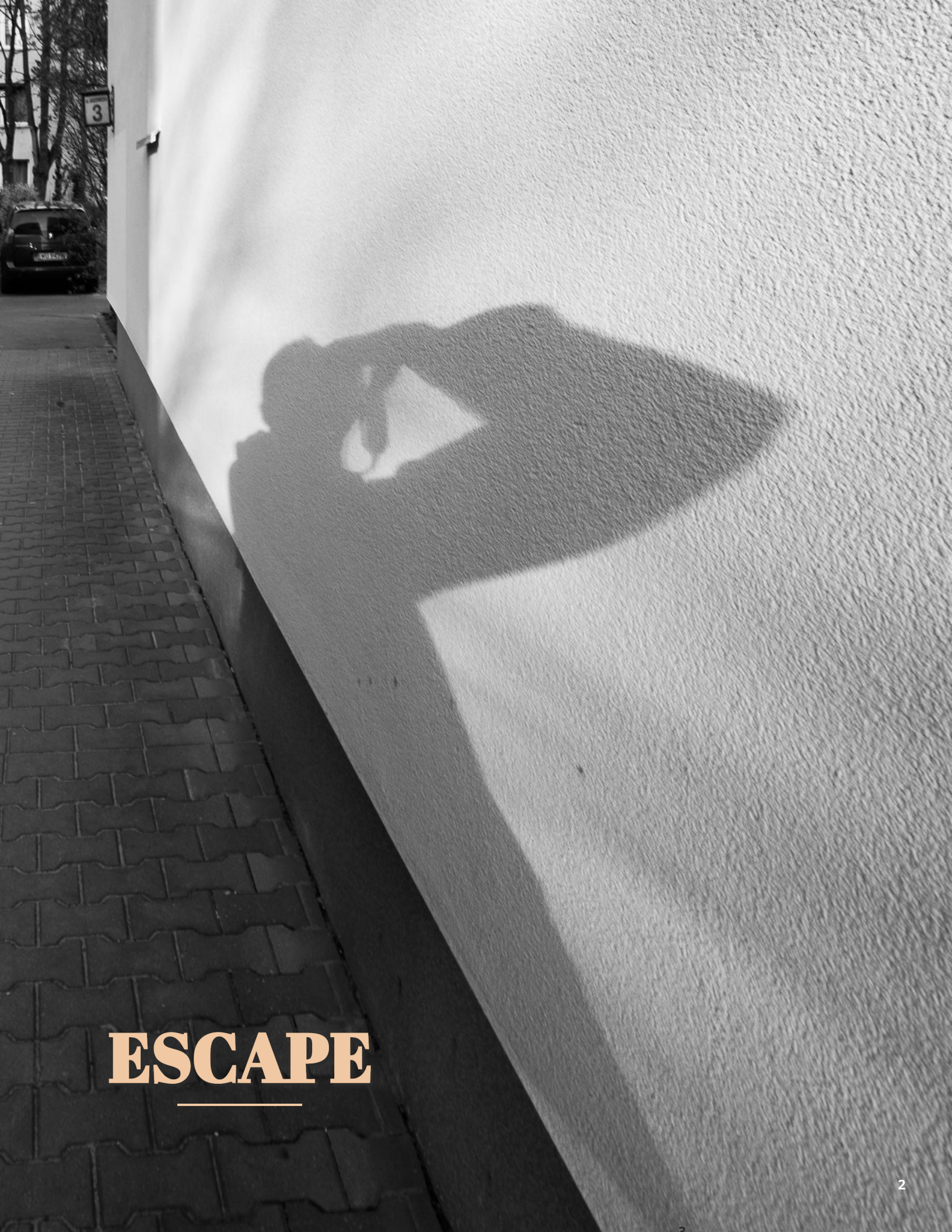


ADAM MAZEK

Diaries

09.2019 - p. 11



# ESCAPE

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## **ESCAPE**

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We begin the second part of the September 2019 "Diaries" with a text entitled "Escape." In it, I wrote that many people escape from the gray, mundane reality into the world of sports, travel, or parties (with alcohol or drugs). People want to relax, have fun and escape from everyday life. Some of us, for example, want to forget that we are employees and have to give our most valuable resources to our employer: time and life energy (fortunately, we don't do it for free!). After coming from work, many of us want to escape from our boring, sometimes overwhelming reality. These people play sports or search for their next destination. They want to change their surroundings. In addition, they want to forget for a short period that their freedom is limited by contracts. In part, I am no exception either. Throughout my life, I have sought inner peace in sports, travel, and, as of now, in street photography. Most of us need a break from reality sometimes. How happy I am that I have given up alcohol in my life journey. I'm not escaping everyday life by opening another bottle of beer. Another difference between many of my peers and me is that I have begun to seek a kind of escape in art. The truth is that I want to immerse myself in the gray, street-level, mundane reality of Warsaw to experience spiritual and creative catharsis. Walking and taking pictures is a contemplation of life and death for me. In fact, I don't want to avoid and escape from reality.

