

# GET INSPIRED MAGAZINE

Showcasing inspiring creative work since 2009

ISSUE 61





### Colophon

**Editor-in-Chief:** André Kreft  
**Design & Production:** Get Inspired Magazine  
**Contact:** [info@getinspiredmagazine.com](mailto:info@getinspiredmagazine.com)  
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Featuring the inspiring work of  
Frank Lassak & Rubica von Streng (cover),  
Philippe Bourin, Achraf Baznani, Saulo Taveira,  
Rinke van Zanden, Milie Del, Jordi Piris,  
Verônica Cruz, Sab Sardina, Simona Iamonte,  
Dina Belenko, Chris Versteeg, Jörg Marx,  
Viet Van Tran, Nico Brons, Tommi Viitala,  
Paul Robetson, Iris van Heusden, Yorel Cairo,  
Julian de Keijzer and Madalin Vlad.  
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## FRANK LASSAK (PHOTOGRAPHY) & RUBICA VON STRENG (PAINTING)

Eight billion people are currently living on Earth. Most of them dwell in urban settlements, many are suffering from inhumane conditions. Our planet is reaching its capacity limits, in the foreseeable future many regions will become uninhabitable. Catastrophic climate events, such as flooding, droughts and heatwaves will become the new normal. The apocalypse is about to begin. „8:37 – Strategies to Save the World“, a joint project of photographer and writer Frank Lassak and visual artist Rubica von Streng, both based in Berlin, focuses on what the name implies: various ways of how humans can adapt to a changing and increasingly hostile environment, while maintaining the spirit of humanity. The first part of the project, called, „8:37 Prologue – Facing the Future“, deals with enhanced body features, shown in five printed and over-painted photographic portraits, and was produced with members of the performance collective Bipolar, Berlin.

<https://www.efactsphoto.com/> / <https://www.rubicavonstreng.com/>















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**PHILIPPE BOURIN**

<https://www.philippebourin.fr/>











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**ACHRAF BAZNANI**

<https://www.baznani.com/>













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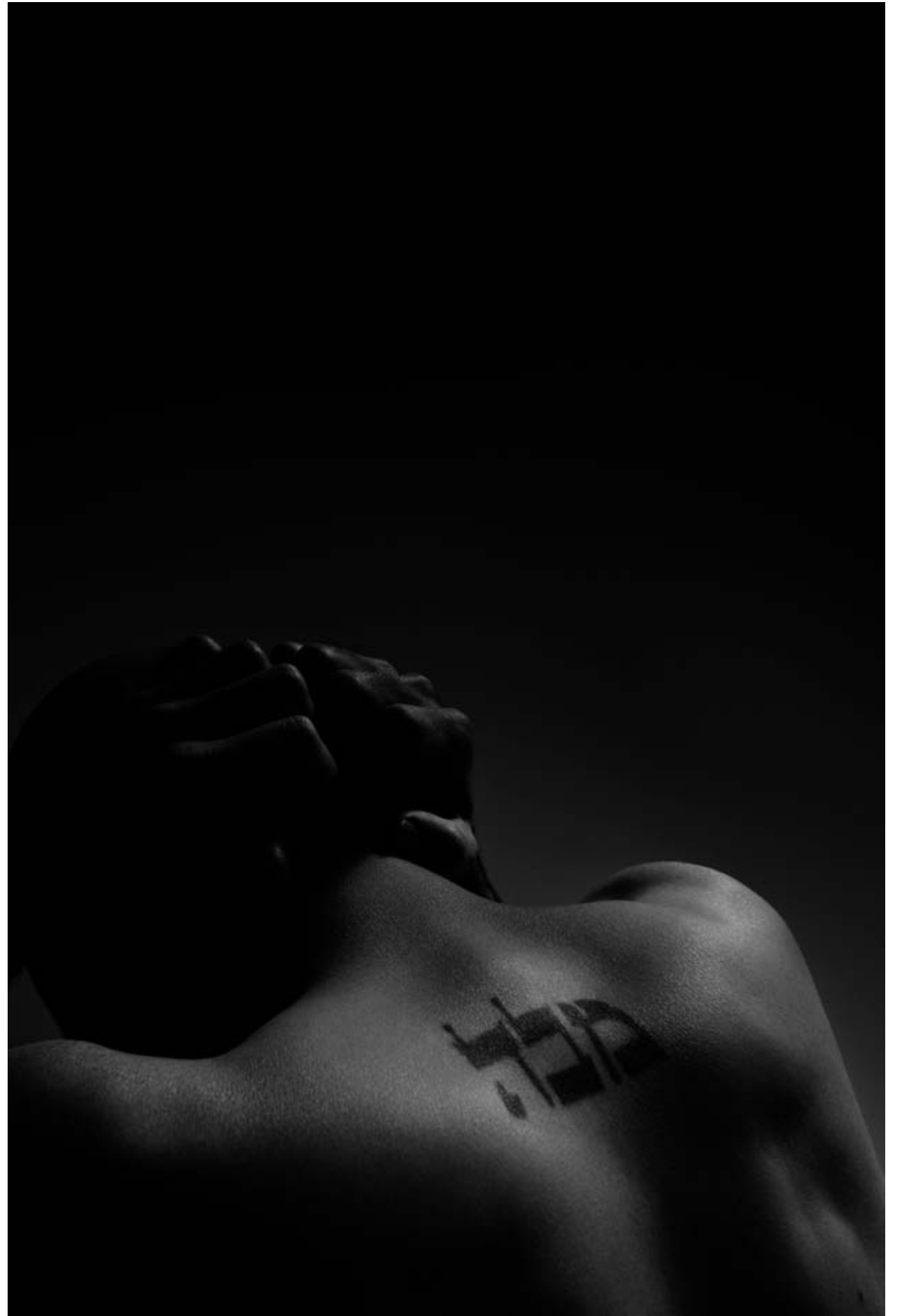
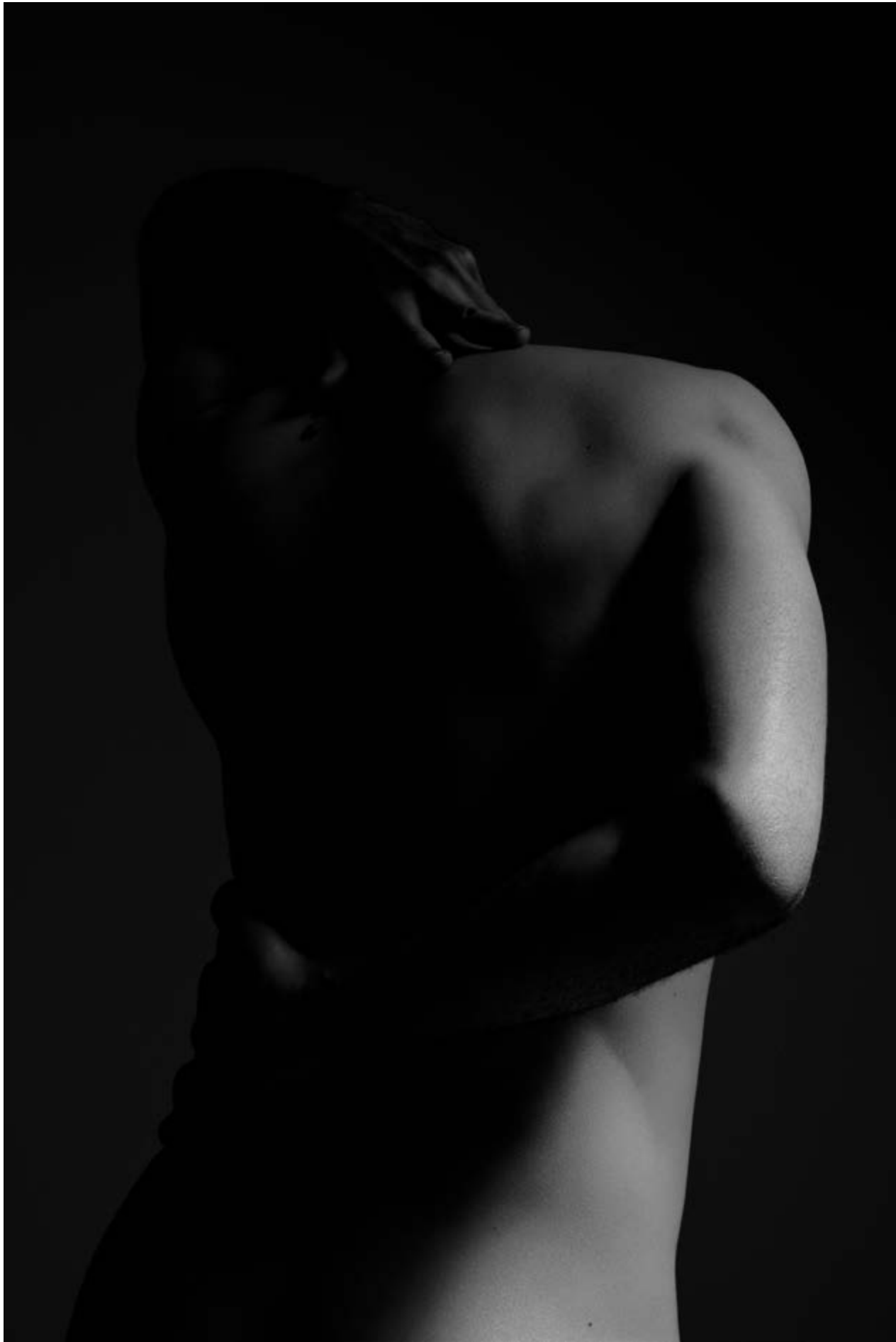
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## SAULO TAVEIRA

