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KATHARINA  
PÖHLMANN  
PHOTOGRAPHY

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PORTFOLIO



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## ARTIST STATEMENT

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In my work I focus on facets of human lives: imperfect, vulnerable and sometimes contradictory; the confrontation with the limits of life, with loneliness, with the passage of time.

What remains after a person has left, the echo of a person; what becomes visible in the emptiness?

Encountering people and their environments makes me more aware of my questions about universal themes.

Working with an analogue medium-format camera gives me the opportunity to slow down the photographic process. The time needed to arrive at an image is transformed into a sense of time in the photograph.

Usually I work on my projects over an extended period of time so that the work can develop and create its own dynamic and logic, acquiring a life of its own.

*The photoseries presented in this portfolio show selections of the complete photo-projects.*

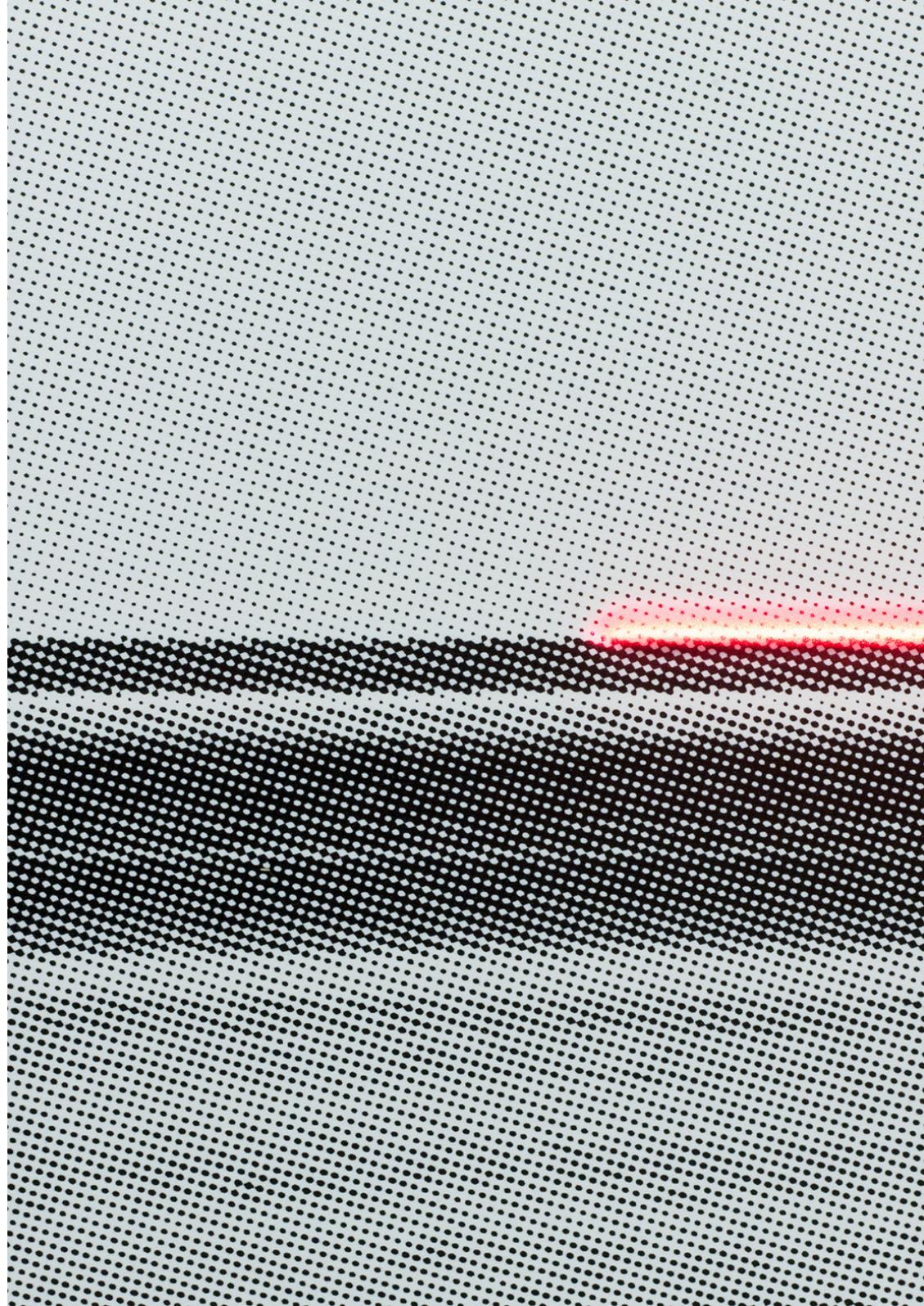
# INSTALLATIONS

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It is

From Horizon to Horizon

Squares





## It is

*It would have been possible.*

*It could have been.*

*It is.*

“It is” is a long term photo project and is presented as a photographic installation.

This project is a reflection upon vulnerability, imperfection, the search for meaning, for sense.

It consists of three photographic themes; each visual component shows another aspect of a human life - the life of an elderly man. It was important to me that this was expressed not only by the images themselves but also supported by the way they were exhibited. With this in mind, I decided to work towards a photographic installation.