I want to exist here and now, no matter where I am at any given moment. Running away from the gray everyday life is no solution. I want to be a part of it. Walking through the streets of Warsaw, I want to pay homage to the mundanity surrounding 95% of people worldwide. Hence, my photos may seem "sad" and "depressing." I've said it once, and I'll repeat it: taking pictures and writing texts is one great opportunity to contemplate the passing of time. I believe that each of us has his or her proverbial five minutes to do something valuable for other people in life. I want to focus on creating in the broadest sense. I can treat this activity as an escape from my daily responsibilities. Still, at the same time, it makes me realize to enjoy everything I have in the here and now and just be grateful that I was allowed to live another day with a smile on my face.



# CV

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# CV

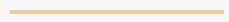
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From the beginning of our economic studies, we were told that we should have a great CV. In general, I agree with this statement. If we want to make a career, for example, in the banking sector, we should do our best to have the best possible resume. For a decade (from 2007 to 2017), one of my main goals in life was to have the perfect Curriculum vitae document. I often worried about the many aspects of my career that had emerged over the years. I wondered how a particular event would affect my resume. Today, I no longer worry about it as much as I used to. I now know people don't live just to have the perfect resume. In 2017, I decided to resign from a reasonably high position in one of the world's well-known corporations. Why did I do it? I was spending too much time in the office. I didn't have enough time and energy for my passion. You undoubtedly know, my Dear Friend, what my greatest passion is. It is photography.

Nevertheless, my source of income is working in accounting. I don't live for the perfect CV (whether financial or artistic). I live to create. This is the purpose of my life. The money I earn in finance, in the broadest sense, is to be used, among other things, so that I can pursue my passion. I want to leave behind as many photos and texts as possible for future generations. Having an excellent resume is essential, but not crucial, to succeed in life in the broadest sense. I want to encourage you, my Dear Friend, not to quit your job, wherever you work. There is nothing wrong with being hardworking, making a career, and earning money. However, I want to inspire you to start looking for a passion for which you can sacrifice many things in your life. If you already have such a passion, I recommend nurturing it, but not at the expense of your loved ones. Having a hobby to which we can devote a large part of our lives is one of the most beautiful things that can happen in our lives. True passion will bring pure and childlike joy into your life. In conclusion, my Dear Friend: love your loved ones and care for them; find and nurture a passion that will absorb you significantly, but remember and pay attention to your resume and career. Money is not the most important thing, but it is crucial to be happy and develop.



CV



# SPRING

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## **SPRING**

I wrote the following text on April 2, 2019. It was the day when spring knocked on Warsaw's door. Do I like spring? Of course, I do (as most people probably do). I love spring as much as any other season.

Nevertheless, I idolize spring for the smells that appear on the streets. The trees and flowers bloom wonderfully. Thanks to the change to summertime, we have longer days and shorter nights in Poland. I suspect that many people are spiritually awakening from their winter slumber during this time. New ideas, breath, and faith come to us, along with fresh, warm air and daylight, which make everything around us come alive. Are there any downsides to spring? For me, as a street photographer, there are. First of all, during the spring period, many people come out of their homes. Everyone wants to see the blooming trees and smell the spring. As you have undoubtedly noticed, my Dear Friend, most of my photos are without people. It's easier for me to focus when taking pictures when the streets are empty. When I see a suitable frame to photograph, unlike most street photographers, I don't wait for a person to enter the frame. I usually wait for him to come out of it. Therefore, the more people on the streets, the more distractions appear in my work. I think this is the main disadvantage of spring for me. I have to once again get used to the large number of passersby. Spring is the time when new ideas come to my mind. Undoubtedly, a large amount of sunshine provides not only me with many positive emotions so that I begin to think about what we can do next in our lives. While writing this text, I did not know when it would be published. I only hope that between the time I wrote it and the day I posted it, new ideas will come to me related to my passion.