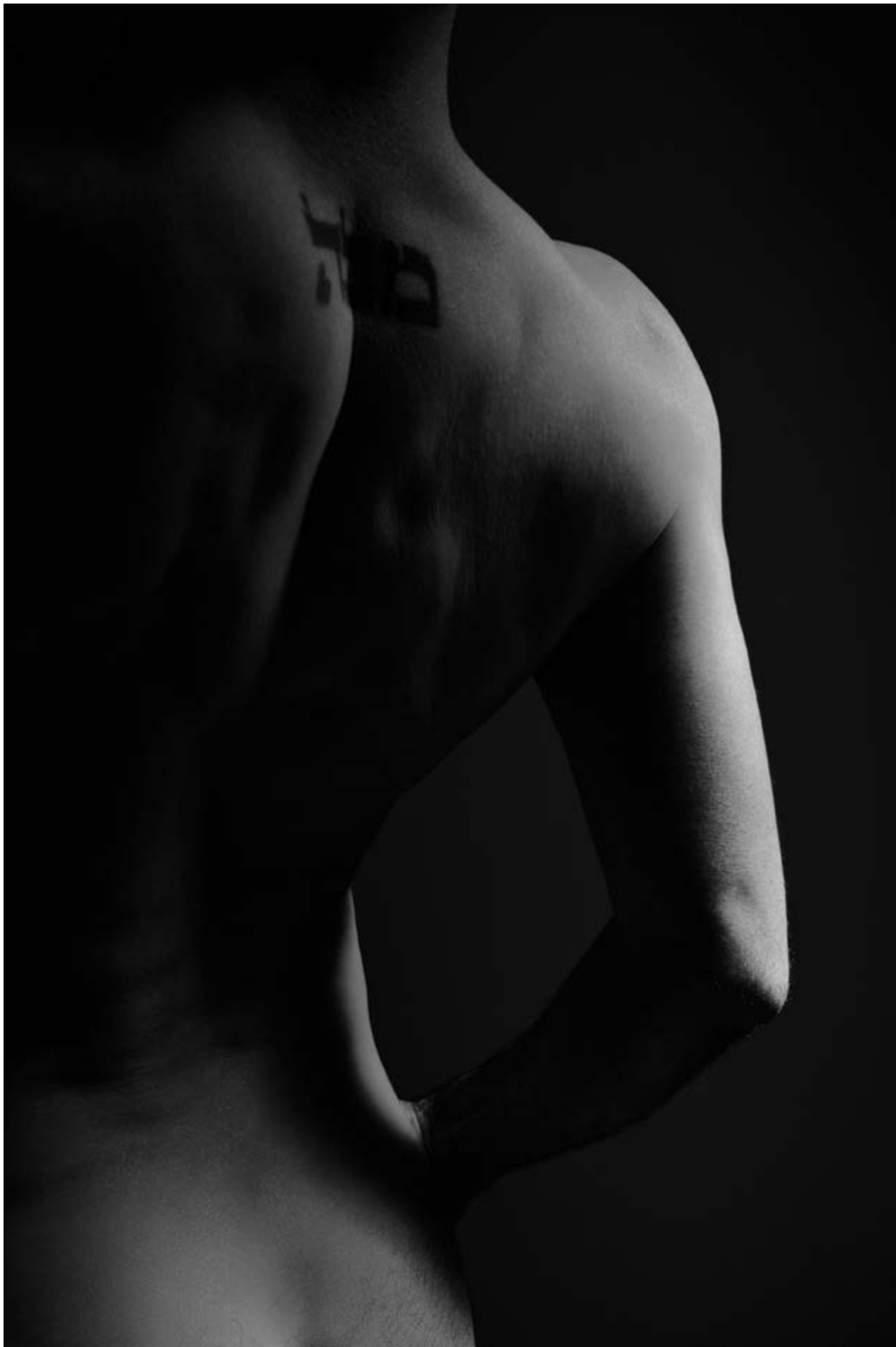
“Projeto Versos” arises from old concerns about the face, identities and portraiture. In this project, made up of 40 images, I take the back as a place for questioning the relationship between being and seeing, as in the Taiwanese film Yi Yi (2000), by Edward Yang. “I can only see the front of things, not the back... so I can only know the half of the truth, right?”

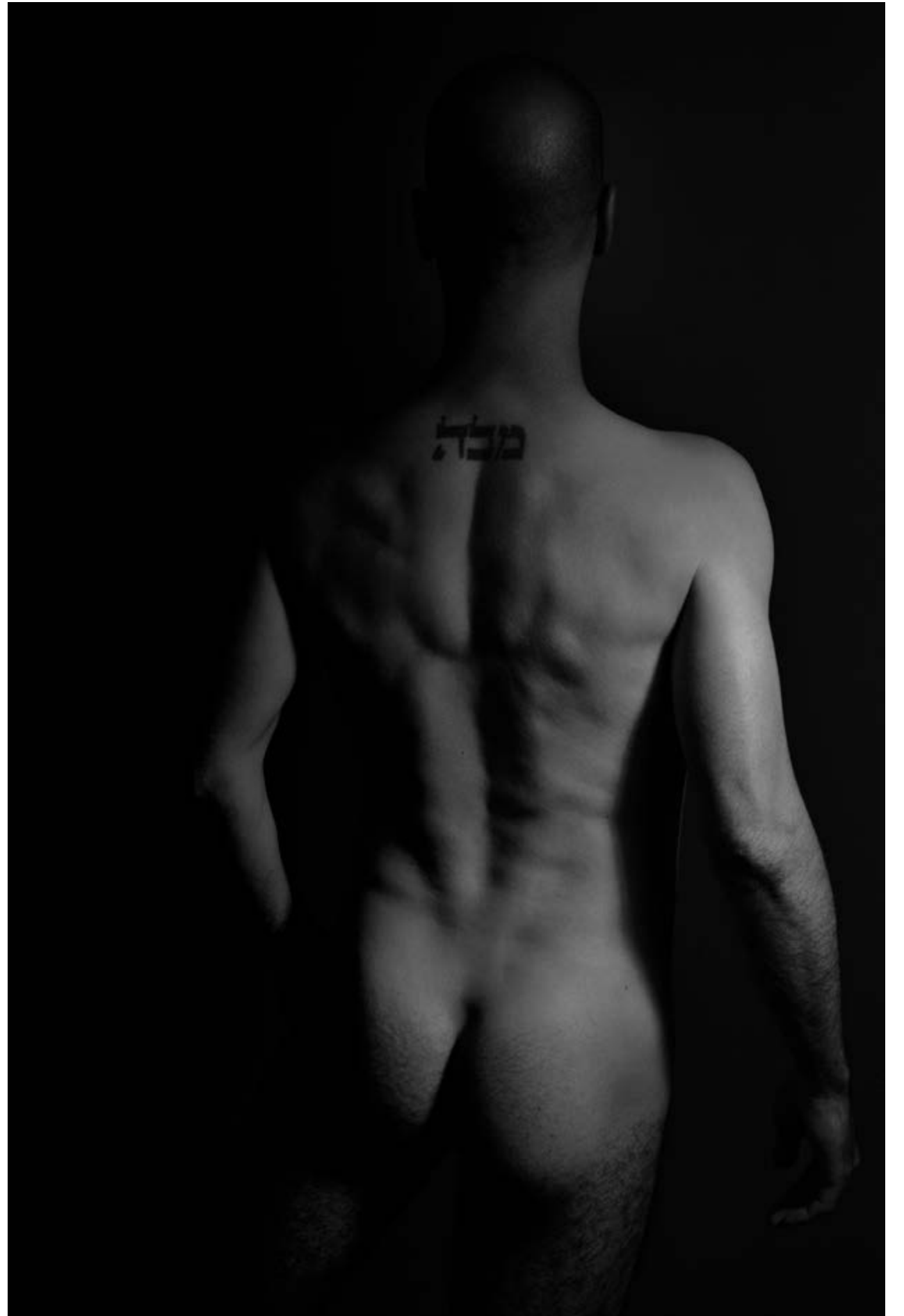
[https://www.instagram.com/saulo\\_oluas13/](https://www.instagram.com/saulo_oluas13/)