**Exhibition view: Galerie Historischer Keller, Berlin (D) | “Es ist” (“It is”), 2017**



Throughout the space, large panels hang from the ceiling with photos of a TV-screen; the TV in his living room. Bright, 'noisy' and slowly moving and turning. They were meant to be physically present in an 'over-present' and slightly disturbing way.

Fine art prints from aged sculptures, made by him many years ago, were presented along the walls; the photos were printed on matt paper and framed without glass to make sure they would not reflect nor mirror anything from their surroundings; they should be silently present without grabbing the visitors' attention.

Interior photos, taken in his living room, capturing a sense of loneliness and the excruciating slow pass of time, were shown in columns that were designed and constructed specifically for this exhibition, and lit like a slide from below.

**Exhibition view: Galerie Historischer Keller, Berlin (D) | "Es ist" ("It is")**



Because of the construction of the light-columns and the way their constellation in space was composed, the viewer could only see one image at a time. It was intended that by moving from column to column you would slow down and time would pass. Also, in order to see each image, you needed to bow your head, and by doing that could not see the space, nor become distracted or disturbed by the environment while observing the image.

More information about this project you will find at chapter 'Long Term Projects'.

**Exhibition view: Kunsthal 45, Den Helder (NL) | "...iets met ruimte" #1, 2018**



The work on "It is" is still on going. The presentation of the project will be further developed, text will be added and also sound recordings, allowing the visitor to experience the sound of stillness and loneliness.

"It is" was exhibited at: **Kunsthall 45, Den Helder (NL) | "...iets met ruimte" #1, 2018**  
**Galerie Historischer Keller, Berlin (D) | "Es ist" ("It is"); duo-exhibition with sculptor Adrian Faes, 2017**

