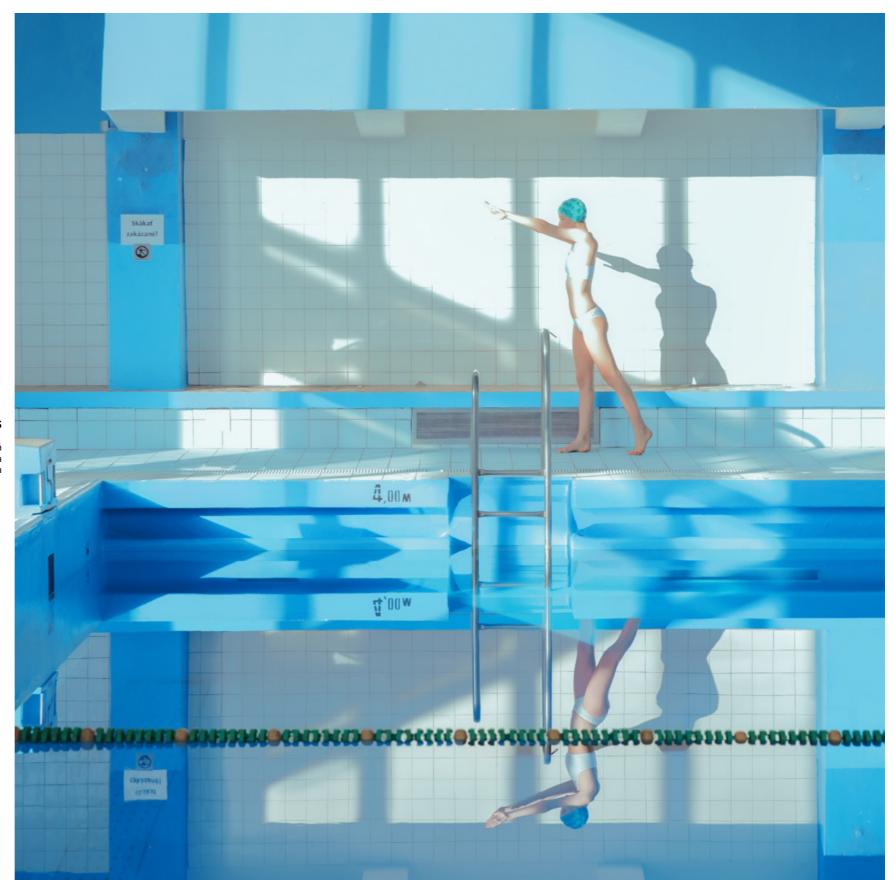
No Diving Series

Photo, Concept: Mária Švarbová Costume: Martina Siranova Models: Mix model management, Adam



SWIMM Series

Photo, Concept: Mária Švarbová Costume: Martina Siranova Model: Adam



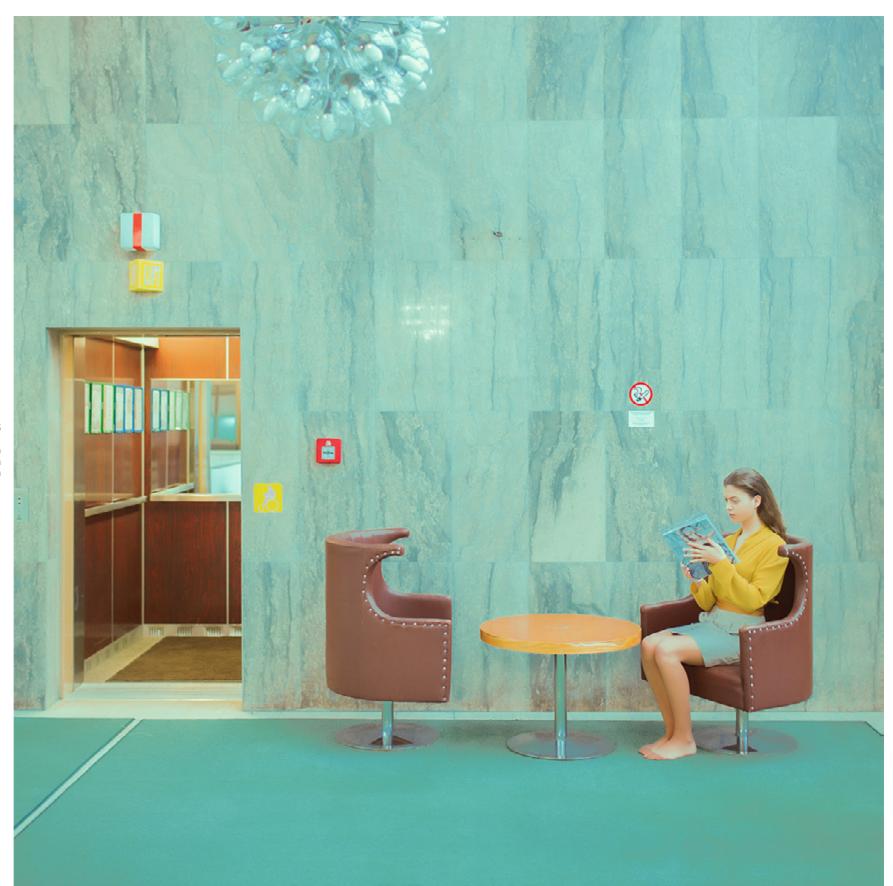
Snow Pool Series

Photo, Concept: Mária Švarbová Costume: Zuzana Hudakova Model: Mix model management Slovakia