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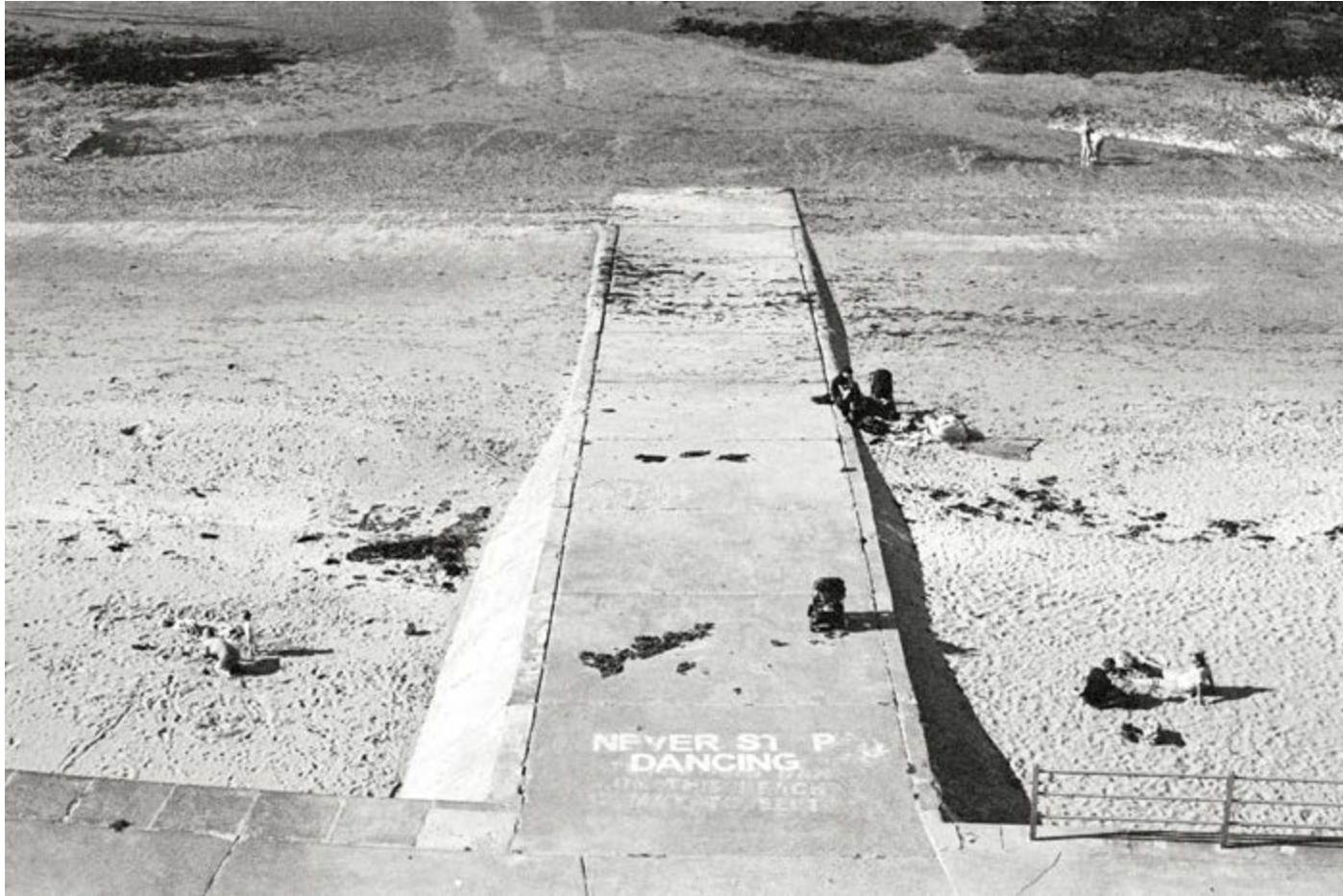
**RINKE VAN ZANDEN**

Next week, I'm heading out again with my analog camera, so I got the film that was in it developed. The photos that I found on it were taken during the coronavirus times, when I was stuck in Margate, England. I've already got a series on my website called 'Thank God We Got Stuck in Margate', and now, totally unexpected, I'm adding 'Margate for Life'. This refers to the surprise of finding more photos from those crazy two weeks when time seemed to stand still for us.

<https://rinkevanzanden.onfotomat.com/>















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**MILIE DEL**

#### INK OF MIST

This ongoing monochrome serie was captured in France in 2022 and 2023. The trunks and branches of the trees form shapes, playing with shadows and light that appear to come to life, animate, and move. Under the heavy rain, streaming water creates blurs, blurring the vision and offering a mysterious landscape. The lights and shadows, resembling ink strokes, lend an intriguing depth, while the mist gently softens the contours, creating a fusion between photography and painting that invites contemplation and wonder. Each photo is a tableau in Chinese ink.

<https://miliedel.com/>





















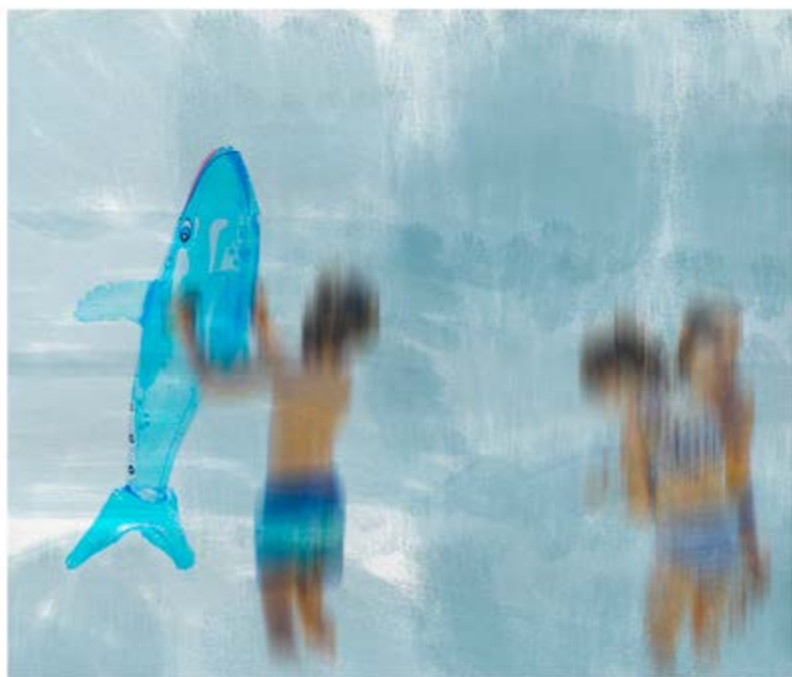
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**JORDI PIRIS**

Instant

<https://www.instagram.com/jordipiris/>















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**VERÔNICA CRUZ**

‘Abstract Presence’ is a series of hybrid photography, blending printed photos with acrylic paint interventions, aiming to visually represent how I believe people perceive me. They sense my presence - absent. Fragile, subtle, abstract. Delicately almost intangible. Floating, dispersed. As if about to dissipate at any moment - and perhaps it already has. It leaves a trail, but it, too, will soon be lost. The experience of creating these records is not just about the visual outcome but also crucial as a creation of a space to feel.”

<https://veronicacruz.myportfolio.com/>











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**SAB SARDINA**

**Ode to Water**

Have you seen the water?

The mesmerizing and diaphanous element.

Water is always the same and at the same time it's always different.

They say the surface reflects the sky, which explains its changing color.

Sometimes it's calm, sometimes it's impetuous.

When I don't know how to behave I take example from water.

My reality is connected to it, as well as my dreams and emotions.

The water calms my looping mind.