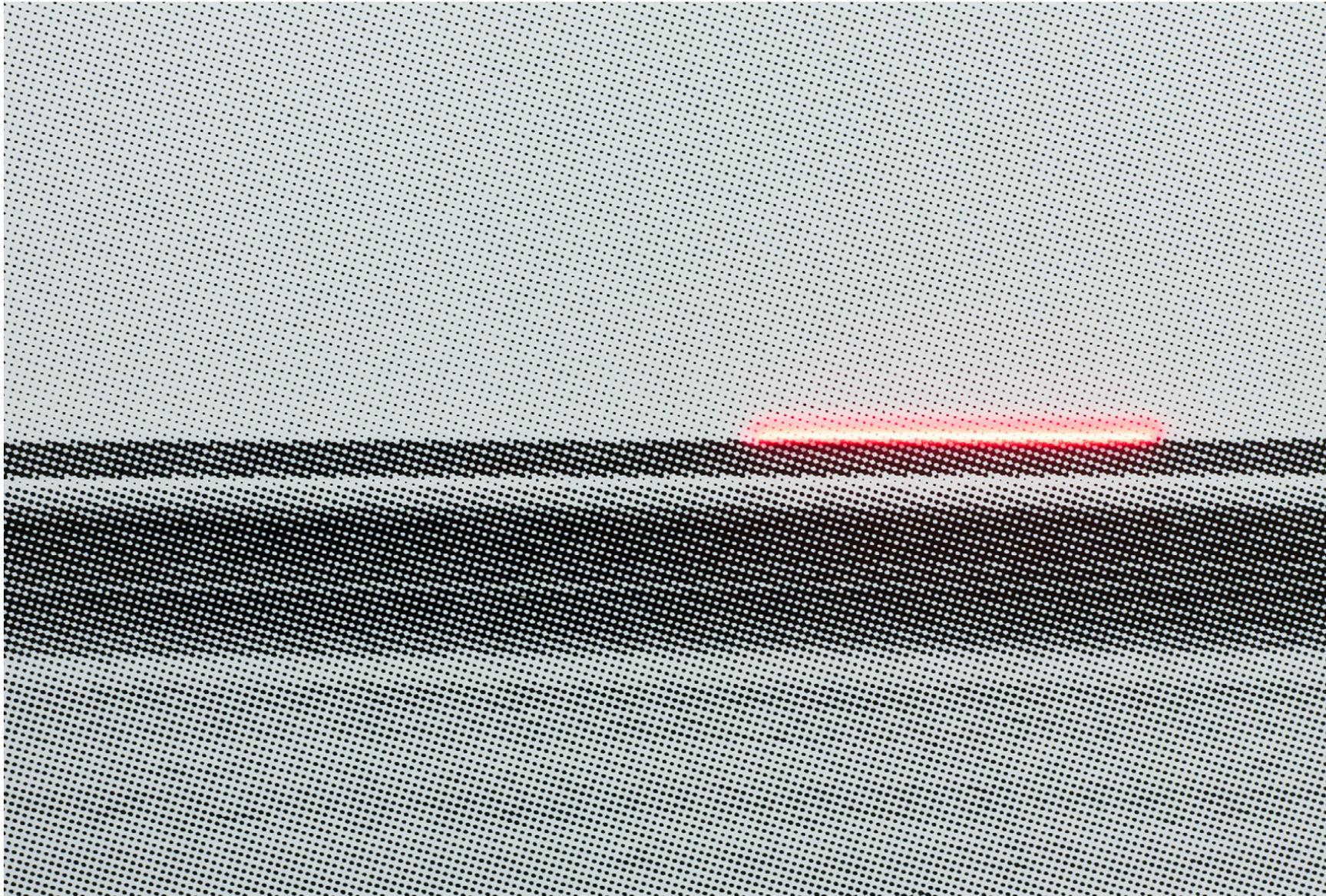


## From Horizon to Horizon

In “From Horizon to Horizon” a sculpture explores by a slowly rotating movement its surroundings with a laserlight.

The bright red point of light constantly searches its way across walls, cutting through corners and accentuating the peculiarities of the exhibition space, drawing an imaginary line across the horizon of photographed landscapes. Shifting between the inside and the outside, it connects those worlds and visualizes the simultaneous existence of different realities.





The photos were taken on specific locations on the northern coast of Holland; in order to unify the different landscapes their features and characteristics were photographically abstracted.

“From Horizon to Horizon” is a co-production with sculptor Adrian Faes.



“From Horizon to Horizon” was exhibited at: **Kloster Gravenhorst / DA (D) | “Kunst in der Region”, 2019**  
**Galerie Pictura, Groningen (NL) | “...iets met ruimte” #2, 2019**  
**Hal 25, Alkmaar (NL) | Art-Manifestation Impuls, 2018**



## Squares

“Squares” reflects the drive for expansion and efficiency with which people take the land and transform it into a cultivated landscape. Plots of land, parcelled out by man right up to the horizon, straight and rough. Measured, divided up: the land as a system.

To visualize this the floor was covered with a ceiling system that has become a growing standard because of its functionality. Now that the ceiling is no longer above the viewer but on the ground, the straightforwardness of the system is imposed on the earth.

**Exhibition view: Galerie Pictura, Groningen (NL) | “...iets met ruimte” #2, 2019**



While walking over the installation with the ceiling lights at your feet you will hear a slowly evolving soundscape; a mix of field recordings, test-tone frequencies and computer generated sounds which rise and fall in a transformative way.

“Squares” is a co-production with sculptor Adrian Faes and sound designer Rijk Kruijer.

