

ADAM MAZEK
Diaries

September
2018
p. 11





CREATIVE CIRCLE



• Post „Creative Circle“ (also p. 2)

• Cover: post „External Factors“

CREATIVE CIRCLE

When reading books on art (I recommend Taschen's publications), I think about how I could transform and translate my newly acquired knowledge into my artistic activity. This moment is part of a process that I call the "Creative Circle." The next part of my Circle of Creativity is the time when I write texts for the website. While doing this, I listen to music a lot. When listening to music, ideas and memories often pop up in my head. These reminiscences are often associated with my walks around Warsaw's streets and photos that I edit in the Lightroom program. During lonely photo walks, I often hum myself various songs. As I do this, I contemplate many topics and wonder which Taschen's book I will be reading when I get home. Now you can go back, my Dear Friend, to the first sentence of this text. This is titled Creative Circle. For me, it is a magical, almost mystical continuous flow of inspiration and creativity. I would like to be in this creative mood as often as possible.

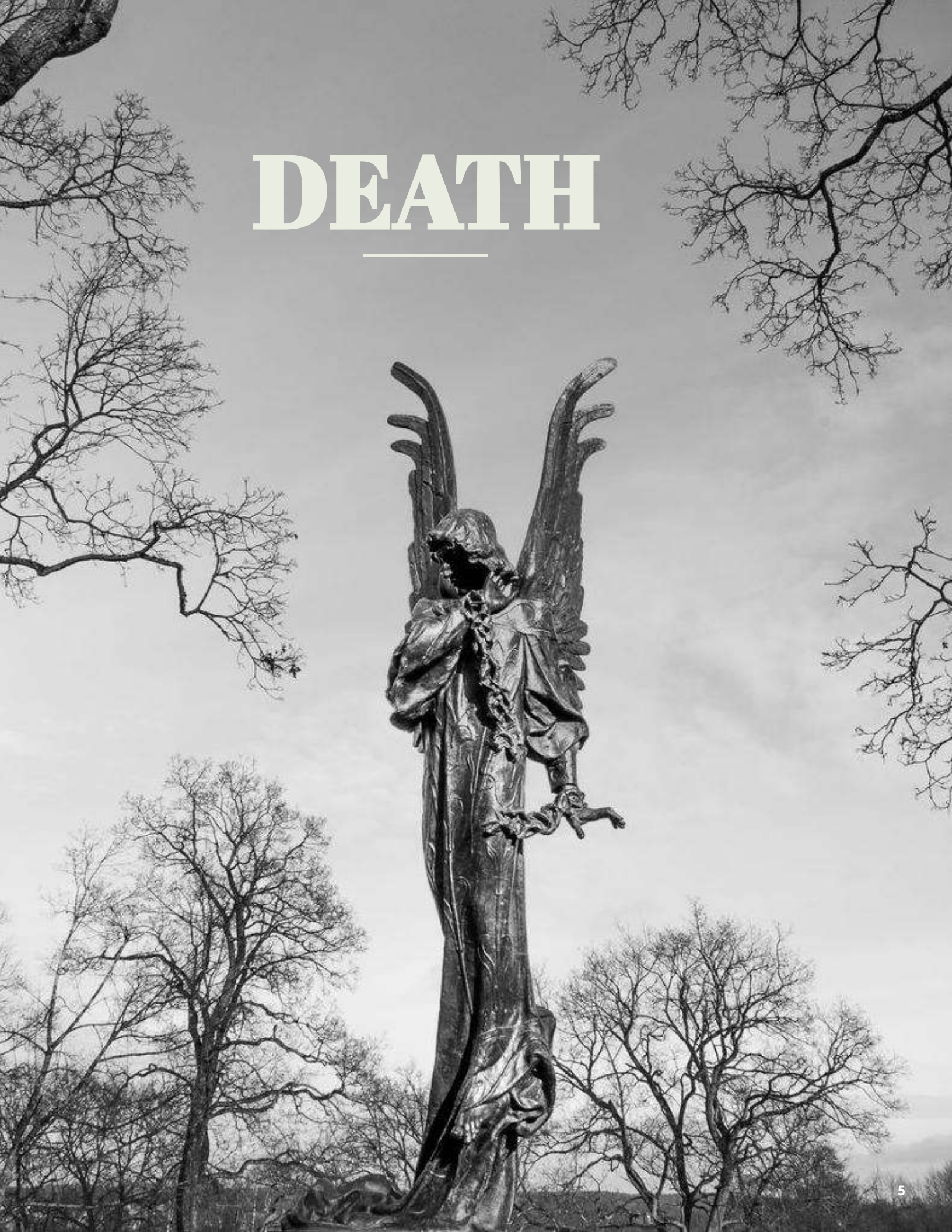
CREATIVE CIRCLE