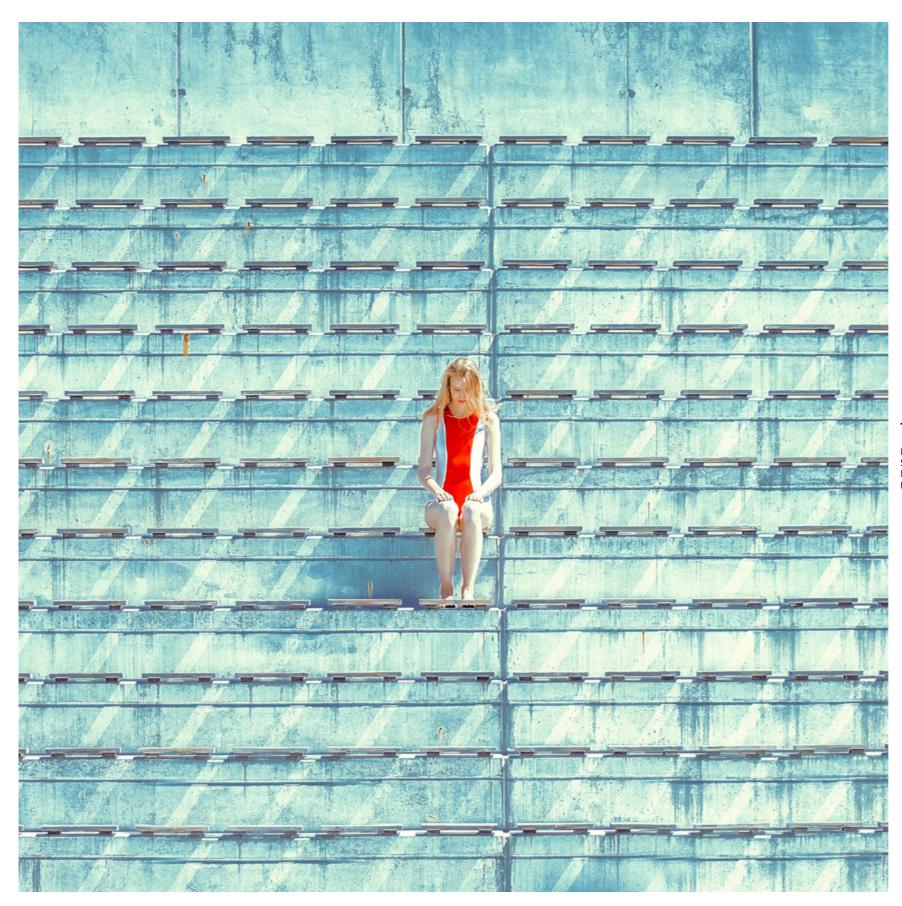
Human Space Series

Photo, Concept: Mária Švarbová Costume: Zuzana Hudakova Model: Frederika, M management Slovakia



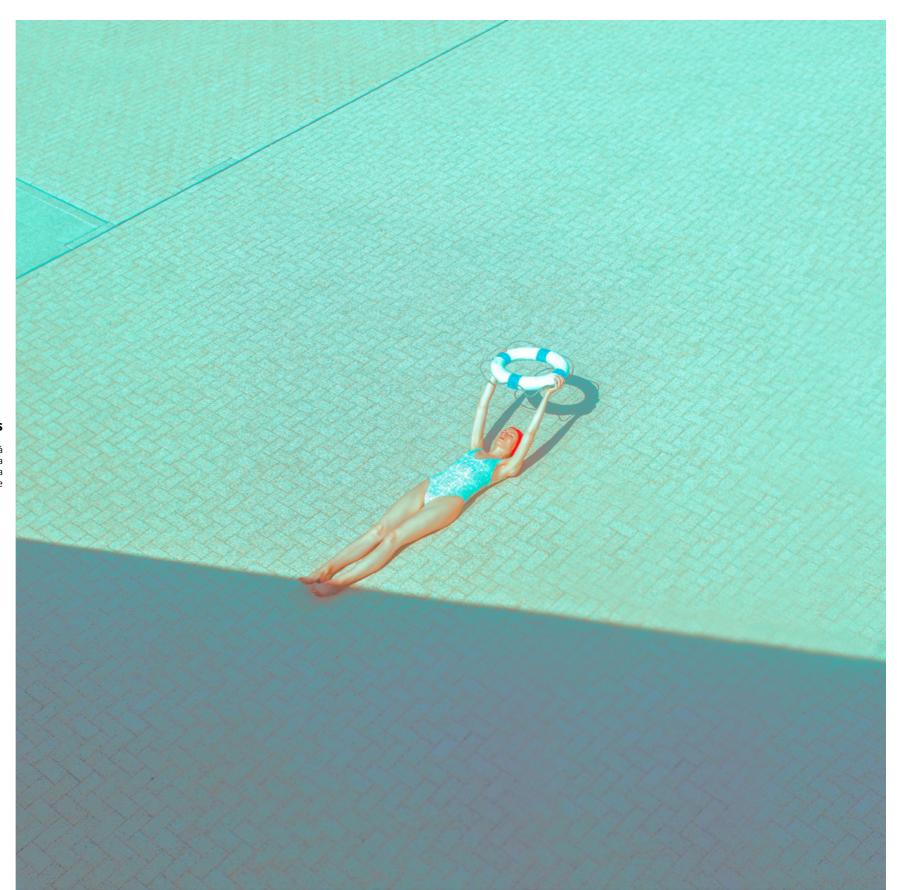
Social Centre Series

Photo, Concept: Mária Švarbová Costume: Zuzana Hudakova Model: Simona, M management Slovakia



The Tribune Series

Photo, Concept: Mária Švarbová Styling, Costume: Martina Siranova Models: M management Slovakia Place: x-bionic® sphere



The Tribune Series

Photo, Concept: Mária Švarbová Styling, Costume: Martina Siranova Models: M management Slovakia Place: x-bionic® sphere



Butcher / Anna and the Adults/ Series

Photo, Concept: Mária Švarbová Scenographer: Zuzana Hudakova Make up artist and Hair: Zuzana Puchrikova Models: Anna Kristofova, Mario Absolon, Matej Jonis, Juliana Olhova, Michaela Krajciova Special thanks: Izba revolucnych tradicii, Matej Turcek