“Squares” was exhibited at: **Galerie Pictura, Groningen (NL) | “...iets met ruimte” #2, 2019**

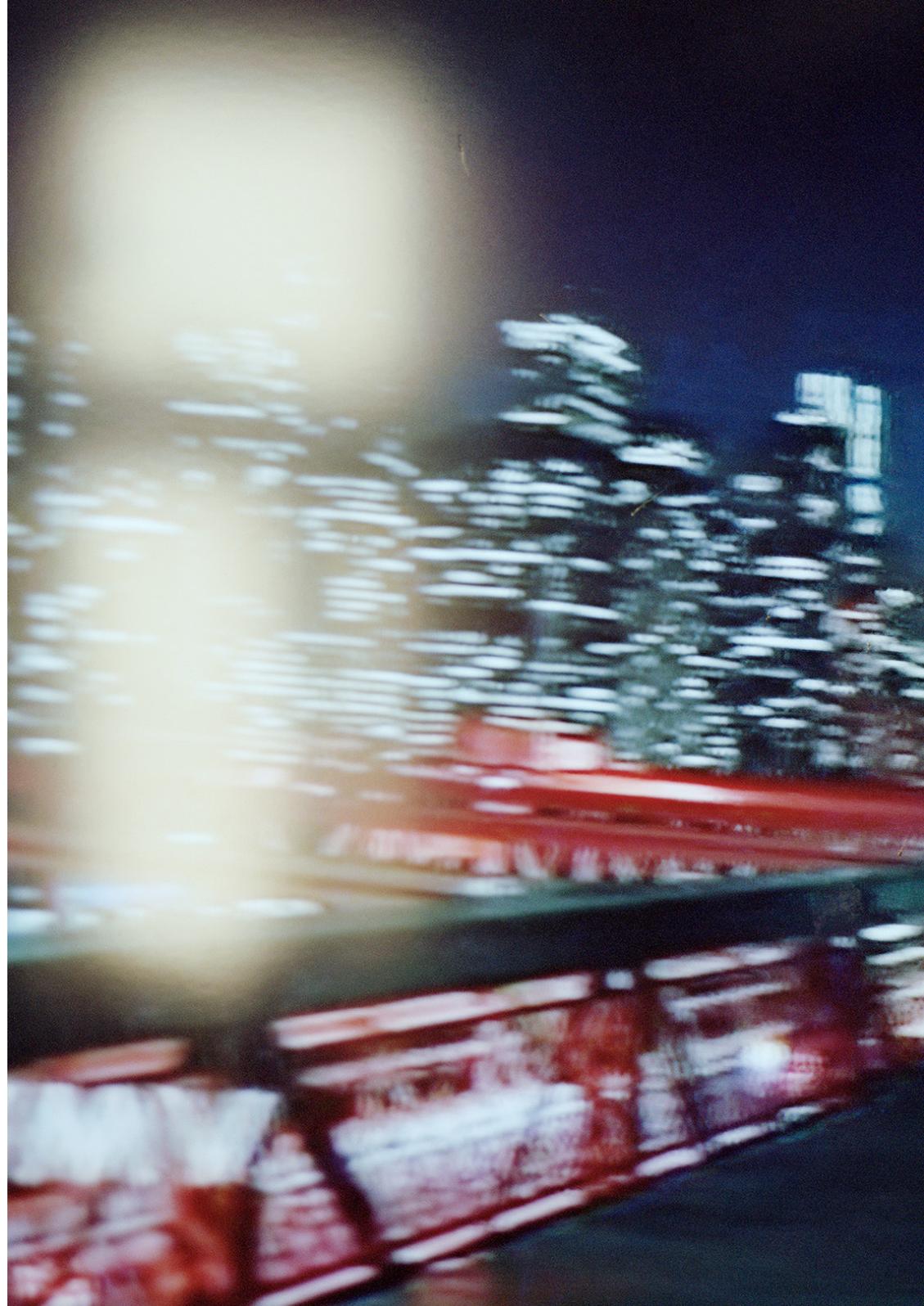
# LONG TERM PROJECTS

It is

1 An Gratuit

Island

Days



LONG TERM PROJECT

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# It is