\* Indeed, in the so-called in-between time, new ideas have appeared in my mind. They are: "Diaries," the photo collection "Street Photography," and "Ostensible Abstraction."



## **HARD-WORKING**

**I wrote that hard work pays off if you believe in what you are doing in a post titled "Hard-working." I am convinced that if every world-famous artist (led by Leonardo da Vinci, Fyodor Dostoevsky, Chopin, or Salvador Dali) had to work hard on a full-time contract, they could not have achieved what they did. I, for many years, worked (and still do!) on a full-time contract in the broader financial industry. I did my best to fulfill all my responsibilities. Nevertheless, when I began to discover photography and art for myself, I knew I had to work hard, but also in a field other than finance. As I wrote at the beginning of this post, we should all work hard only if we genuinely love something. Remember, my Dear Friend, that hard work makes sense if you believe in your actions.**

**I believe in myself. That's why I want to focus on my passion. It is an area in which I also want to grow. All the most famous artists have dedicated their lives to artistic activities. I want to join them. I want to work as much as possible in the broader art industry. I want to focus as much of my life energy as possible on photography. Can I do this? Will I ever be able to focus 100% only on my passion? I hope so. However, today, I am also still working hard as an accountant. It doesn't make it any easier, but I also see the advantages of such an arrangement. The truth is that I simply believe in myself. That's why I stick to working in finance all the time.**

**In fact, thanks to this job, I have the funds to run my blog, among other things. It's not easy, but I clench my fists, working hard in accounting and devoting much of my free time to street photography. I wish you, my Dear Friend, to do what you love to do. If money shows up in the process, I can undoubtedly congratulate you. Remember that hard work is essential in passion and regular gainful employment so that you have a steady cash injection. Money does not give happiness, but it can help you find it. That's why I won't give up my finance job. I believe I can creatively realize myself in the arts by being an influential financier.**