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Photo, Concept: Mária Švarbová Scenographer: Zuzana Hudakova Make up artist and Hair: Zuzana Puchrikova Models: Anna Kristofova, Mario Absolon, Matej Jonis, Juliana Olhova, Michaela Krajciova Special thanks: Izba revolucnych tradicii, Matej Turcek

Mária Švarbová is also featured in our 25pages *Collection 2*: **Masters of Portrait**







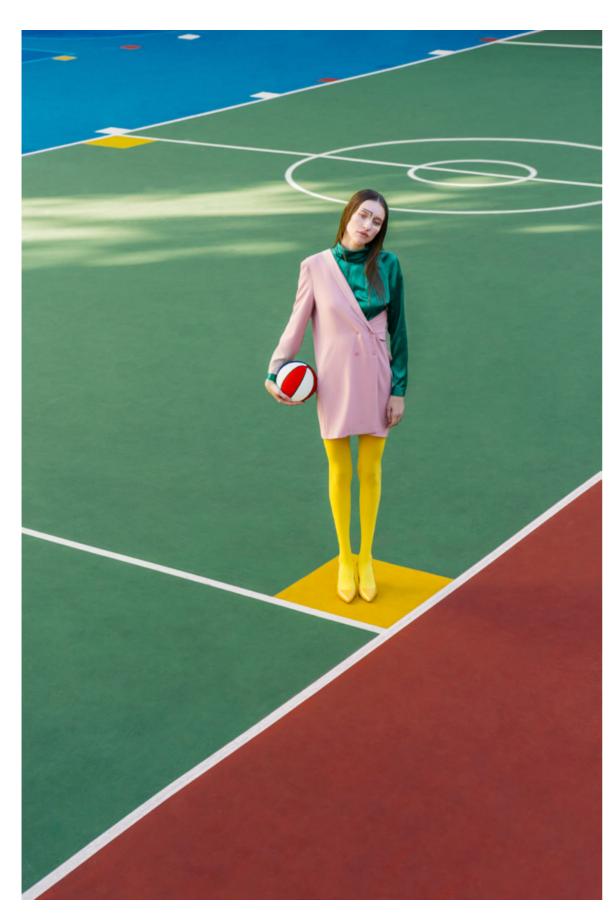
Download this book for **free** on http://25pages.com/



Gabriel Isak

Gabriel Isak was born in Huskvarna, Sweden. He uses photography as a metaphor for experiences of the soul by creating photographs that are simple in form, but rich in ideas and emotions. His imagery entails surreal and melancholic scenes inspired by the inner world of dreams and psychology, where he invites the viewer to interact with the internal world of solitary figures that symbolize our own unconscious states. The objective of Isak's art is to reflect human experiences that will allow the spectator to reflect on their own journey. Gabriel received his BFA in Photography from Academy of Art University in 2016 and is currently residing in New York.

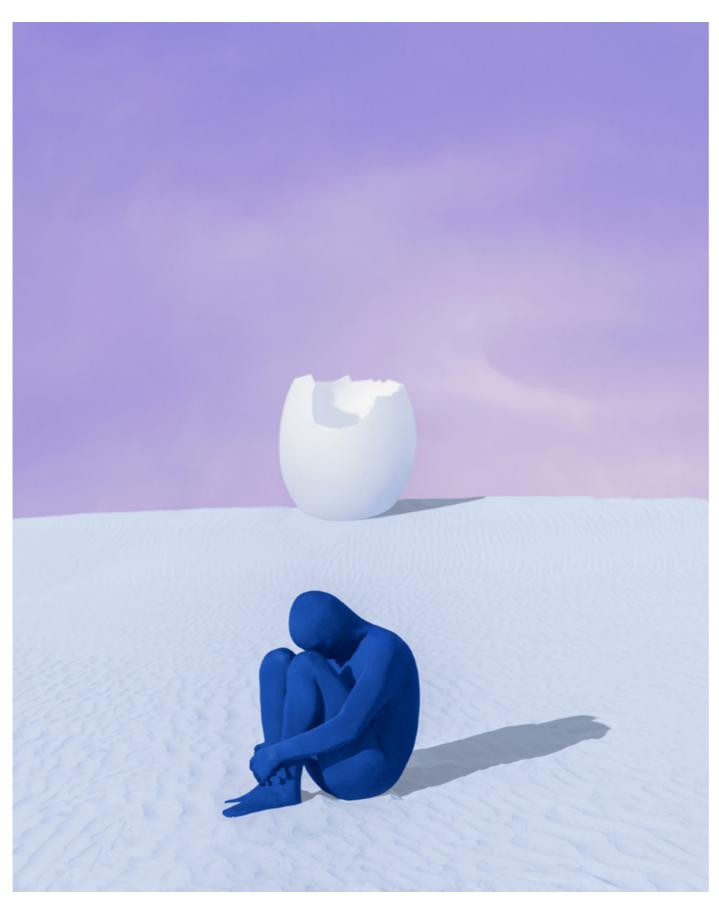
http://www.gabrielisak.com/



Dazed Delusions Series

Photographer: Gabriel Isak Stylist: Teresa Tran Make up and Hair: Dani Fisk Model: Franki King





Entities Series

Photographer: Gabriel Isak

Entities, a series about exploring different personas. To observe and discover one's surrounding, internal and external. An abstract representation of one's self; a reflection of the life within.





Silent Visions Series

Photographer: Gabriel Isak Stylist: Shani Storey Make up and Hair: Dani Fisk Model: Alex Michels



The Shadow and the Self Series

Photographer: Gabriel Isak

A series inspired by Carl Jung and his theory of the shadow self.

"To confront a person with his shadow is to show him his own light.

Once one has experienced a few times what it is like to stand judgingly between the opposites, one begins to understand what is meant by the self.