*It would have been possible.*

*It could have been.*

*It is.*

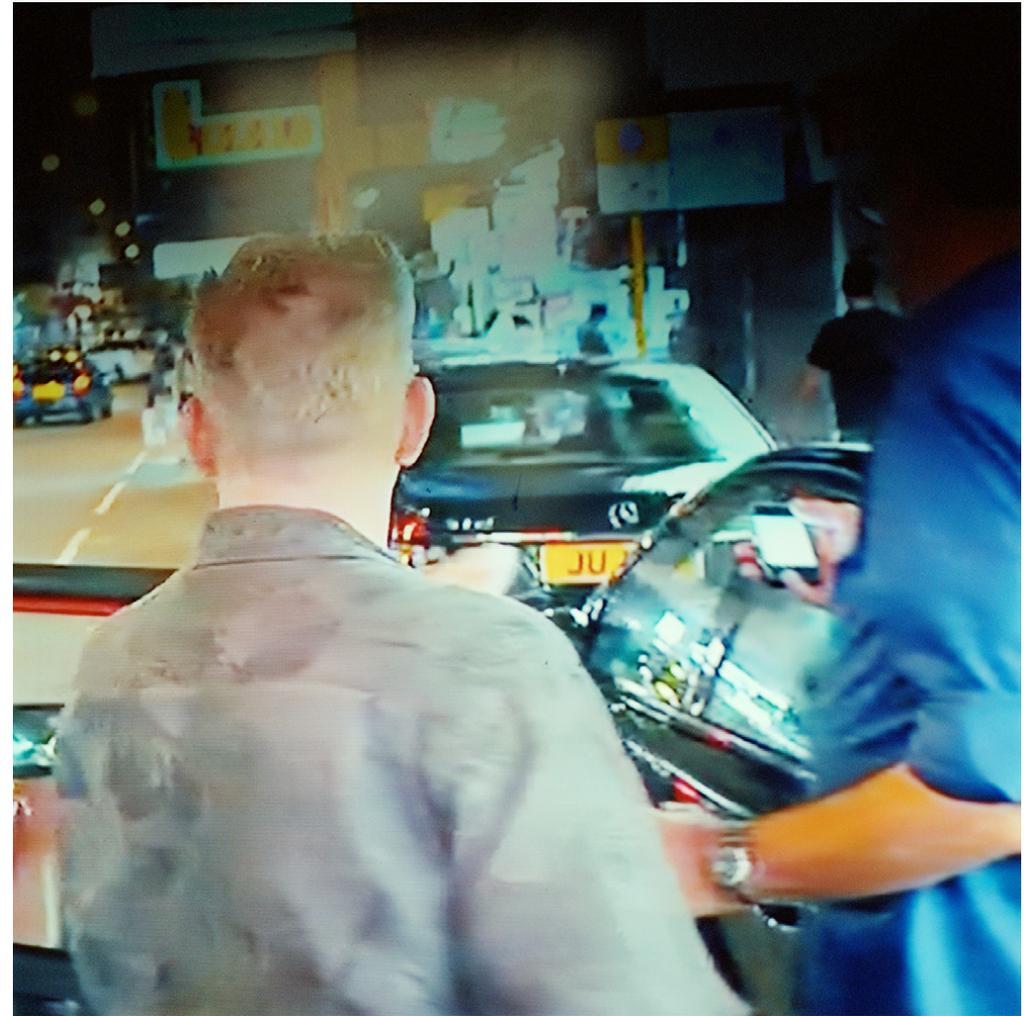




A reflection upon vulnerability, imperfection, the search for meaning, for sense.

What are we living for? What is the meaning of a life? What remains?