I feel that the broadly understood creativity has seeped into me, like water that has soaked into a sponge. I would like to remain in this state, preferably until my death. I wonder how this state will develop and shape the style of my photography and broadly understood creativity. Who knows, maybe I'll switch to drawing or some other art form? On the other hand, I sometimes wonder what direction I will go in terms of my writing style. Maybe someday I will write a science fiction novel? I also often wonder how my taste in music will develop. Perhaps I'll listen to classical music more? Besides, I wonder what books I will be reading in the future. Today, Taschen's books are number one. One thing is for sure. All the aspects mentioned above of artistic activity bring me a lot of joy. It is thanks to them that I feel like a child playing on a playground. If you don't know what to do in your life, start creating. For me, and for many other people, there is no better way to spend my life. Find your inner creative circle and revolve around it and live it. I recommend treating broadly understood art as children's play.

• Post „Creative Circle”



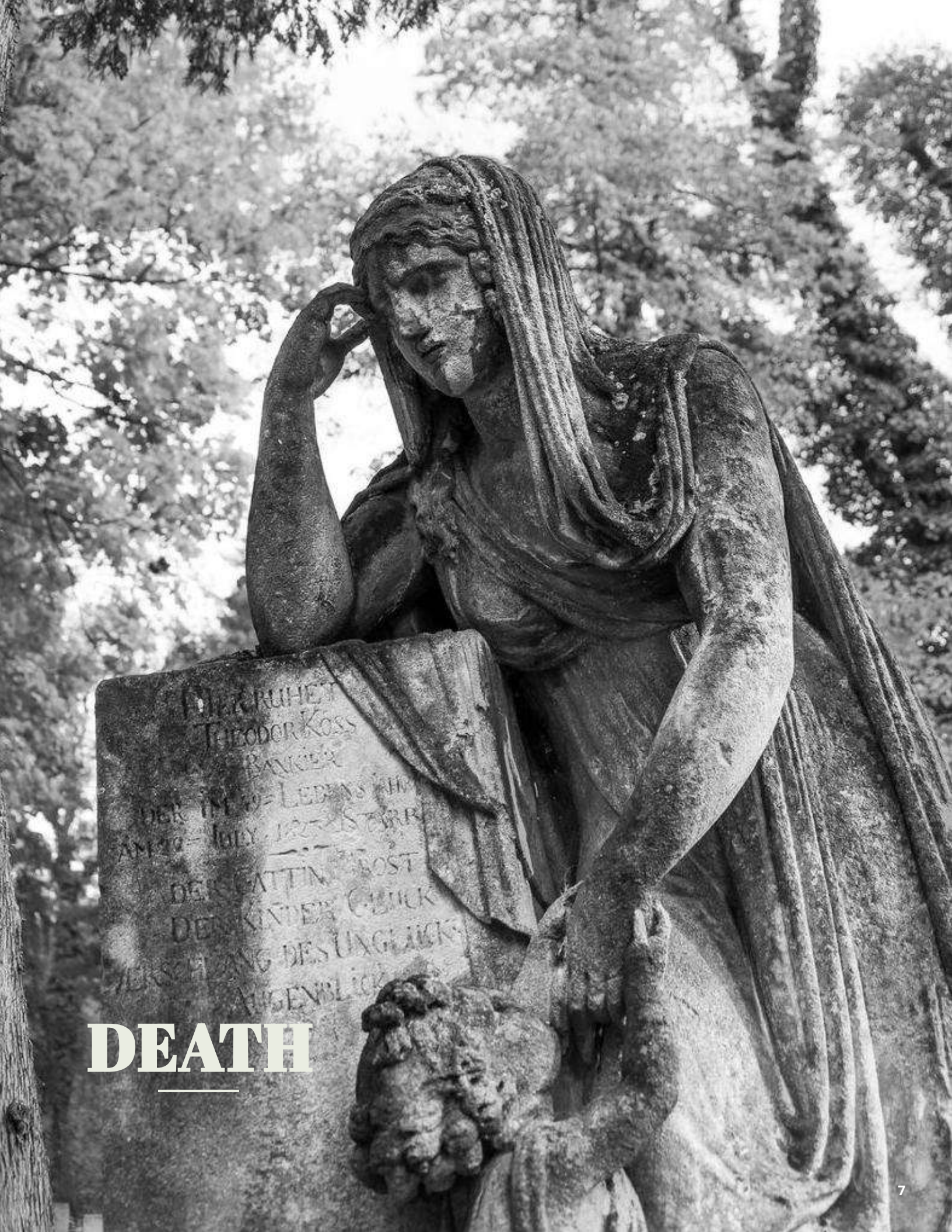
DEATH



DEATH

Last time I realized that the sooner we start thinking about death, the better our life will become. I know this is a paradox, but I sincerely believe it. I think it's pretty reasonable that most people don't think about death daily. I am no exception. Basically, I don't think about the end of my life.