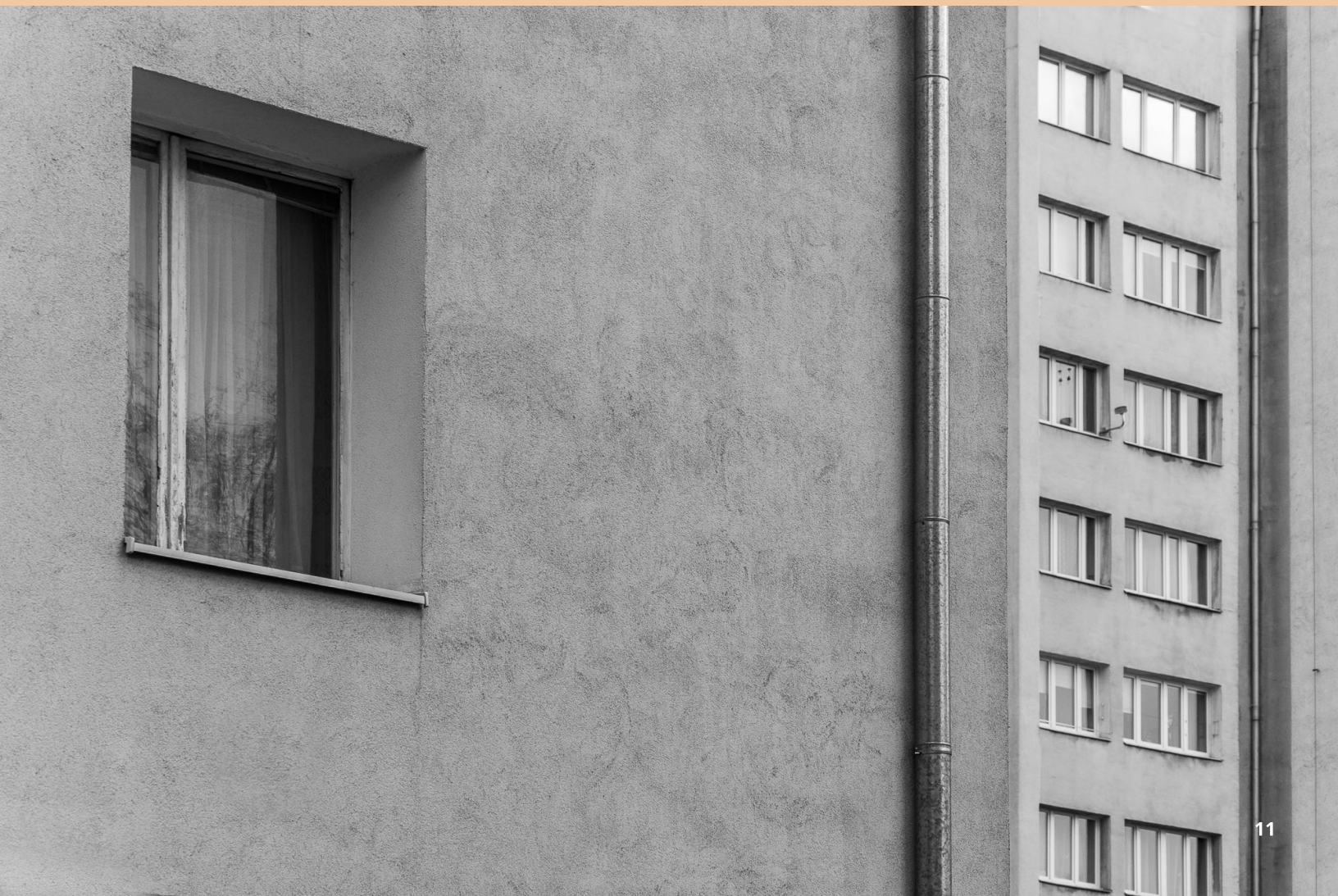
# **HARD-WORKING**

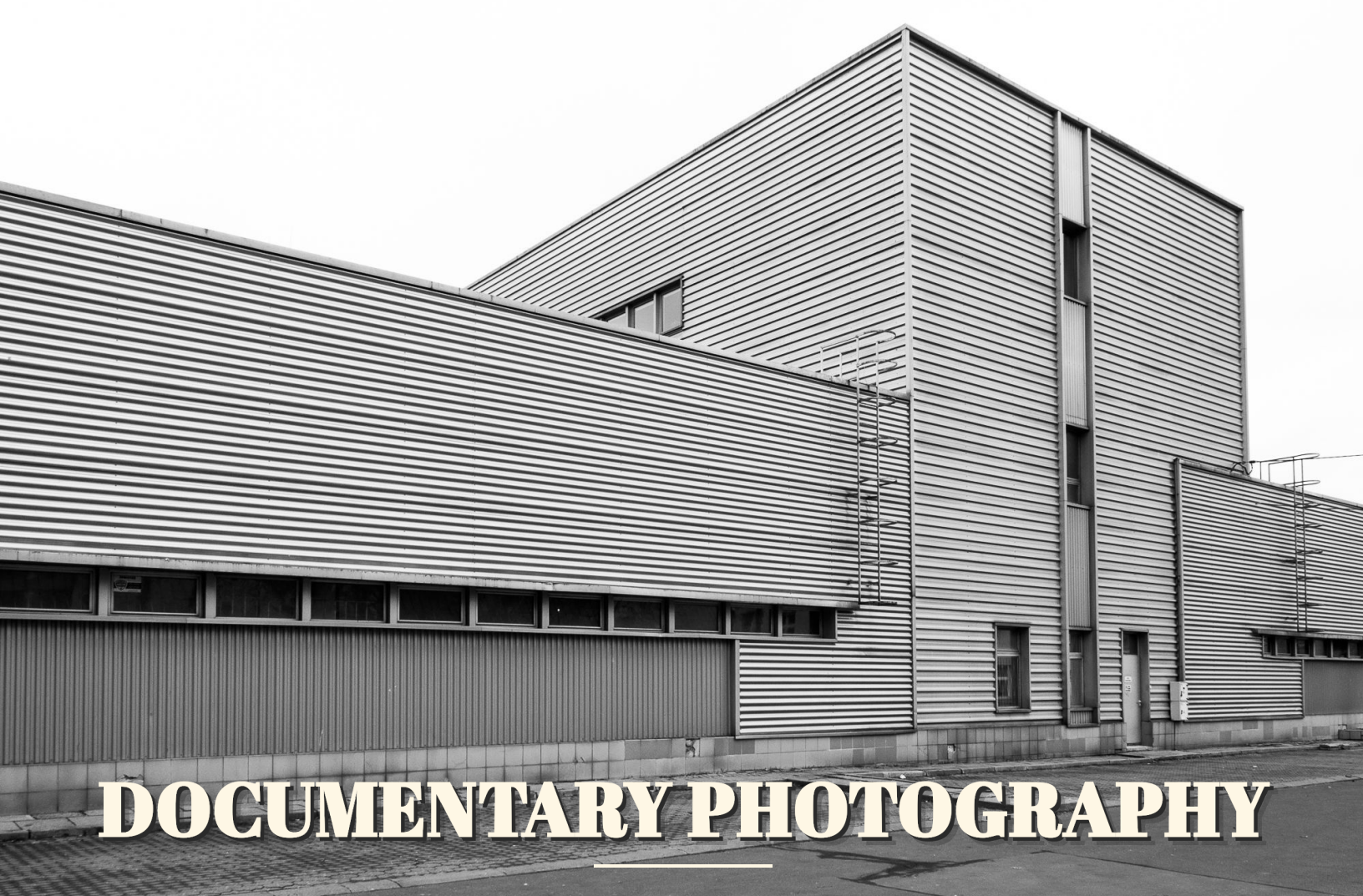
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# **DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY**