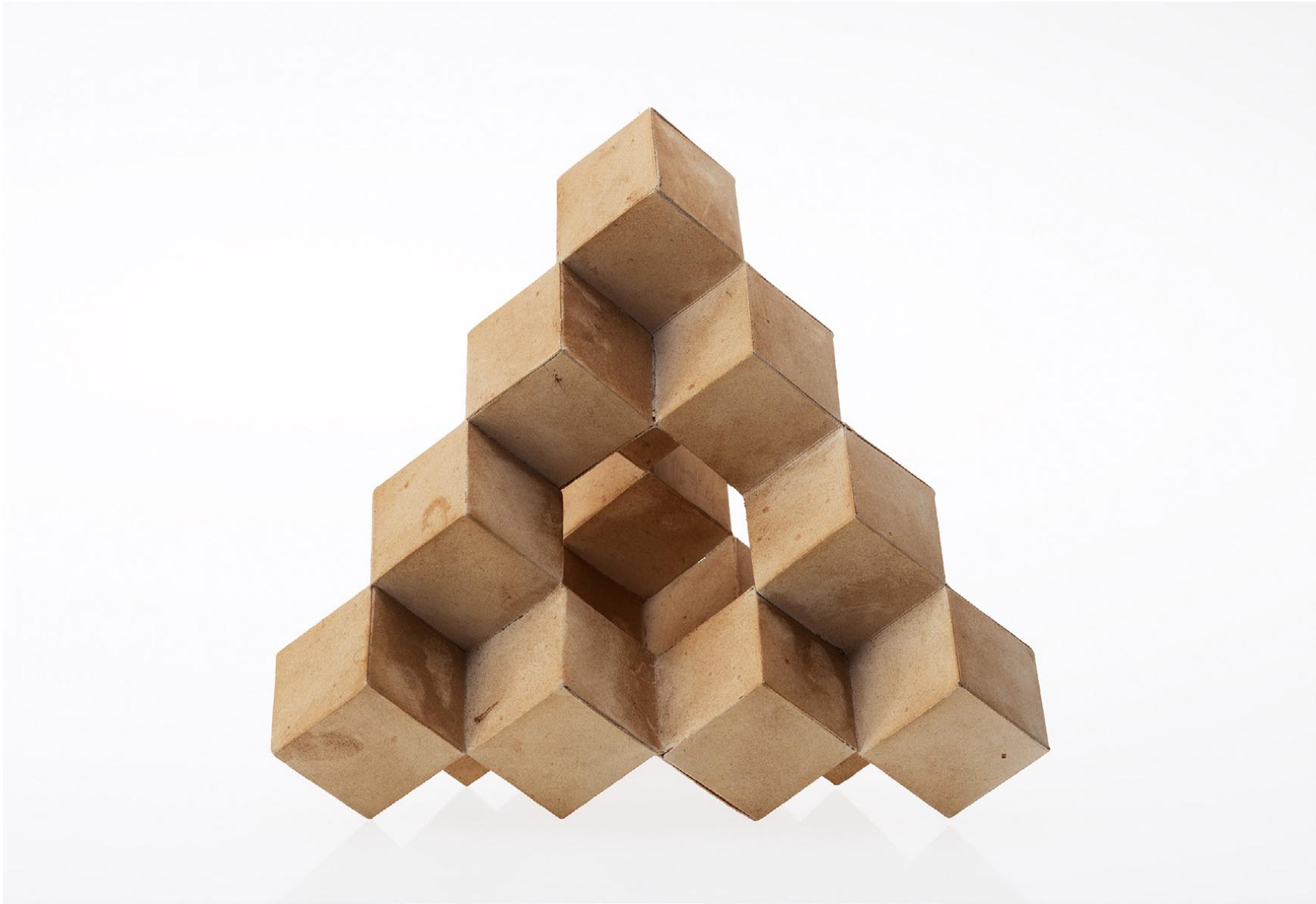
About artistic vision as well as the passage of time and faded hopes.



The project consists of three photographic themes; each visual component shows another aspect of a human life, the life of an elderly man:

interior photos of his living room, capturing the sense of loneliness and the excruciating slow passage of time; photos of his TV-screen, bright and 'noisy'; studio-photos of beautifully crafted aged sculptures, made by him many years ago, silent witnesses of the desire to create.











“It is” was exhibited at: **Kunsthall 45, Den Helder (NL) | “...iets met ruimte” #1, 2018**  
**Galerie Historischer Keller, Berlin (D) | “Es ist” (“It is”); duo-exhibition with sculptor Adrian Faes, 2017**

LONG TERM PROJECT

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# 1 An Gratuit







This photographic project is a reflection about the changes in the former thriving industrial cities in the 'black country' and the Borinage in Wallonia, Belgium. Around this area, what can be seen are the differences between old and new, the urge to hold on to traditions and that which is familiar, and the search for a new identity.