Nevertheless, on one of my walks, I realized that no matter what we do in life, no matter what key decisions we make, we will end our lives with death. For me, this is proof that our life is fair. It is just that each life has an end. I believe we shouldn't take life as seriously as we often do with all of the things I wrote above. If you want to learn, start taking classes that will bring you closer to your goal. If you dream of traveling around the world, start getting ready today. If you want a new passion, take the first step towards it now! I know it's clichéd, but we really only have one life, and no one will give us back the hour that is just passing by. Thinking about death brings yet another relief to my soul. It is a fact that we have a limited time in this world. Time is worth much more than money. The ability to use the proverbial five minutes in your life is one of the most valuable things we received on our birthday (not counting the love of our parents). When we realize this, we will recognize that we should be doing something positive in life, which will help us stay in our descendants' memory. For today I choose photography and running a website to do something important and meaningful in my life. Thanks to this, I gained a new, additional purpose for my existence. I know that I cannot put off the widely understood creation because ultimately, everything will end in death for me anyway. Be positive, don't waste your time, and create! Let this be the guiding message not only of this text but also of my entire activity.

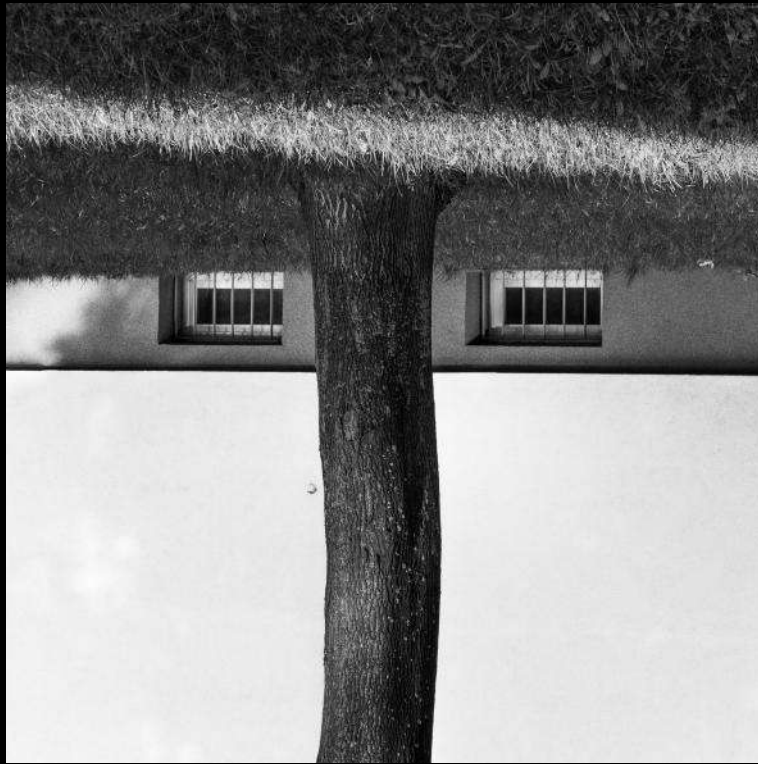


IN RUHE
 THEODOR KOSS
 BANKIER
 DER IN SEINER LEBENSZEIT
 AM 20. JULI 1875 STARB
 DER GATTIN WOST
 DEN KINDErn GEBICK
 ALS BELEG DES UNGLICKS
 ALLENBLICK

DEATH



DEATH



- Post „Doubts“

DOUBTS

I wrote that we all have doubts on many issues, and I am no exception in my post: "Doubts." As Fyodor Dostoyevsky wrote in one of his letters, man is a divine and eternal mystery. We don't know why we appeared in this world. Moreover, we don't know who or what brought us here. Did we come to Earth by accident? We don't know what the purpose of our life is. We cannot tell a universal truth about humanity because we do not know it.

In the same way, we are unable to describe ourselves as a single entity. Therefore, I know that even if we are one hundred percent sure of something about ourselves, I believe this approach may mislead us. As Sir Francis Bacon wrote in "The Advancement of Learning:"

If a man begins with certainties, he shall end in doubts; but if he will be content to begin with doubts, he shall end in certainties.

DOUBTS

I agree with this statement. This is one of the reasons why I am often skeptical about many things in my life. General knowledge and science do not provide answers to many of the existential problems we face. Through science, we are constantly moving forward to know the "Unknown." Still, we will never be able to fully understand the mechanisms that govern our universe. We are not able to discover all the truths about the world around us and about ourselves. We are not able to fully describe ourselves. I cannot say with 100% certainty that I know everything about myself. I am convinced that my biography (perhaps such a book will be published someday) will contain many understatements and puzzles. It is impossible to write a universal truth about both the universe and a single person. We have had and will have doubts about many aspects of our lives and the world around us.