<https://www.instagram.com/sabsardina/>







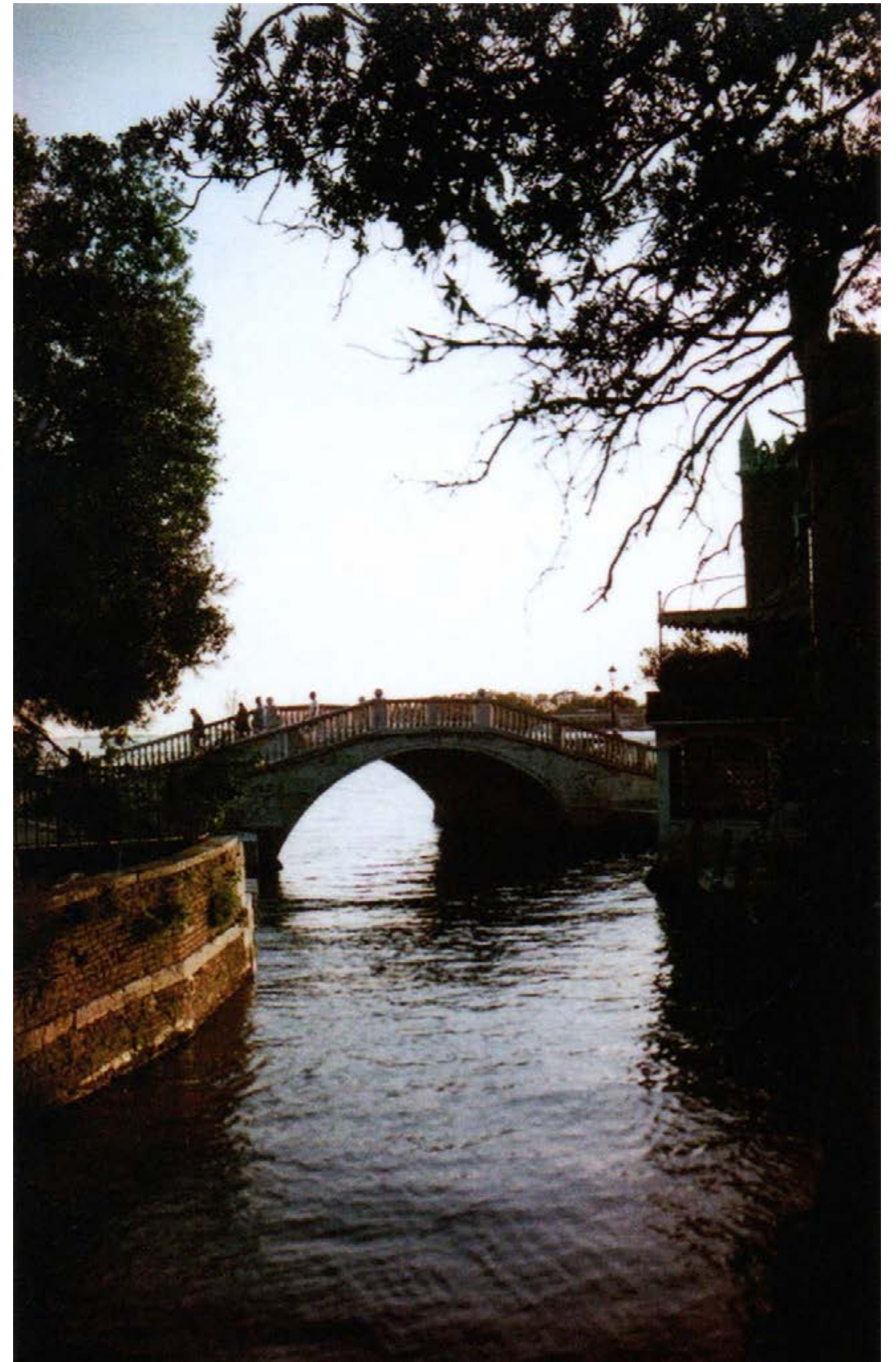








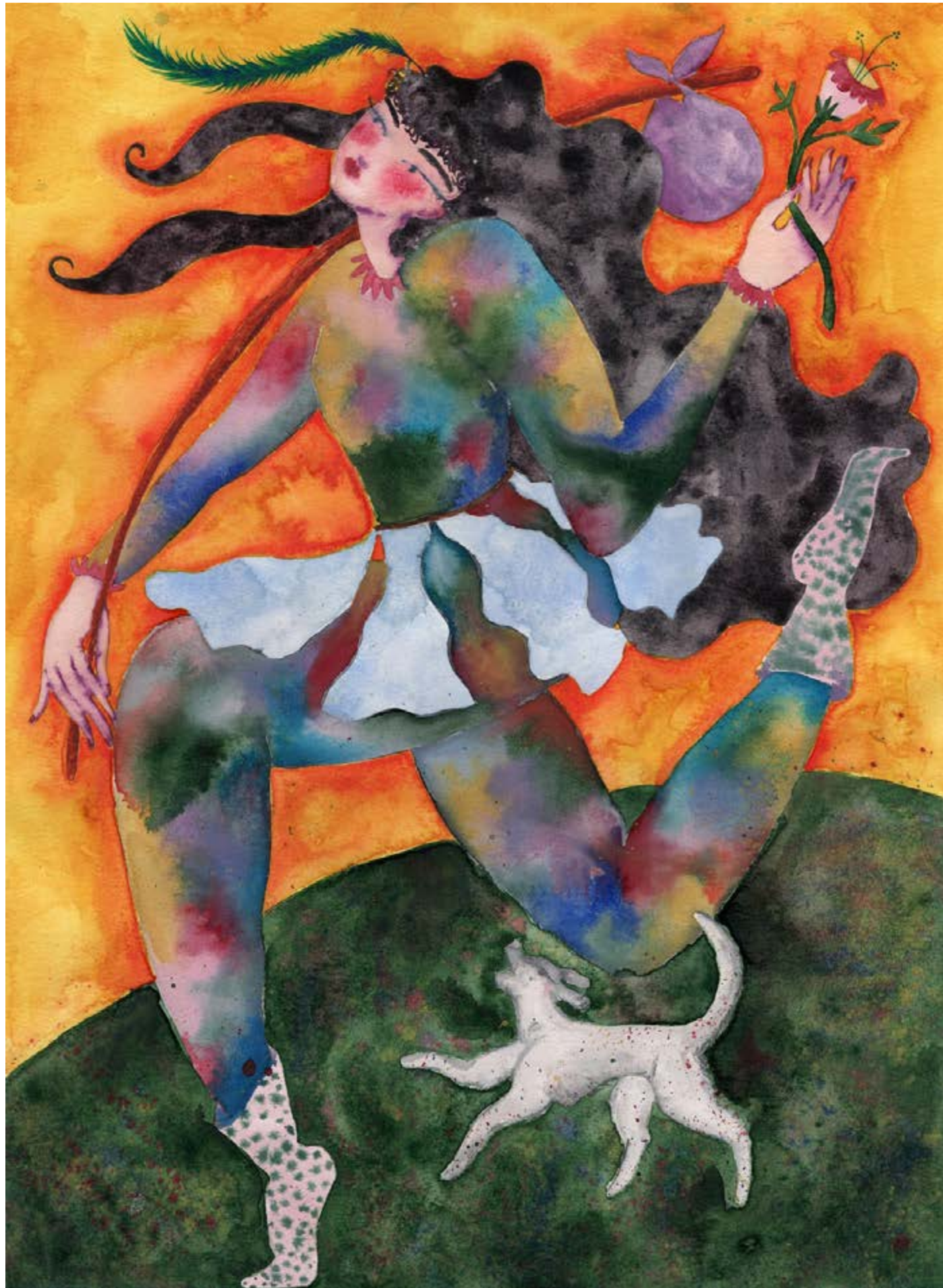












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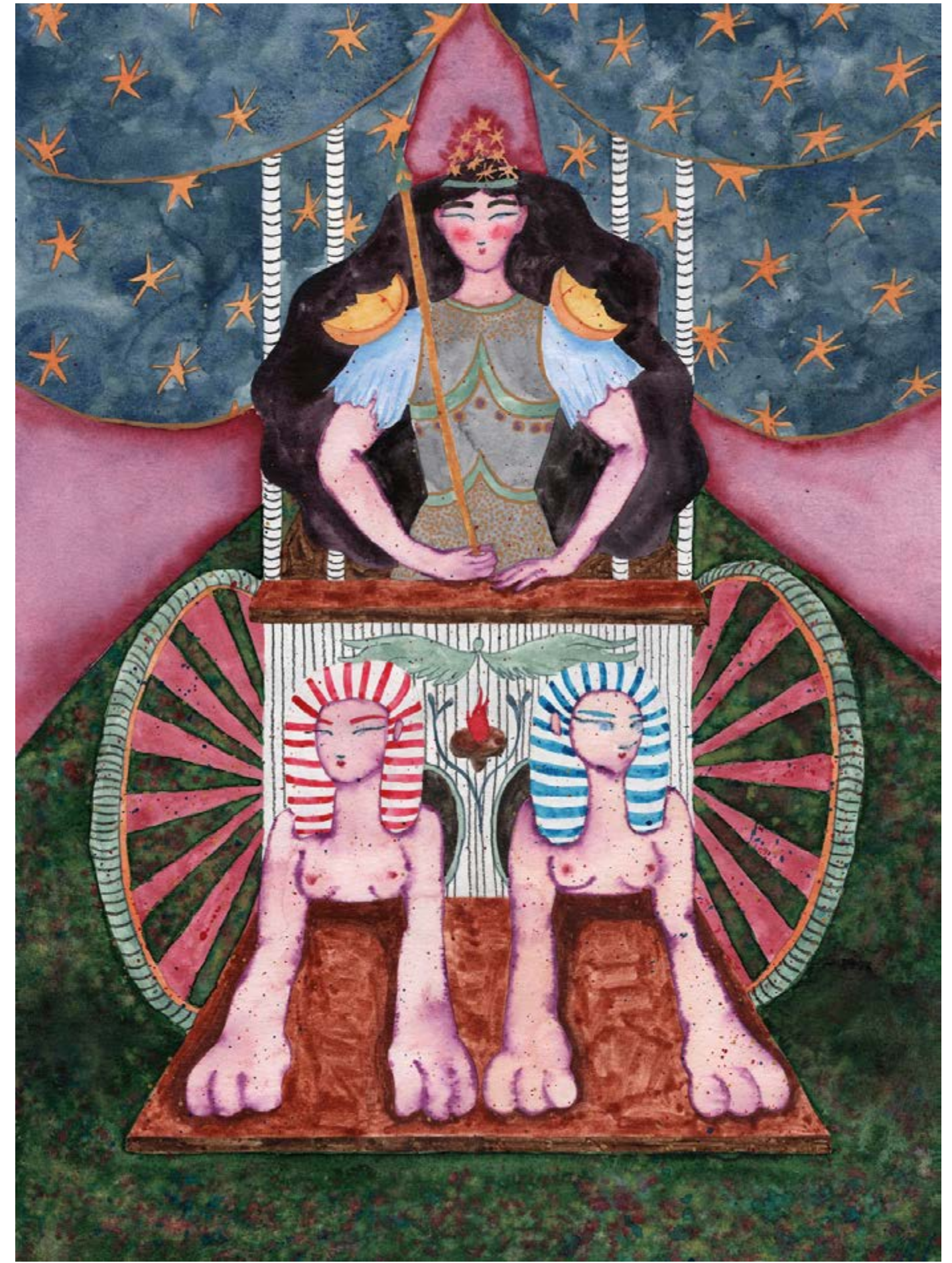
**SIMONA IAMONTE**

"The Major Arcana Tarot Series" 2022-2023

Towards the end of 2020 I began study the symbols and meanings of Tarots, moved by the desire of making my own deck, in the summer of 2022, I started drawing and painting these images full of symbolism. Each card has its unique meaning and above all energy, in which one can feel and be inspired by them. In this project I tried to deal with new subjects than I usually do, but always keeping in mind my own style.