Anyone who perceives his shadow and his light simultaneously sees himself from two sides and thus gets in the middle".

- Carl Jung



The Blue Journey Series

Photographer: Gabriel Isak

In The Blue Journey, I invite the viewer to enter a dream world, where solitude is more than just being alone. It is a world of soul searching and dream interpretation, spun from a web of psychological states, which is filled with stimulating knowledge and energy of the self. Solitary figures are concealed in surreal sceneries, depicting their internal world, which symbolizes our own unconscious states.







The Caged Bird Series

Photographer: Gabriel Isak Stylist: Chaw Chaw Su San Make up Artist: Jill Mlynczyk Hair Stylist: Teresa Tran Model: Alexandria Ceranski



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Dayana Montesano

Dayana Montesano was born in Rome in 1985. Since the very early stage of her artistic and educative develoment, she got into visual arts exploring devoid of prejudice both traditional techniques and digital approach. Obsessed by dream and the unconscious, she explored these aspects in detail by means of psychoanalysis, in order to better understand herself and the world around her. She is focused on portrait mostly, intended to represent intimacy and to depict a psychological state of being, rather than to display mere subject's physical features. Between 2014 and 2016 she was granted three scholarships at Scuola Romana di Fotografia (Rome School of Photography), where she attends a masterclass in "Personal and creative research" and a masterclass in the field of nude photography named "Naked photography", both held by Augusto Pieroni. Her works have been selected by Officine Fotografiche for the "DNA Pictures" still photography workshop. Her photographs have been published in diverse magazines, among which Vogue Italia, for which she realized a fashion editorial; and FotoCult, that dedicated an interview article to her "Analisi" work, publishing the entire series. Her work have been exposed in diverse galeries and events, among which the Leica Gallery in Milan. She exposed her works twice in Hybrida Contemporanea art gallery in Rome as well as at Palazzo Comunale in Florence. Currently represented by the Cell63 Art Gallery, based in Berlin. Winner as "New Talent of the Year" at MIFA 2016 (Moscow International Photography Awards) with "Analysis" series; first prize in "self-portrait" category at IPA 2016 (International Photography Awards) with "I'm" series; second prize in the three categories "collage", "self-portrait" and "portrait" at TIFA 2016 (Tokyo International Photography Awards); honourable mention at PX3 2016 (Prix de la Photographie Paris) with single image "Copper and Gold"; honourable mention at TIFA 2016 with single image "Princess".

https://dayanamontesano.myportfolio.com/



I'm Series

Photographer: Dayana Montesano

In this series of photographs I portrayed myself, overlaying my own body to some places where I wish I could have stayed for a longer time. Those places I shot and that are now in the background are some of the environments I encountered during my trips through Italy, Spain, France and Greece, plus one which I photographed in a cruise ship. Postures are often clearly unnatural and express my unease in relating to the outside world, seized by a feeling of unsuitability. Chromatic harmony between me and the buildings represents my need of taking part of the world I am surrounded by, despite I can never really feel myself into the environment all around me.