• *Post „Doubts“*



FAREWELL

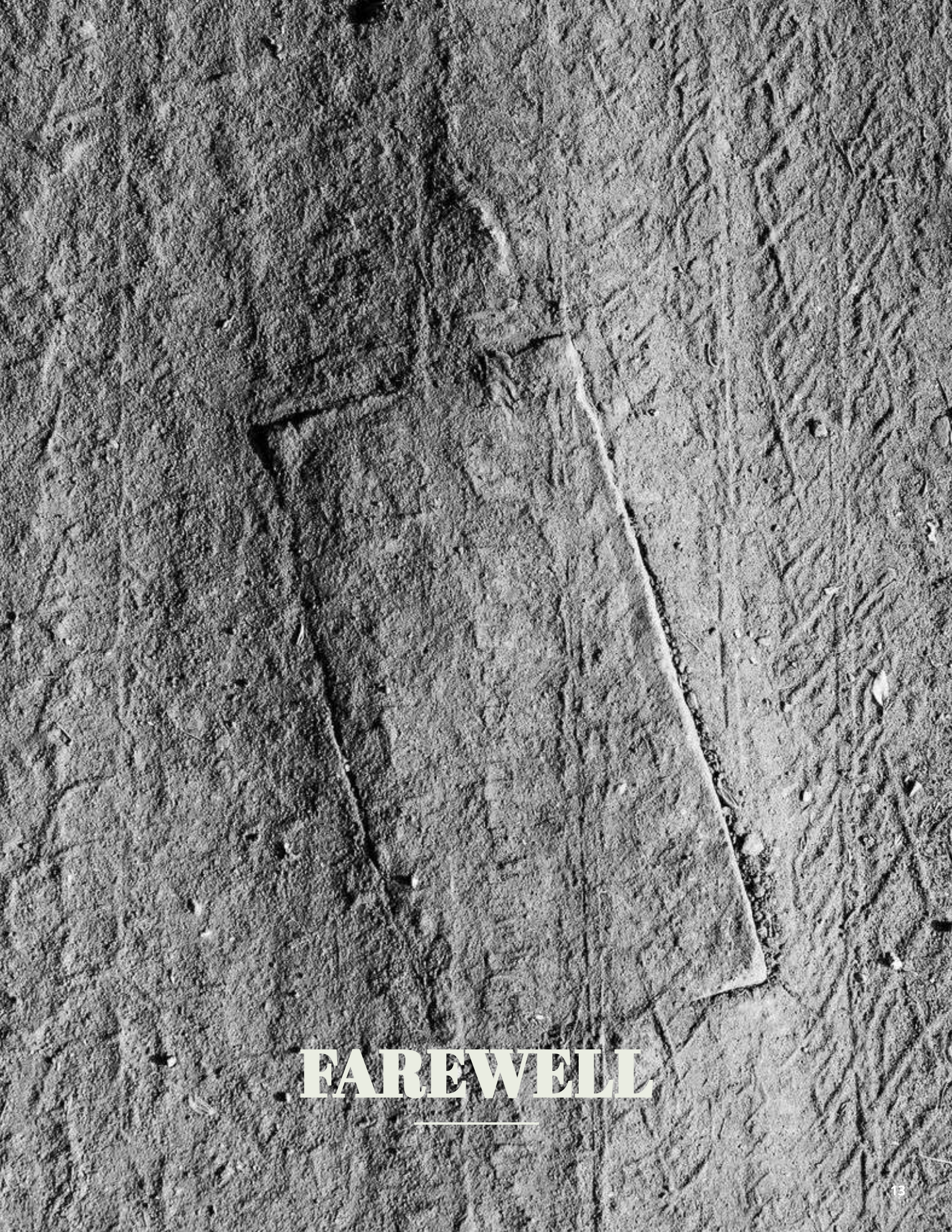
FAREWELL

The thesis "Farewell" presents a collection of photos taken by Adam Mazek. When the author was nine years old, he has experienced a traumatic experience. His four years elder brother Marcin died of leukemia. Having the full but still childish awareness of the unhappiness that happened under the influence of emotions connected with the tragedy, one vision remained in the author's memory. It is the view of the block in which the brothers lived together. A clean, minimalist, geometric, and apocalyptic piece of massive, bright concrete was placed in dark, ominous asphalt. This painting remained in mind and the imagination of Adam Mazek to this day. The author still believes that this picture presents a view of the brothers' home on the last day before Marcin went to the hospital and never see his house again. The title "Farewell" refers to the fact that since the beginning of Marcin's illness, Adam, to the end, boundlessly but also naively believed that his Brother would survive. For this reason, he never told his Brother the word "Goodbye." Every time he saw him before he died, during his stay at the Warsaw hospital, keeping the innocent and childish faith, he believed that Marcin would return to his home soon. Unfortunately, this has never happened. Marcin died in Warsaw on January 28, 1994, about three weeks after the last day spent at home. The first part, consisting of five images, refers to the broadly understood life. Objects photographed in the Warsaw urban space are loosely related to the cellular, purest, and minimalist form of life. This part of the images contains a trace of existence. The other half of the paintings refer to illness, trauma, and death. To the fact that each of us will one day die and go away forever. One of the few things, besides meaningful silence, that can remain after we are the pictures. Thanks to the fact that they will see the light of day, the memory of my Brother shall not soon fade. It will get a new, second life in the eyes of future generations. This work is a tribute to the work author's Brother, Marcin Mazek, and brothers' parents.