[https://www.instagram.com/andy\\_mcfly/](https://www.instagram.com/andy_mcfly/)





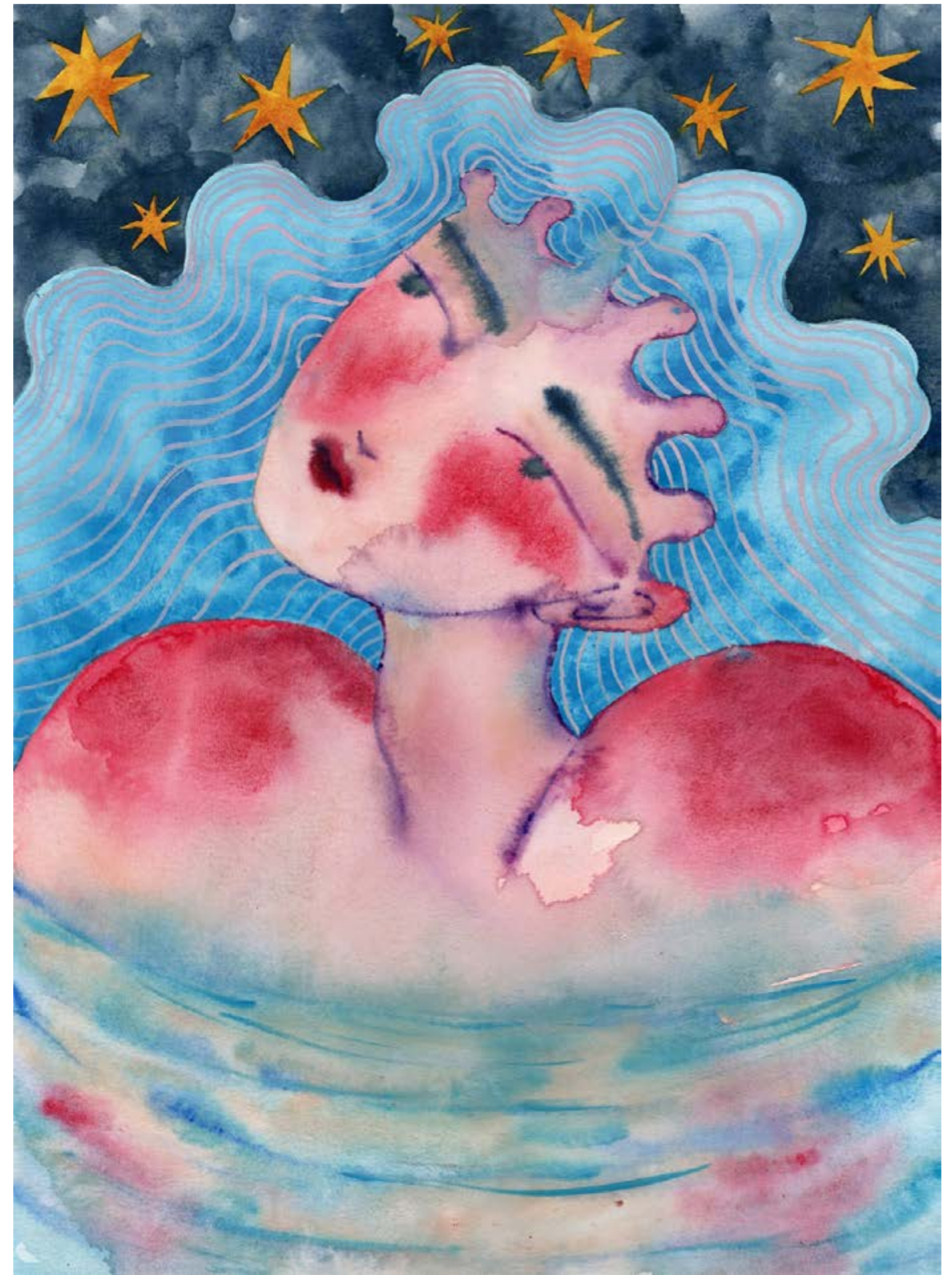
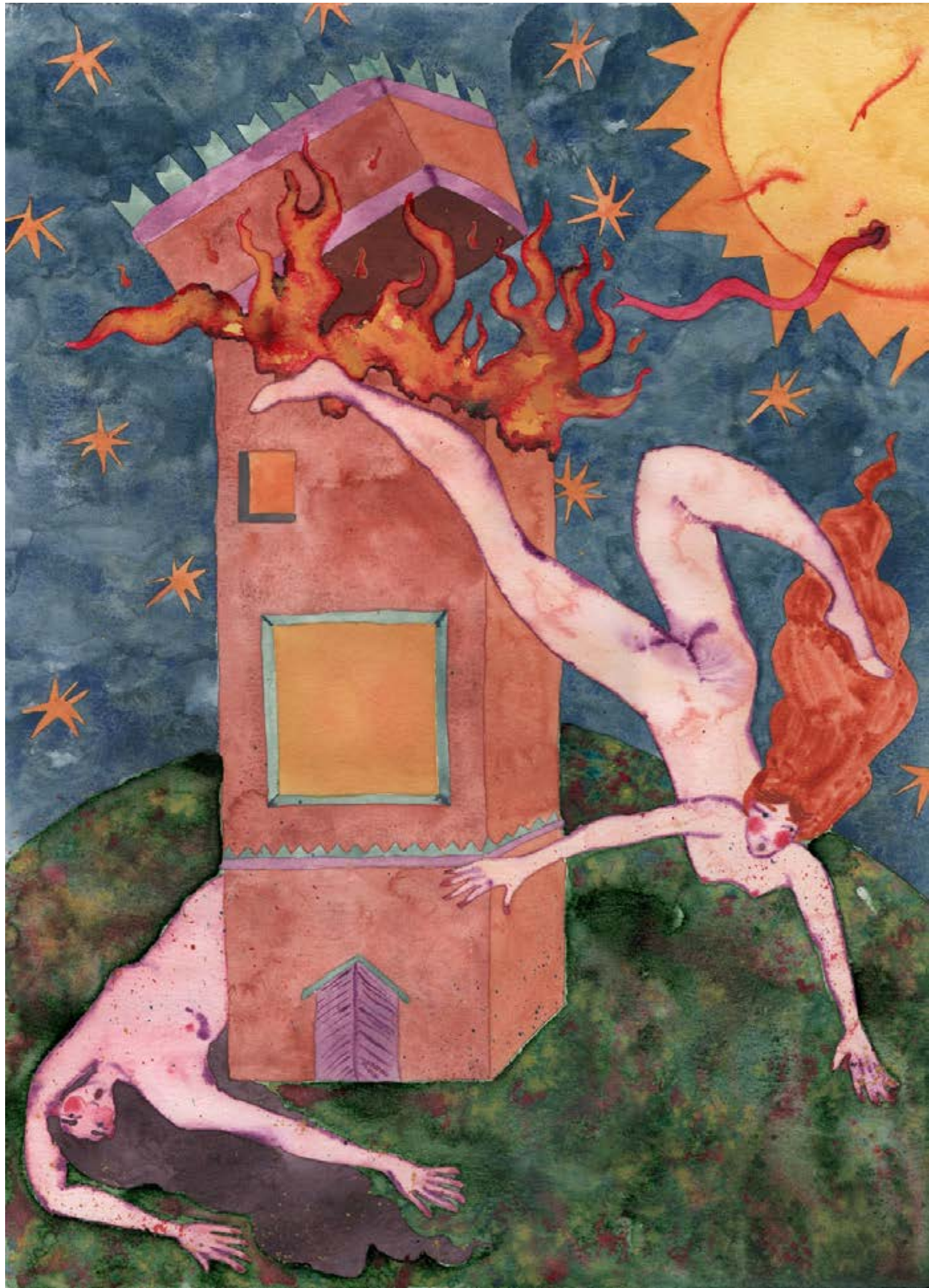


















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## DINA BELENKO

### Other side of the sea

Broken cups in these fragile balancing constructions are part of my props that I've brought from home, managing to pack my life into two suitcases. Displaced, but still at work. Magnolia cone, strange thorns, ginkgo leaf and other (very unusual to me!) botanical forms were found on the streets of Los Angeles. Finding these strange, vibrant and diverse plants gave me not only a form of comfort, but also a sense of resilience and a hope for adaptation. Plants surviving hot Californian climate echo the strength of those forging new lives in unfamiliar lands. Here every artificial element is brought from my home and every natural one is found on the other side of the sea. I wonder how these Californian garden findings will now grow on Far Eastern broken porcelain. Hope it works! Sincerely, Dina

<https://www.instagram.com/dinabelenko/>











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**CHRIS VERSTEEG**

Projekt C is a Rotterdam based creative agency run by Chris Versteeg. Started in 2002 as a company for clean and simple graphic design, it gradually started to include illustration and painting. A day at the office can start with working on a serious magazine for the surface treatment industry, painting a wall or work on a canvas and end with working on infographics for a major Dutch technology university. Besides that, all spare hours are used to create self initiated work like paintings, posters and random illustrations.