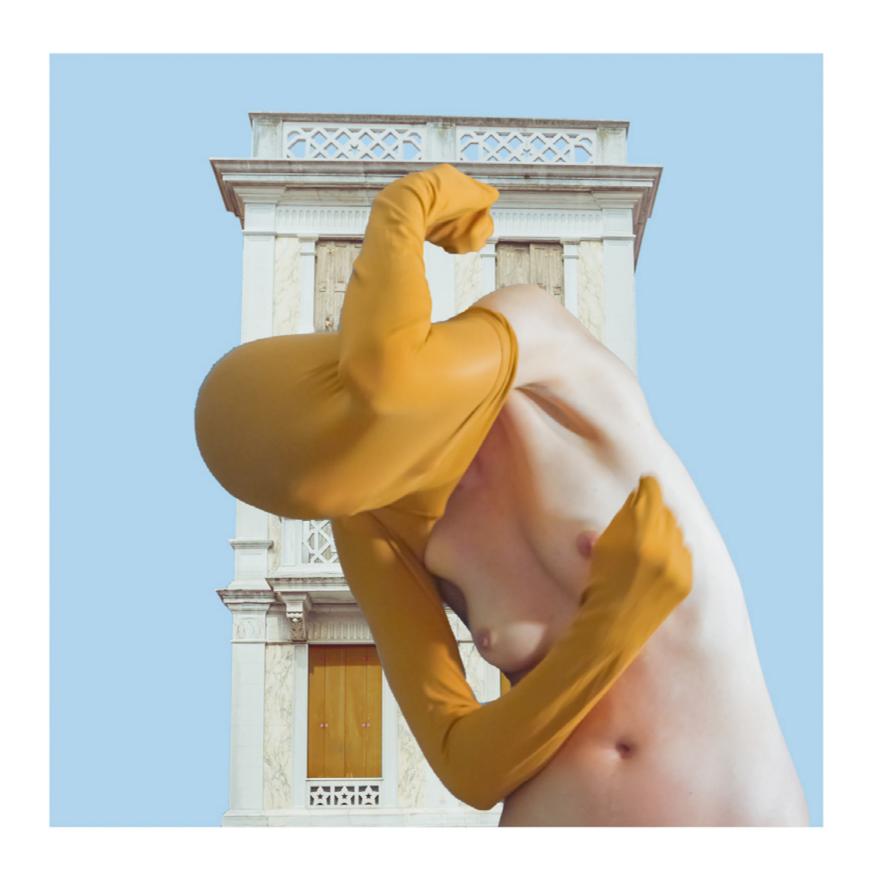




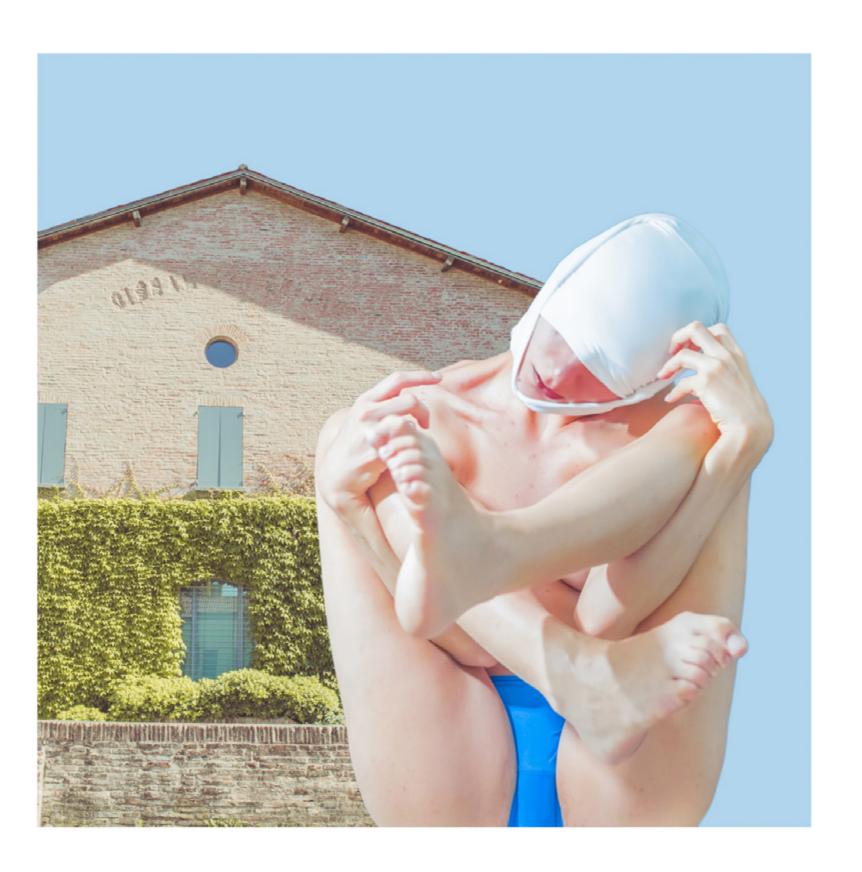












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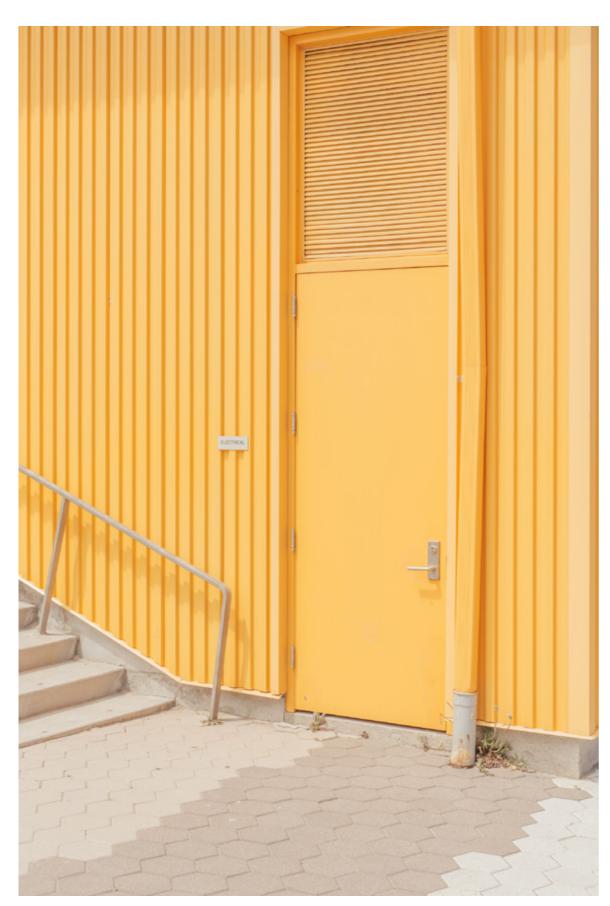




Ben Thomas

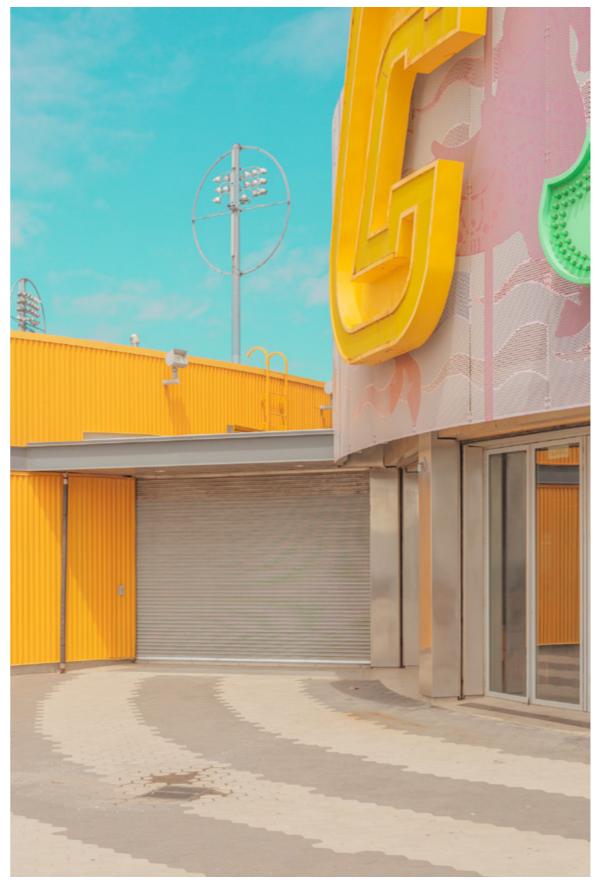
Ben Thomas is a photographer and visual artist born in Adelaide, now living in Melbourne, Australia. Ben's work has centered around the cities and urban spaces that we live in. His "Cityshrinker" series (2007) was internationally acclaimed and considered to be one of the pioneering projects exploring the now popular tilt-shift technique. Ben's study of urban spaces continued with "Accession" (2012) utilising mirror and kaleidoscopic techniques to highlight how repeating patterns and objects act as the basis of our our urban surroundings. Most recently Ben has developed his latest series "Chroma" (2015) and "Chroma II (2016), a further deconstruction of cities and urban areas with a primary focus of the use of colour and flatness that poses questions of how society defines the places in which we live. Ben has recently completed campaigns/assignments for The New Yorker Magazine, Sony, Cake, Singapore Airlines, Penguin Books and Chronicle Books. Winner of the LensCulture Emerging Talents 2016 Jurors' Pick. Finalist of the 2016 William and Winifred Bowness Photography Prize. Winner of the 2015 125LIVE Olympus Vision award (London) honouring an established artist for pushing the boundaries of the medium through innovation, technical expertise and originality. And many more.