Farewell Brother!

PS

Yesterday that is on 17.09.2018; Marcin would have turned 37.



FAREWELL



FAREWELL



FAREWELL



FAREWELL



FAREWELL



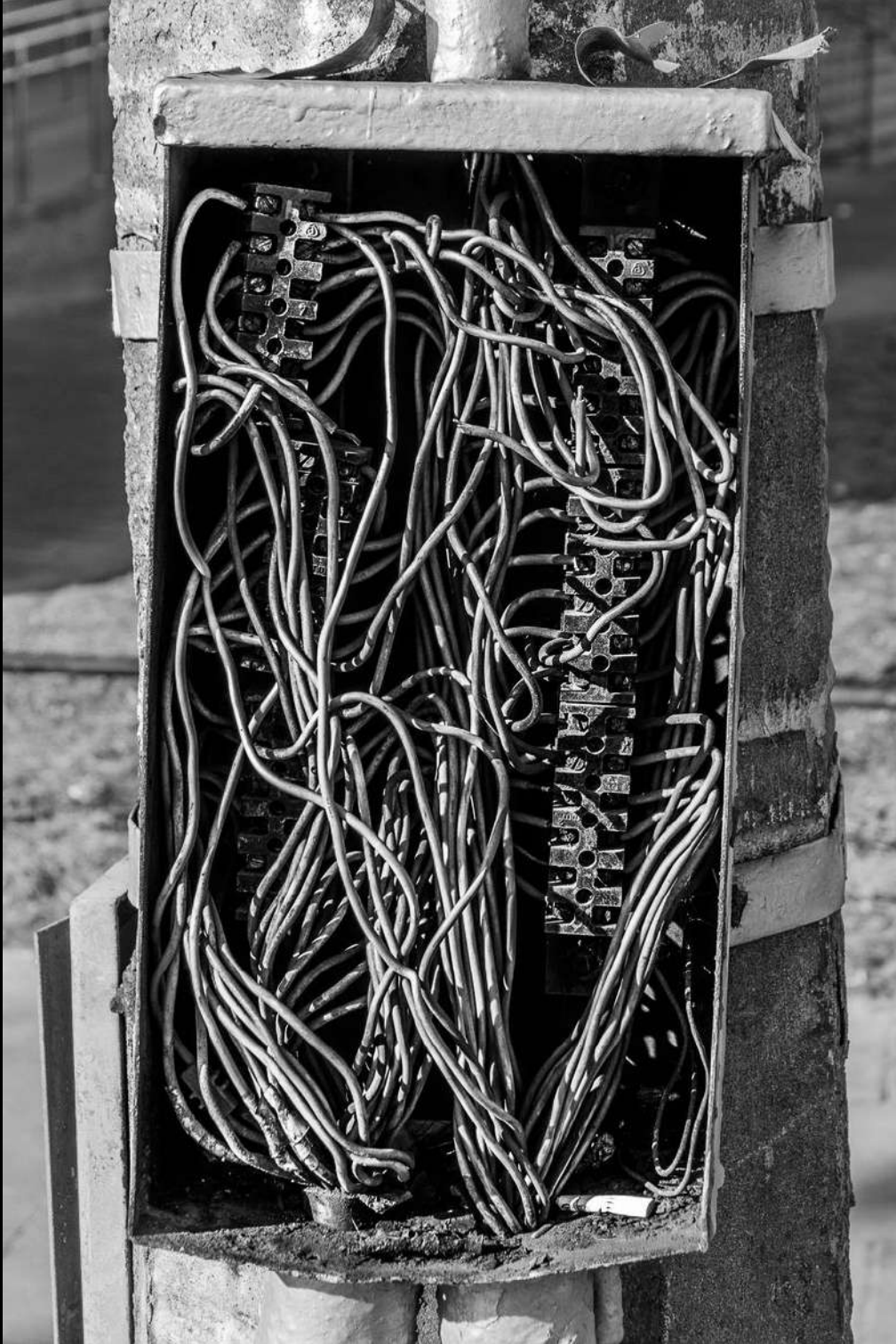
FAREWELL



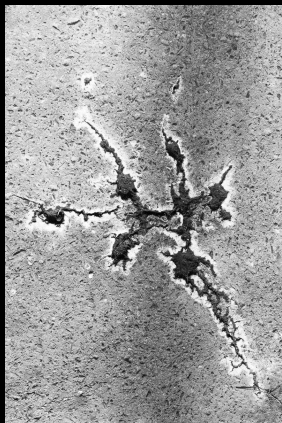
FAREWELL



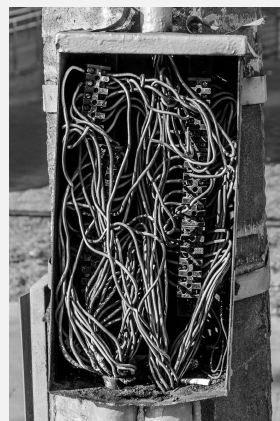
FAREWELL



FAREWELL



FAREWELL



FAREWELL



- *Post „Subway”*

SUBWAY

My next post was "Subway." In it, I described the situation on May 11, 2018. Then I left my office after work and took the subway to get pictures for the photo school. When I left the pen drive with photos where I developed the images, I decided to go back not by subway but on foot. I started my walk from the "Natolin" metro station. I ended up near my work at the time, at the "Wilanowska" metro station. How far is it from one station to the other? I don't know precisely. I just know that I made almost 14,000 steps during the walk. I wouldn't be myself if I didn't do it with the camera in my hand. As usual, I analyzed the visual surroundings of Ursynów and Mokotów and contemplated life. It was a typical Warsaw summer afternoon. During this walk, once again in my life, I realized how many things we lose when we rush through our daily activities. It is incredible how many things we can experience in a simple walk. For example, we can talk to strangers about their local issues or about photography.