“As a kid I loved to draw stuff and go out skateboarding and being up to no good. In the early nineties I got in touch with graffiti and that became my true love for years. I had a great time painting, climbing fences, running, ending up in late night bars, sleeping outside and traveling most of Europe, making friends for life. After graduating from the Grafisch Lyceum Rotterdam I continued studies at the Willem de Kooning Academy in Rotterdam, but dropped out after one and a half year to start working. Best choice ever! Nowadays I spent most of my time in the office, working on illustrations, magazines, books and paintings, but from time to time I sneak out to go painting. My current work, both digital and manual, is a good mix between a clean graphic style, mixed with natural and industrial touches without losing some of those important graffiti and big city life elements.”

<https://www.projektc.nl/>

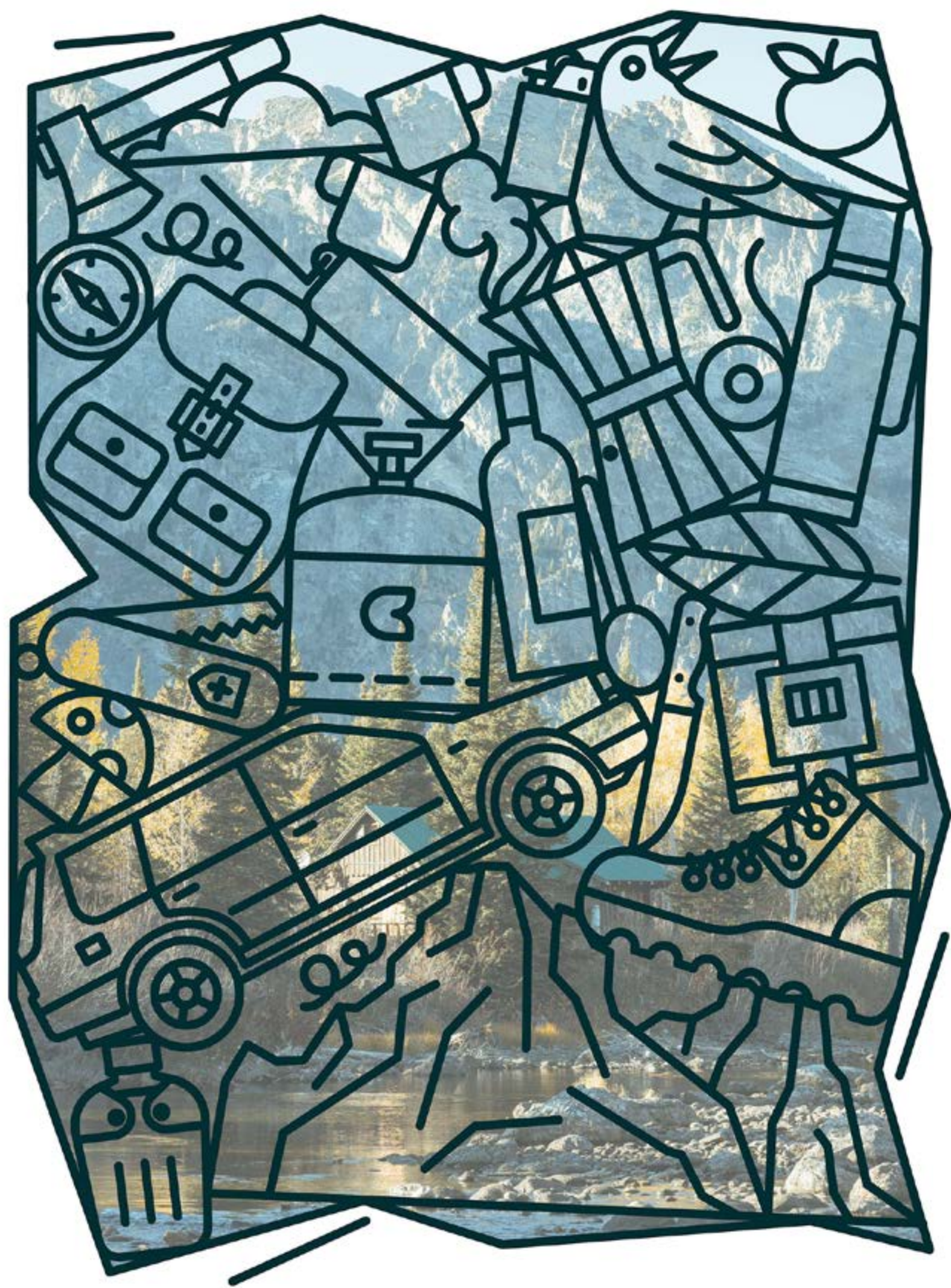
















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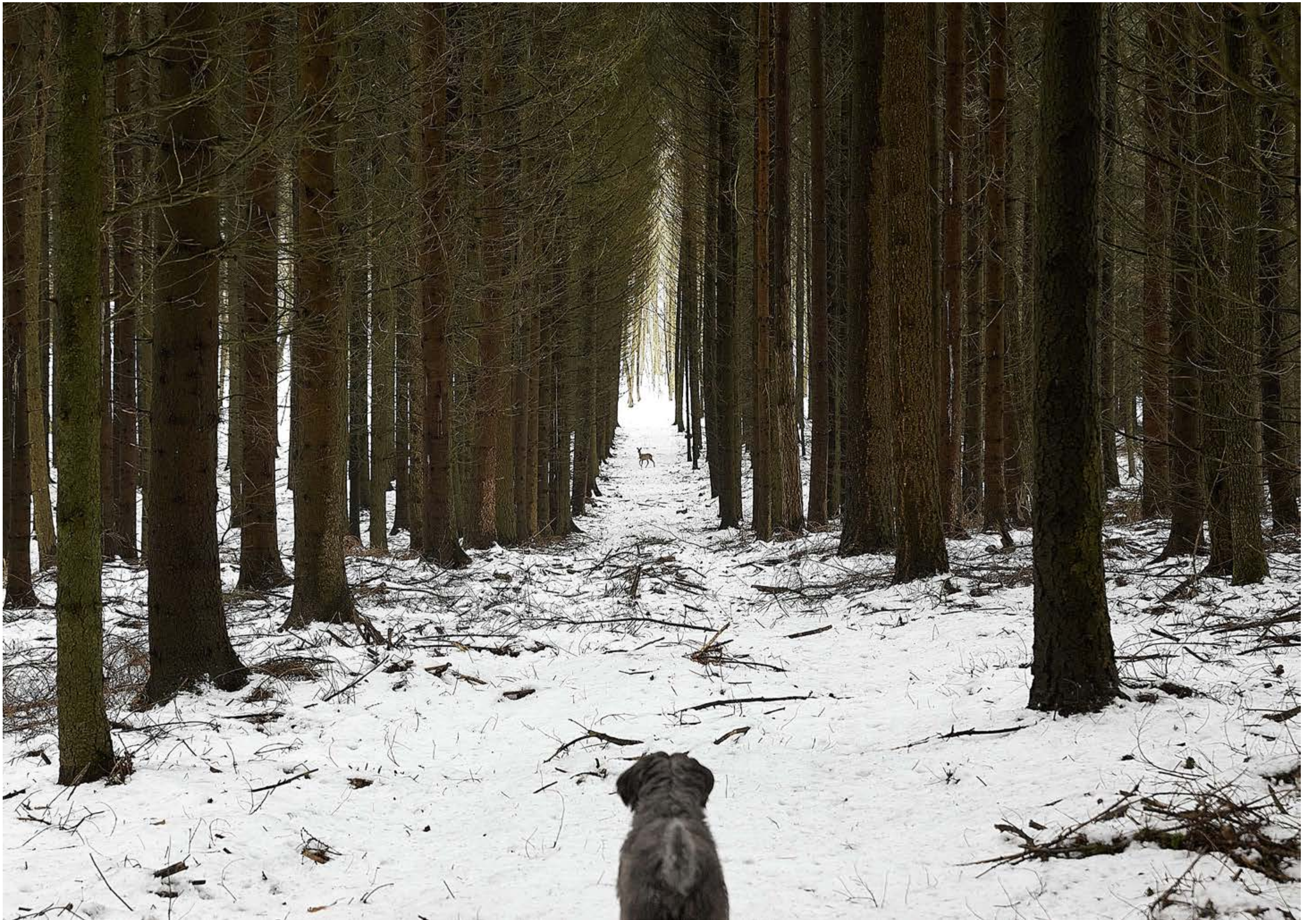
**JÖRG MARX**

#### **IN THE DARK PLACES**

The project is about the connection between places and the past, between memory and landscapes, and about trees that silently remind us that the past is never gone. While language often tends to text over external and internal reality, photography leaves a gap through which one can look at that which eludes words. For me, photography is an almost therapeutic way of dealing with the ambiguity of the world. However, this series explores the relationship between landscape and memory. On the one hand, traumatic events, rarely remembered, have left cracks, fissures, even physical scars in the landscape that transform the present. Such often idyllic places, remembering evil events, can preserve an uneasiness similar to the symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder. On the other hand, landscapes can evoke traumatic images in memory while simultaneously calming them. The series asks what can be learned from landscapes about trauma and recovery. Many of the shown photographs were taken at places that have been sites of crimes or battlefields in the past. Thus, the photographs depict landscape not only as something visible, but as permeated and shaped by the invisible - whether the invisible manifests itself in the form of a buried past or as a projection of one's own memories and soul landscape.