http://benthomas.net.au/



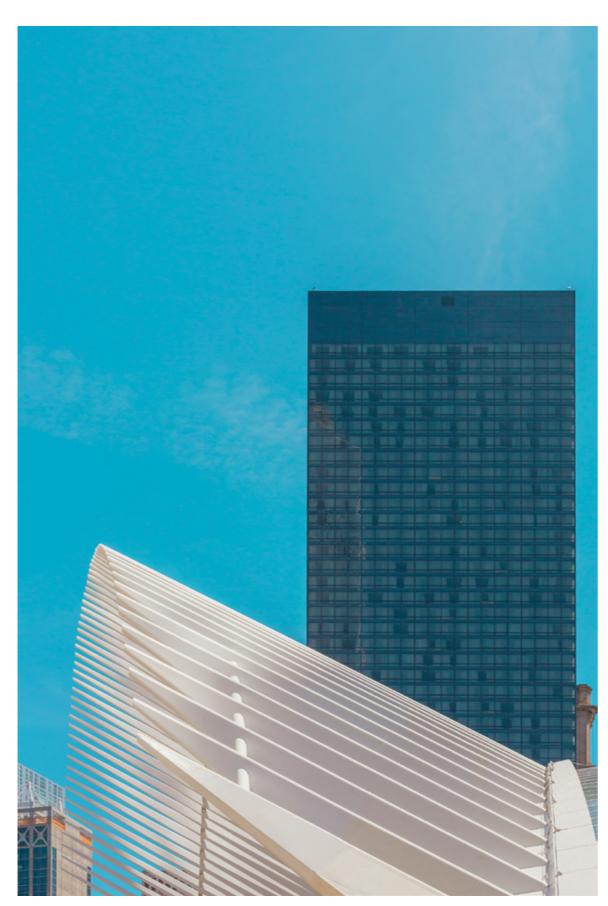
Chroma II Series - What is beyond

Photographer: Ben Thomas



Chroma II Series - Sunday vibe. The big C

Photographer: Ben Thomas



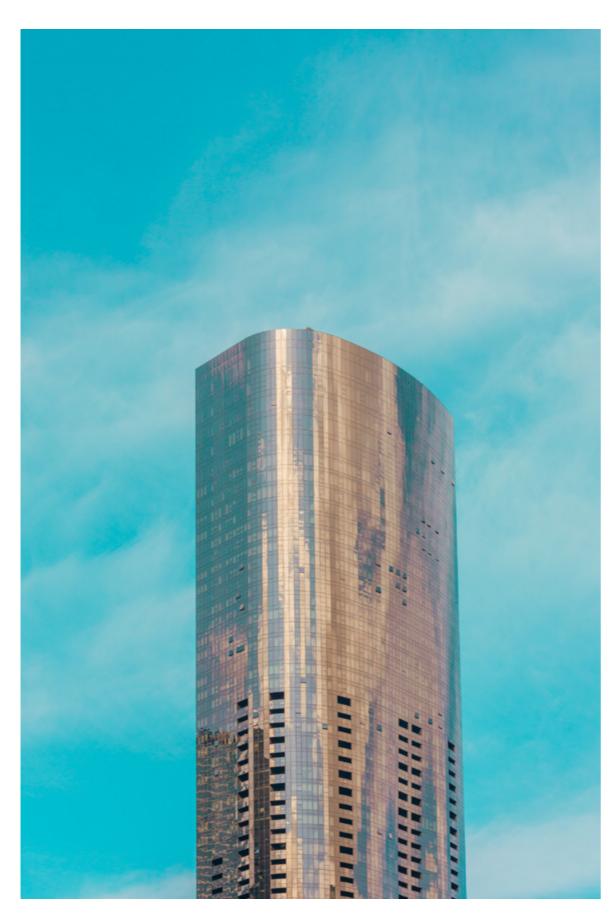
Chroma II Series - Positioned 2

Photographer: Ben Thomas



Chroma II Series - Back to Tones

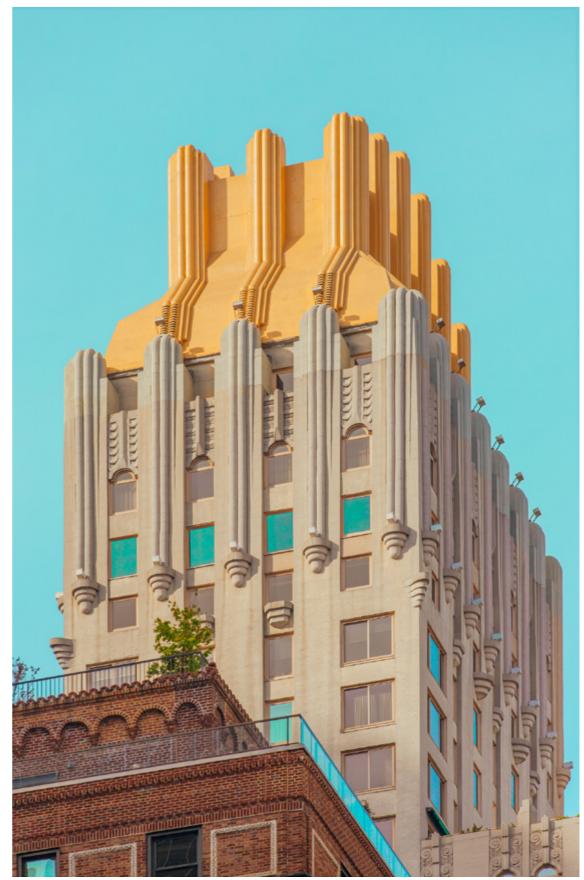
Photographer: Ben Thomas



Chroma II Series - Seasons

Photographer: Ben Thomas

Melbourne



Chroma II Series - Crown

Photographer: Ben Thomas

Melbourne



Chroma II Series - Nathan's