- *Post „Subway“*

SUBWAY

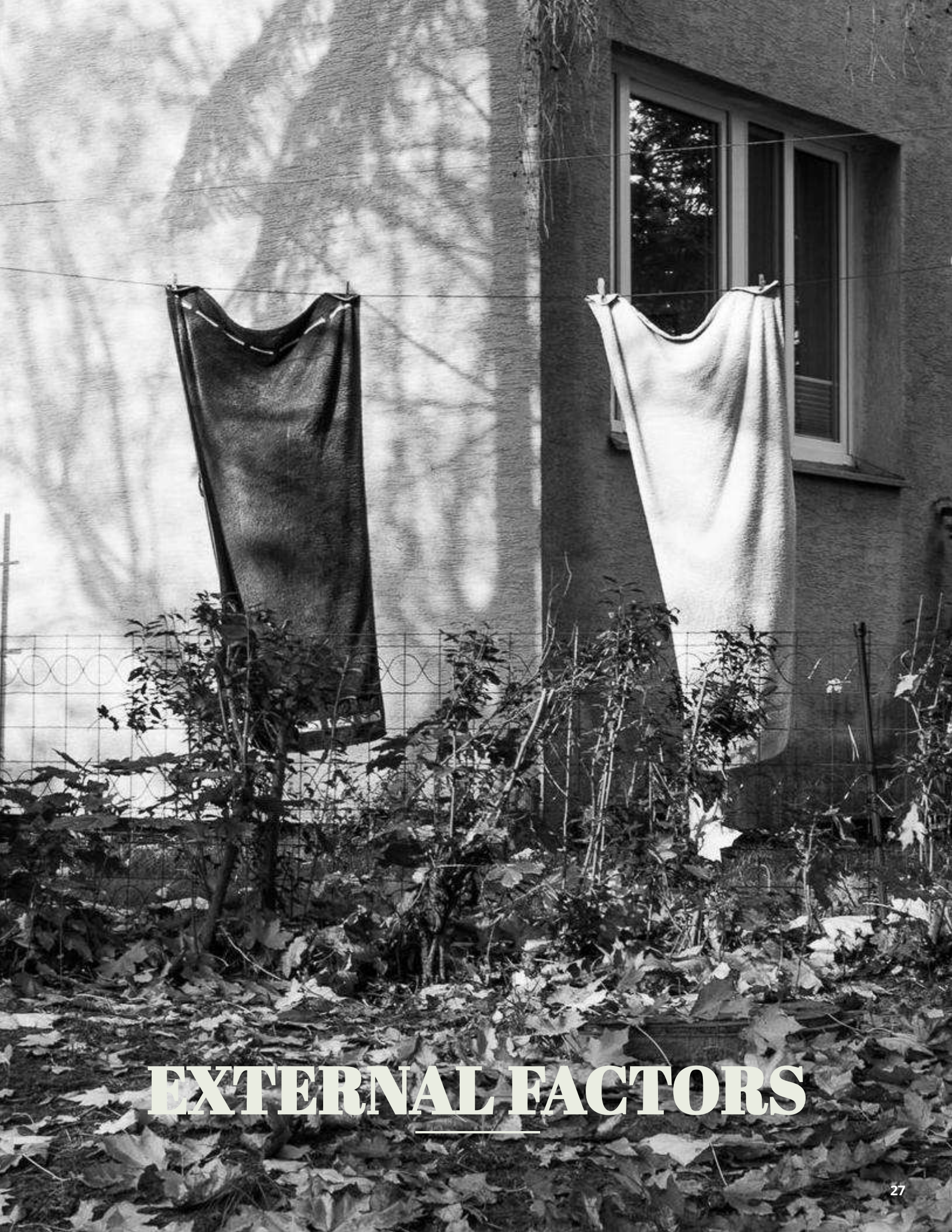
We can witness a drunken fight or hear screams coming from flats in blocks of flats. We can also listen to "open-air conversations" of minor drunkards. While taking a walk through the urban reality, you can see young people going to Friday parties, old people walking their dogs, and many other exciting things. I would say that this is the classic prose of life. The most important thing for me, however, is that during such a walk, I listen to my thoughts. I hear them loud and clear. This is the time when I can quickly pick up my phone and write down new ideas. I do this to transform these thoughts into a blog entry in the future. The text "Subway" is another proof of this, another trace that I want to keep for posterity. Classic examples of people who did this before I was Seneca, Fyodor Dostoyevsky, and Stanislaw Lem. They were all adept at translating their complex thoughts into words. Most interestingly, they all lived in a completely different time and place. What does this mean for us?