<https://joerg-marx.de/>



















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## VIET VAN TRAN

### The Colorful Lady

Author Andersen (Denmark) wrote the fairy tale “Who, What, Where,” while in Vietnam there is a very popular proverb “The robe does not make the monk.” The figure in the photo is Ph.D Ha Thanh Van, a researcher in the intersections and transformations of various cultures. She breaks free from the mold of a typical researcher by adopting unconventional clothing and playfully posing in public places, even in serious settings. Her outfits and accessories sometimes harmonize, and at other times contrast with the context in terms of colors, meanings, or dressing norms. She aims to bring joy to herself and inspire those around her, especially after the world has endured much pain and loss during the Covid-19 pandemic. Looking at her calm expression, sometimes hidden behind dark glasses, viewers become curious and question the true identity of a person always concealed beneath different attires, like layers of external shells.

Does fashion hold any significance in reinforcing or diminishing faith and the value of life? Or does it merely blind people in a consumerist society? A series of questions are raised, ultimately circling back to eternal human inquiries, yet each person has a different interpretation: Who are we, where do we come from, where are we heading, and what is the true essence of humanity? Fashion icon Yves Saint Laurent once said, “Over the years, I have come to understand that the importance of an outfit lies in the woman who will wear it.” Perhaps her choice of attire in public places and cultural venues is her way of expressing her life’s message and honoring cultural diversity.

<https://www.saatchiart.com/vietvan>







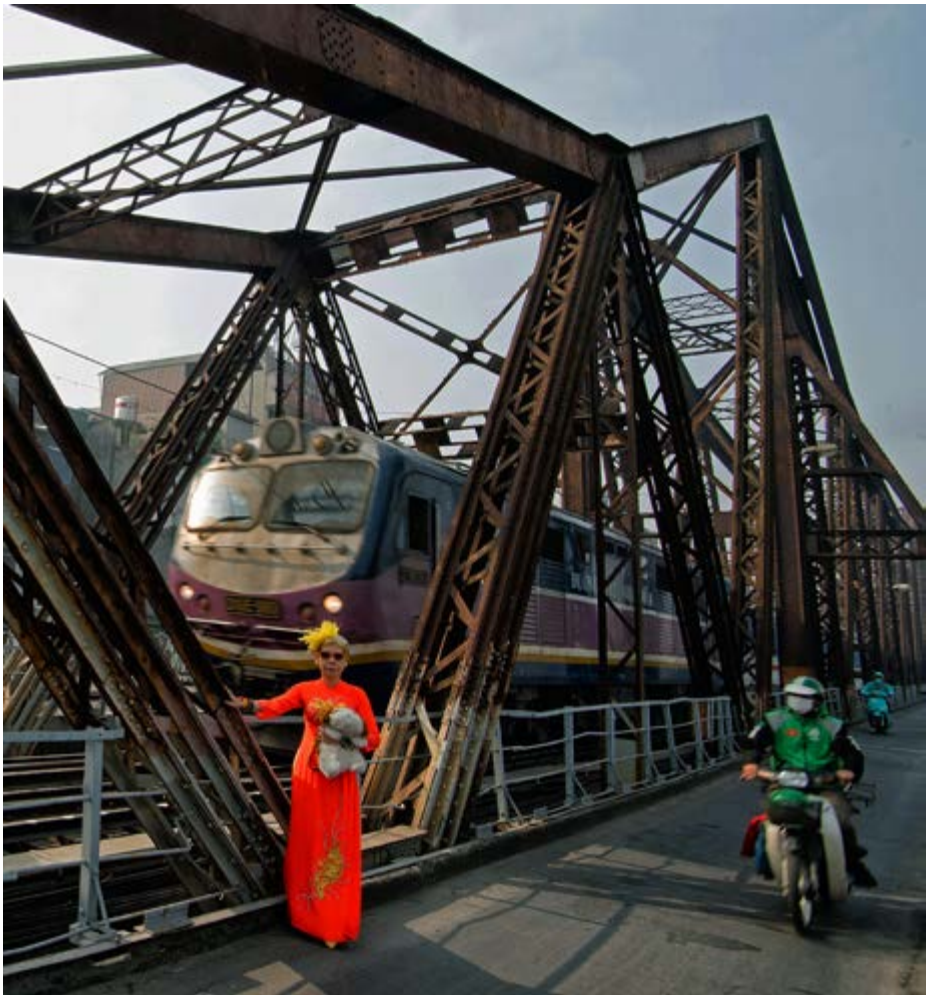














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## NICO BRONS

The Journey to the Planet Bonbonbona. At the edge of the universe stands the last refuge for adventurous interstellar travelers, the Last Outpost Hotel Bonbonbona. The hotel is an peculiar place, not only because of its name but also due to its proximity to an intriguing wormhole that leads to the eccentric world of Bonbonbona. The wormhole next to the hotel is the key to an exotic adventure. Once on Bonbonbona, visitors may be greeted initially by shy creatures, hiding in the colorful forests, rolling hills, and exotic buildings. If you're lucky, of course. Once they get used to your presence, they are quite sweet. The architecture on Bonbonbona is downright strange and often whimsical, sometimes adorned with excessive ornamentation. Buildings may sometimes float in the air, defying gravity here and there. You may encounter the other-worldly inhabitants, known as the Bonbonbarians, if you're lucky. I have been there, of course, and have captured images. I hope you can experience the adventure a bit through them, although it's better to travel there yourself. Even though the journey through the wormhole is not cheap. Are you joining us on this journey?