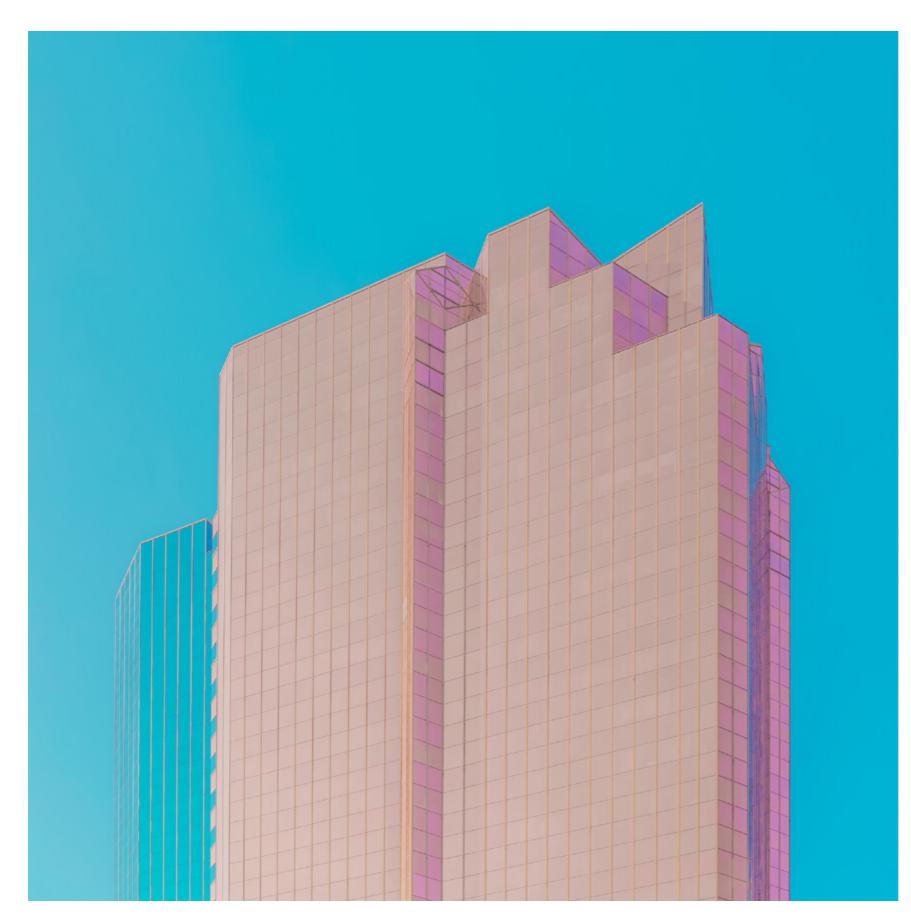
Photographer: Ben Thomas



Chroma II Series - Pauls D

Photographer: Ben Thomas

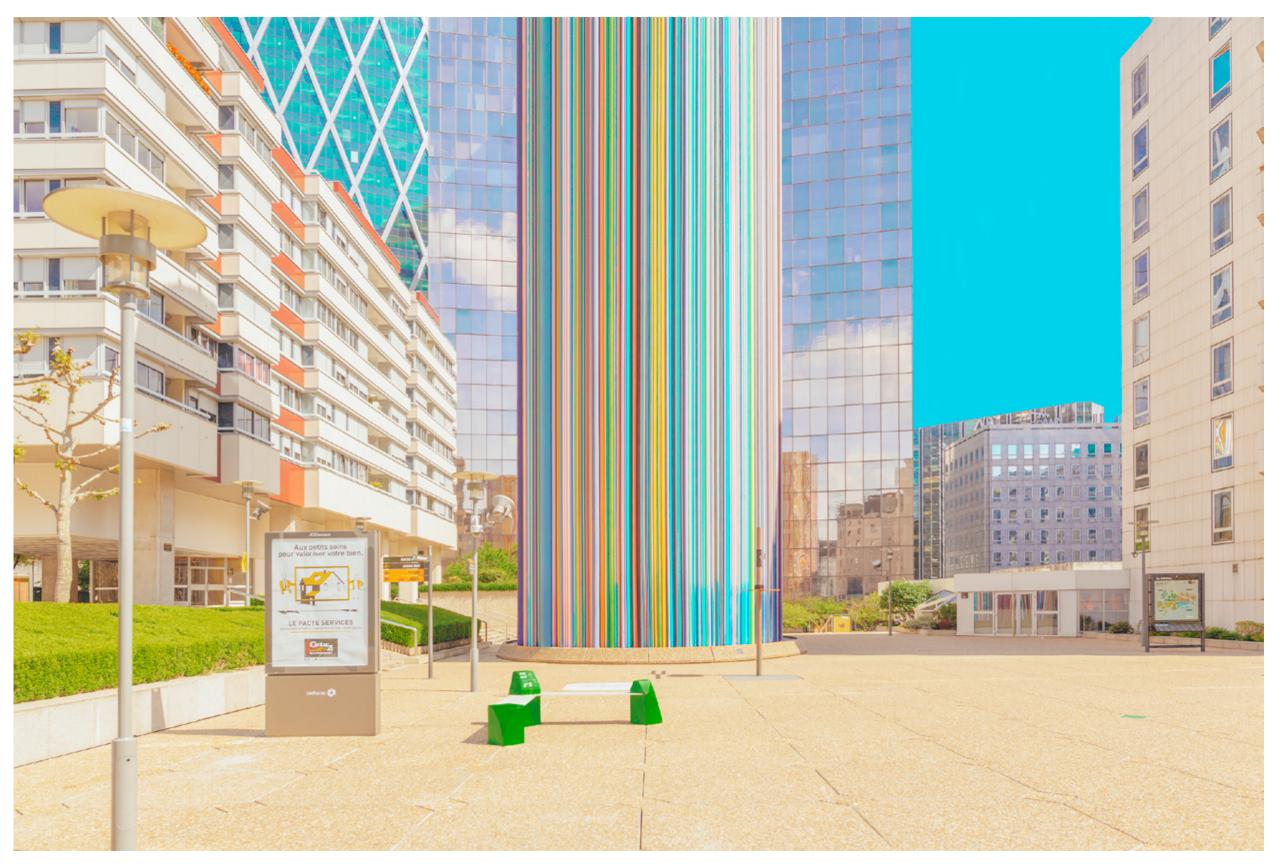
New York



Chroma Series - Elements 2

Photographer: Ben Thomas

Hong Kong



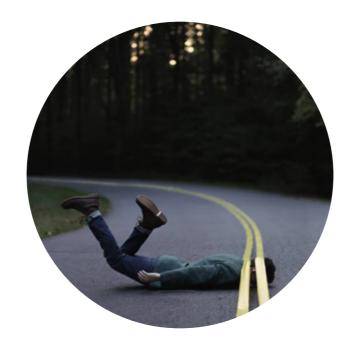
Chroma II Series - Prep

Photographer: Ben Thomas Paris

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Ben Zank

Ben Zank was born in 1991 in the Bronx; he still lives and works in New York City. While his field of study was journalism, Ben Zank found a more direct means of