SUBWAY

This means that "genius" (and "stupidity") knows no territorial or temporal boundaries. It also means that if you want to be remembered by posterity, you can't count on others' help. In fact, you already have everything to start your creative journey today. It doesn't matter if it's related to photography, writing, drawing, painting, singing, dancing, or sculpting. Get your ass off and start doing what you really love. Concentrate on this activity. Concentrate on your passion, especially if it is close to the broadly understood creation. What else did I want to convey while writing this text? I also wanted to emphasize that we should support the construction of the subway in Warsaw. It should be constantly developed. I will have a lot of fun. The more metro routes, the more I can ride on them. Thanks to such rides combined with photographic walks, more and more ideas will come to my mind.

• *Post „Subway”*



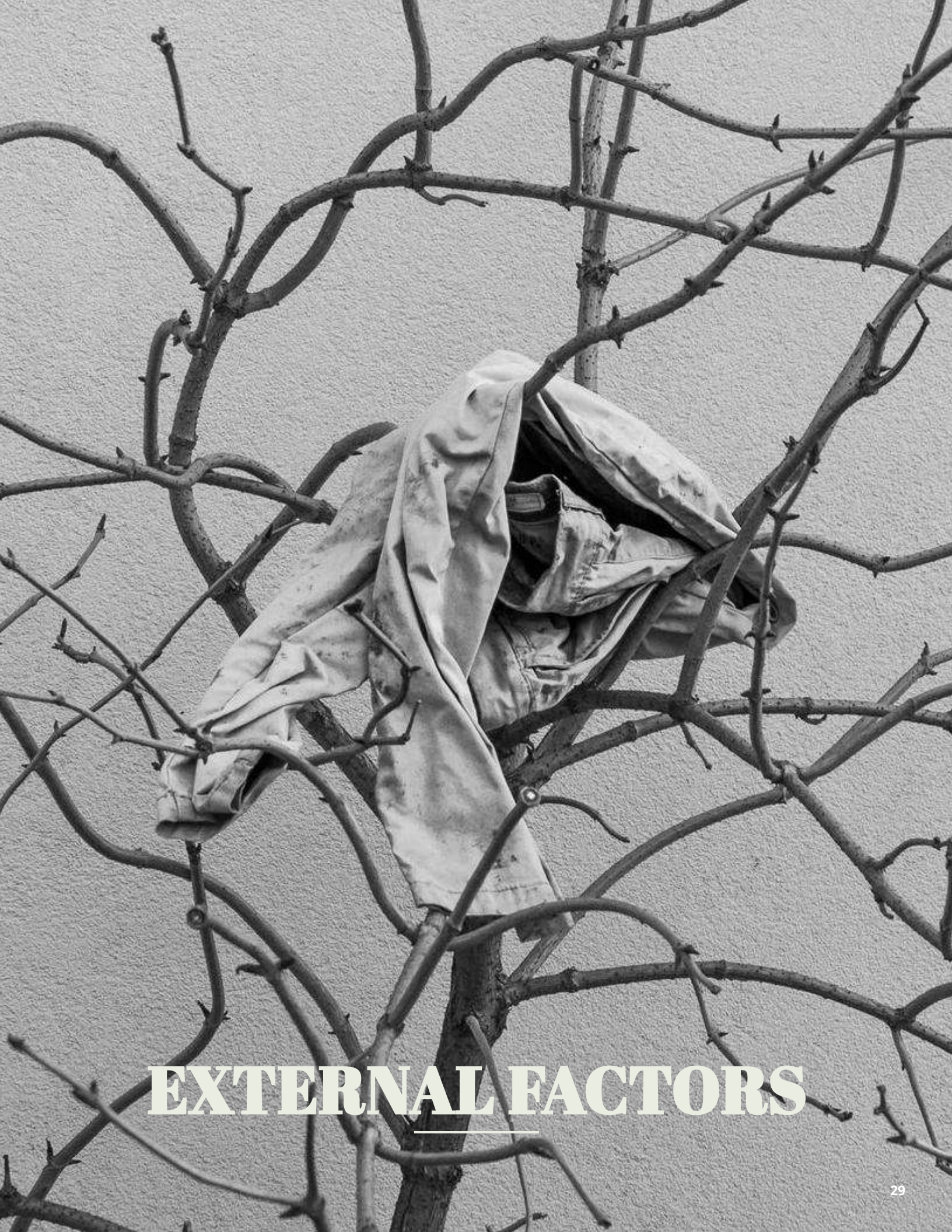


EXTERNAL FACTORS

EXTERNAL FACTORS

The following post was about external factors that can complicate a photographic walk. People may be among the factors that can make a walk difficult, but I haven't focused on them in this text. The first thing that came to mind was the weather. The weather is not as big a problem for me as it is for others. I love walking when it's cold. The fact is that we should adequately prepare for a walk in freezing temperatures. The basis for the preparation is, above all, comfortable and warm shoes. A winter hat, underpants, and gloves are also essential equipment if you want to spend time outdoors in winter. Winters in Poland can take their toll. If you start to freeze while walking, you can be 100% sure that you will end the walk and return home soon. However, if it is too hot, it can also make the hike more challenging. That is why I always have a cap and a bottle of water in my backpack in summer. If possible, I often use my sunscreen cream before the walk to prevent skin burns. In general, high and low temperatures can quickly interrupt a photo walk if you are not adequately prepared. It is not the weather that can stop us from our passion, but rather our laziness and stupidity. What are other external factors that may make it difficult for us to walk? We have big problems with smog in Poland. I think I feel the effects of air pollution quite often. Sometimes I have a strange cough, and I believe that this cough is related to contamination. The smog effect can be minimized by using an anti-smog mask, but I still haven't bought it (as of May 2018). How do I explain this? The answer is my stupidity. Another unpleasant issue that came to my mind and that could hinder our photographic journey is dust (e.g., from nearby construction sites), which (like smog) can damage our lungs. Also, noise (for example, from streets full of cars) can create unpleasant sensations that discourage us from walking. That's why I try to avoid crowded streets.