<https://nicobrons.nl/>



























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**TOMMI VIITALA**

Model: Andreea <https://www.instagram.com/bleude4ndre7/>

<https://tommiviitala.com/>

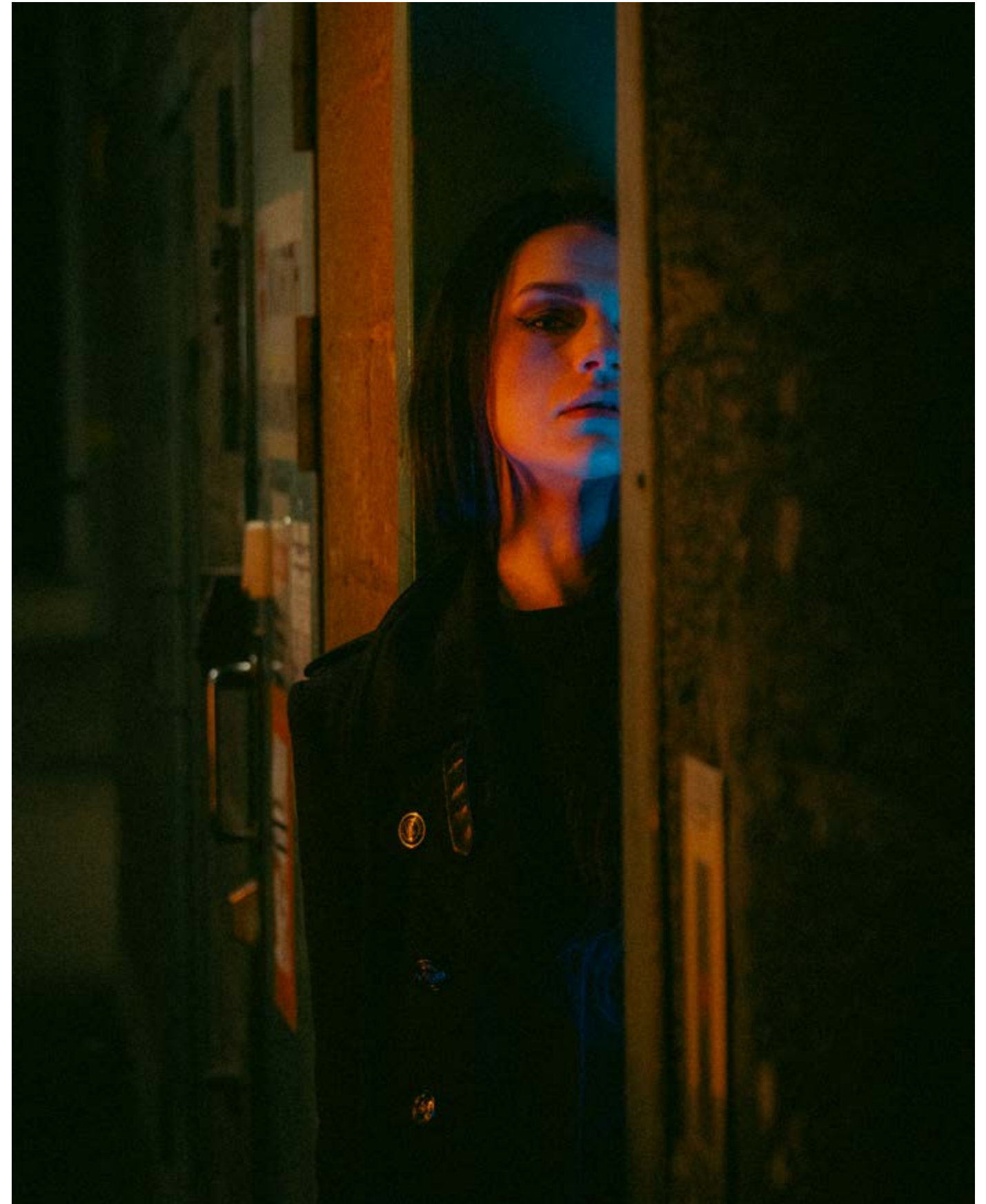










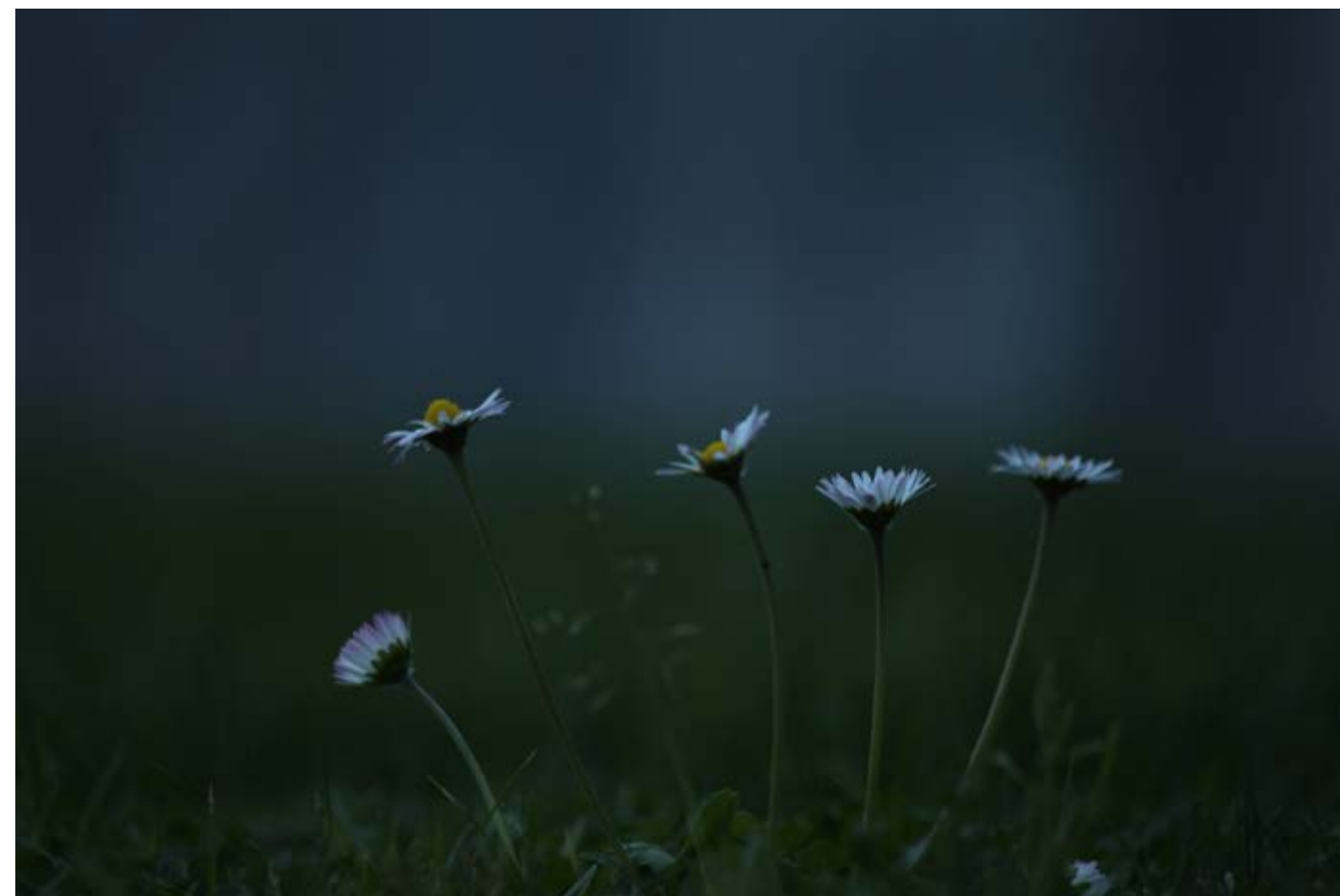




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**PAUL ROBETSON**

<https://www.instagram.com/paulrobertsonphotonz/>







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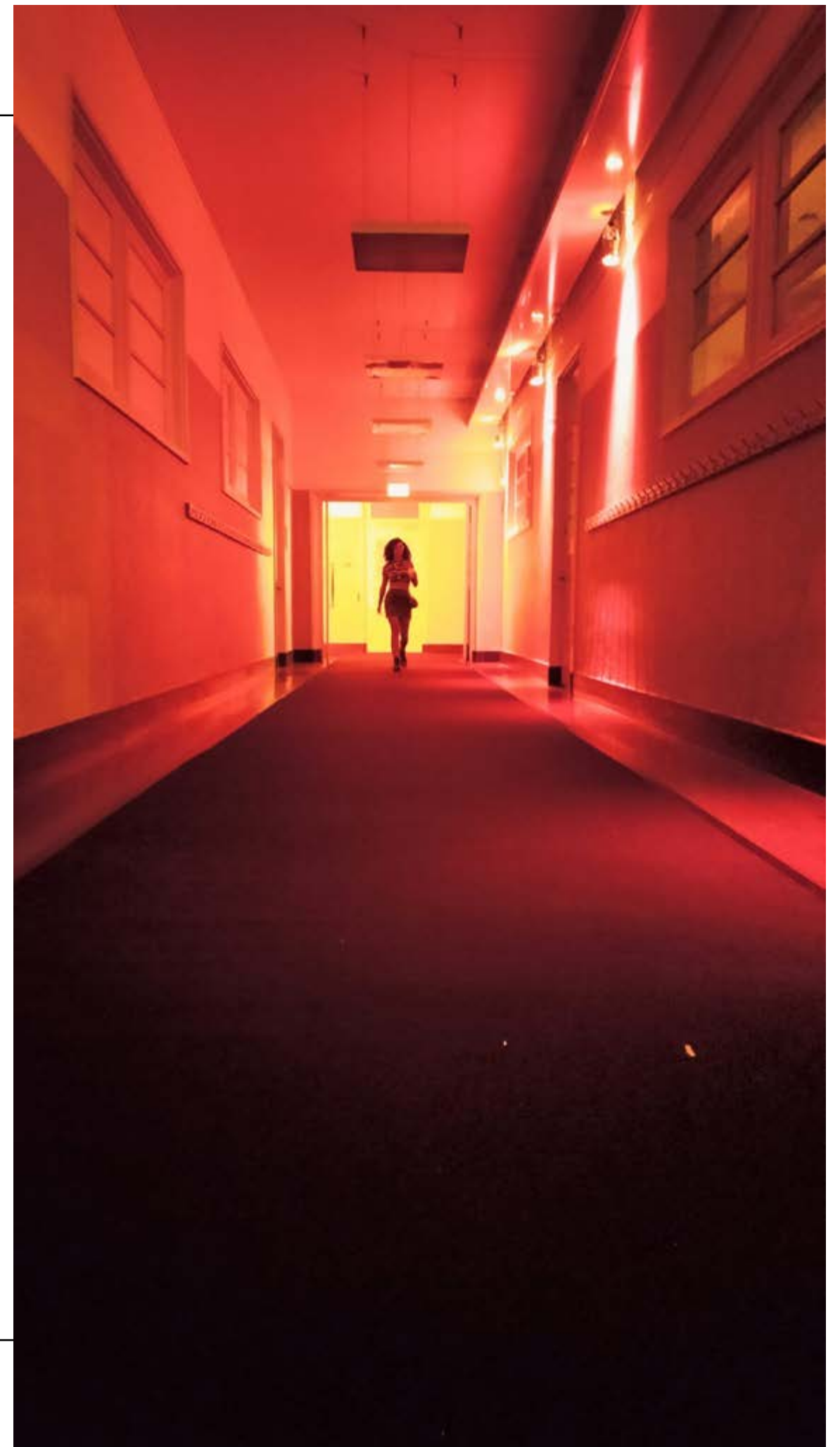
<https://www.irisvanheusdenphotography.com/>



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<https://www.instagram.com/bildmeister>



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**MADALIN VLAD**

<https://500px.com/p/madalinv>



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