expression in photography, after he discovered a Pentax ME Super in his grandmother's attic. Submitting himself to the rigorous exercise of "one shot per day", his images often conveniently stage himself as the main character. Using simple props such as yellow tape, Zank manages to bend reality to suit his own vision.

http://www.benzank.com/



5 Below



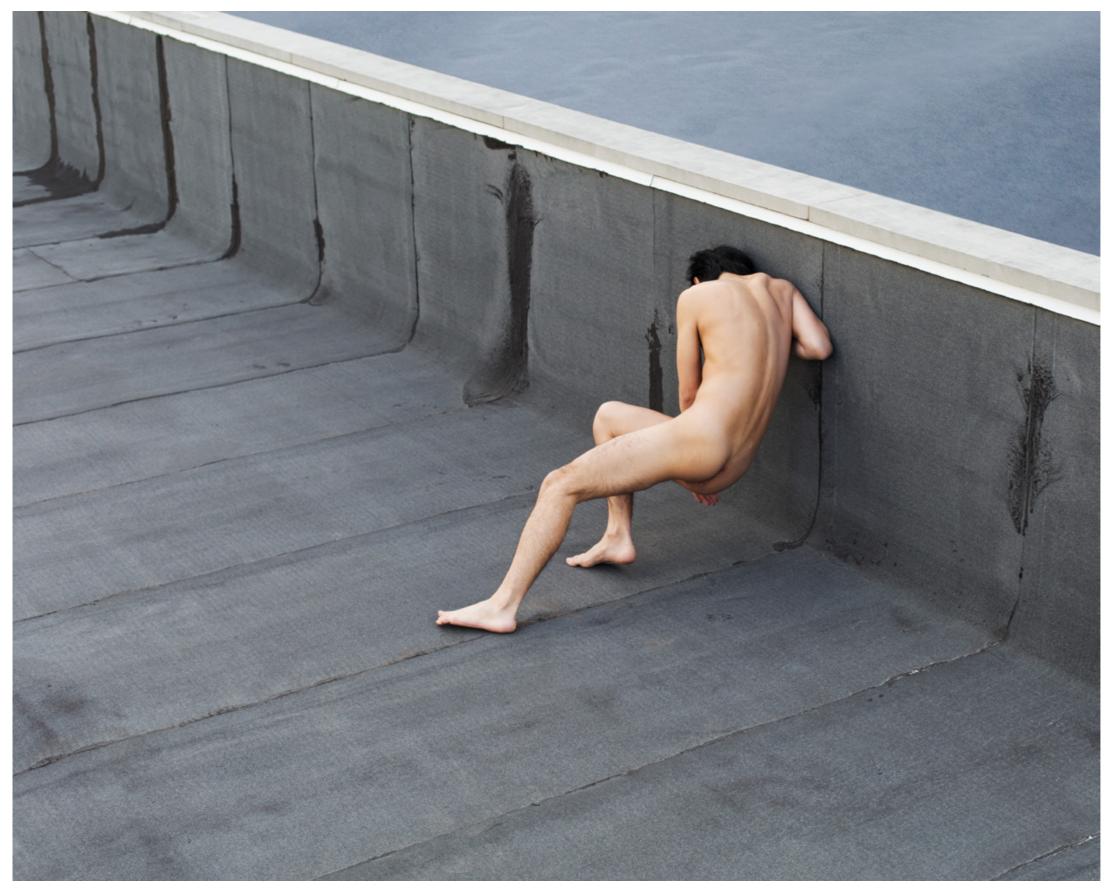
Latent gravity



Bella salt



Isabella



Brian



Minor setback



Conehead



Paul Zikovich



Metamorphasis 1



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