In conclusion, I encourage you, my Dear Friend, to re-examine what I have written. Then ask yourself: are these external factors real obstacles that may prevent us from exercising our passion? Of course not. In fact, it is our laziness and stupidity that can most prevent us from realizing ourselves in street photography. I always try to look for solutions to problems within myself and not just look for troubles placed in external factors beyond my control.



EXTERNAL FACTORS

A black and white photograph of a paved walkway, likely made of concrete or stone tiles. The walkway is composed of rectangular slabs separated by dark expansion joints. A long, dark shadow is cast across the walkway from the upper right towards the lower left, creating a strong sense of perspective and depth. The lighting is bright, highlighting the texture of the pavement and the sharp edges of the joints.

TO DREAM OF ART

TO DREAM OF ART

In the last post from September 2018, I wrote that I like dreaming about art (post: "To dream of art."). I used to dream about becoming a footballer. Today I dream loudly about becoming an artist appreciated in the long term. Why am I dreaming loudly? Because I do it at www.adammazek.com. I do not know why, but in Poland, speaking out loud about your dreams is not always positively received (you can, for example, be accused of lack of modesty). I don't understand why I shouldn't dream in public. I have presented examples of my dreams in posts such as "Dream," "Mazek App," and "Why will I succeed in photography?".

In short: I don't see any reason why I shouldn't let my imagination run wild on my blog. Of course, I realize that some people think I'm crazy. Honestly, I don't care what people think about me and my passion. I believe that we should all speak out loud about our dreams and life goals. Moreover, we should ignore anyone who tells us that "it will not work." I really believe that we should not be afraid of our goals and future. In the end, we're all going to die anyway. Why should we keep ourselves from making our dreams come true? I don't see why I should do it myself. I will probably not see in your case either, my Dear Friend, the reasons why you should give up making your dreams come true.

In conclusion, I encourage you to dream aloud, daydream. I urge you not to be afraid to speak out about your goals. We should all remember that we only have one life, and the time to make our dreams come true is limited.

THE END



TO DREAM OF ART