Walking the streets of Warsaw, I usually try to create artistic photography. However, this doesn't mean that sometimes I won't turn to documentary photography with my unique and specific vision. Why? The truth is that Warsaw is developing, changing, and expanding all the time before my eyes. The landscape is constantly evolving. In addition, I have already mentioned that I like to play with time. Photographing the same places but at different times of the year is all about playing with time. Of course, I do it with a touch of my artistry. I wrote this text on April 4, 2019. Then, I published it five months later, in September. Between the two months mentioned above, I continuously took pictures on the streets of the Polish capital. I have been doing this regularly since October 2015. Throughout the years of my activity, I have noticed that Warsaw has changed dramatically in some areas. The fact is that we can observe the passing of time not only on our own skin. Urban tissue is also an excellent example of how we can analyze the passing of time in a broad sense.

• *Post „Documentary photography”*





# DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY

**For me, one of the best historical examples of contemplating time with the help of immortalizing a city is the works done by Hiroshige. The set of 19th-century paintings, "One Hundred Famous Views of Edo," is a beautiful example of Japanese art, in which the Japanese artist immortalized for future generations the city that is now called Tokyo (the name was changed in 1868). After reading the book published by Taschen, I found that Hiroshige is one of my favorite artists and one of my inspirations to walk the streets and take pictures. That's why I happen to take strictly documentary photographs. I simply want to preserve the image of today's Warsaw for future generations. You can find some of the examples in this post, my Dear Friend.**

**Nevertheless, I try to add a touch of my artistic vision to these photos. I have written several times on my blog that I like to dream out loud. Today I want to emphasize that one of my dreams is to become for Warsaw what Hiroshige is for Edo/Tokyo. I believe that my documentary-artistic approach will stand the test of time. Is this my main goal? Yes, nevertheless, I can't imagine doing it all without childish joy.**

Recently, during one photo walks through the streets of Warsaw, I wondered how I could play with death. One idea came to mind. I've mentioned in previous posts that during my photo walks through the streets of Warsaw, I often contemplate life and death issues. I have also written many times that I take pictures, write texts and prepare new posts in advance, long before they are published. In this way, I sort of play with time. Now I see that it is also playing with death. Why? Here's the answer: I dream of preparing and planning as many posts as possible years ahead. This is probably the only way I can frolic with death. I want my posts published on my blog after my death. These are among my artistic goals and dreams, closely related to the blog. None of us knows when we will die. I plan to live as long as possible, preferably a hundred years. I hope to be such a prolific blogger that thousands of texts and photos will be automatically published after my death.

• *Photos on p. 13-15: post „Playing With Death”*

## **PLAYING WITH DEATH**





## **PLAYING WITH DEATH**

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**It will be a kind of voice from the Underworld. How do I want to accomplish this? By adding posts with a publication date in the future. When creating a post, I often wonder if this particular combination of text and photos will, by chance, be my last virtual breath. If not, maybe it will be the first post that will automatically publish after my death? Or perhaps the text I am writing will never be published by me and appear many years after my death in a book by Taschen publishing house? As usual, I have only questions and no answers. And you, my Dear Friend, what plans do you have for your website and artistic activities? Are you also playing with death or more focused on making money? I encourage you to create, regardless of the purpose of your activity. By creating, you will undoubtedly enrich your life.**

# THE END

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