“1 An Gratuit” was exhibited at: **International Photo Festival Leiden (NL) | “New Photographers”, 2015 | NOMINATION**  
**International Photo Festival New York “Photoville” (USA) and Sydney “Head On” (AUS), 2015**  
**Photo Biennial EMOP, Berlin (D) | “Umbrüche und Utopien. Das andere Europa”; solo-exhibition, 2014**

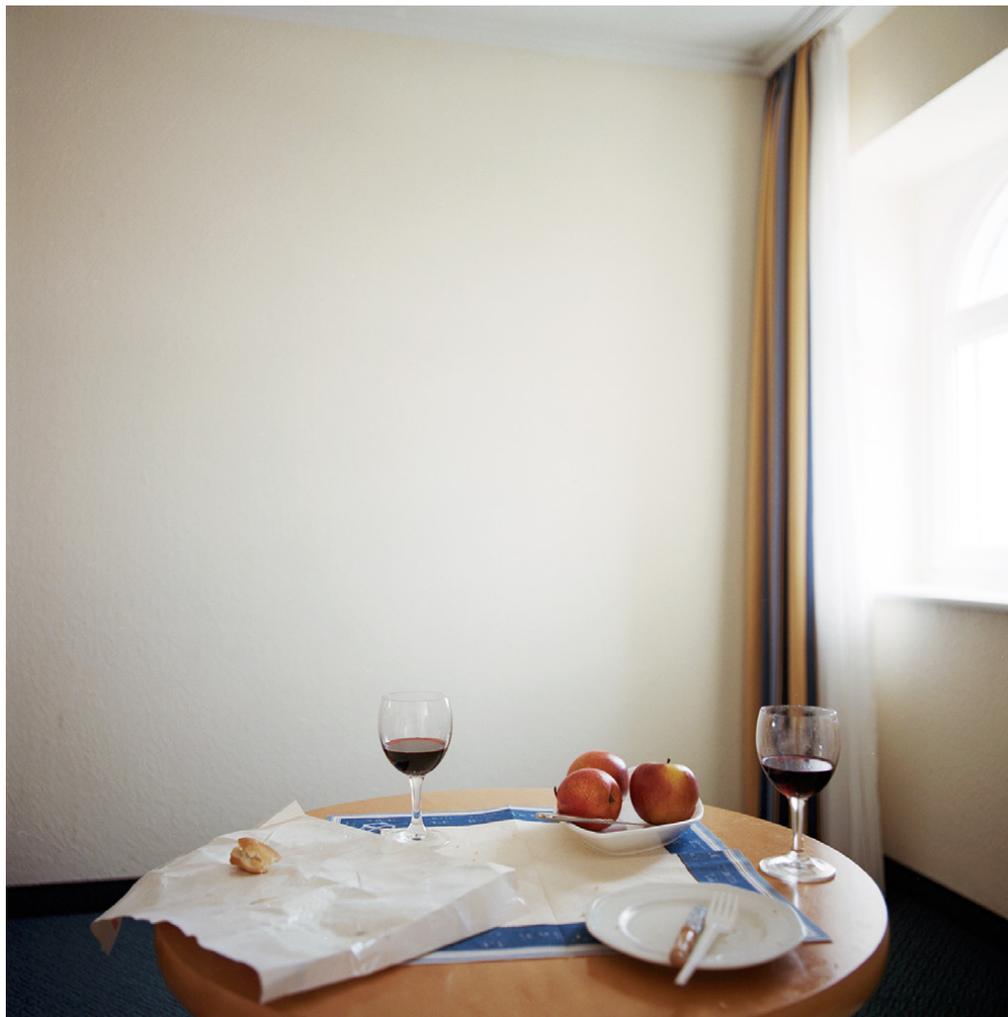
LONG TERM PROJECT

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# Island













“Island” was exhibited at:

**Photo Festival Naarden (NL) | “Dutch photographers on the move”, 2013**

**Kunstkerk, Amsterdam (NL) | “Still. How are you”; duo-exhibition with Adrian Faes, 2011 / 2012**

**Galerie Fotogram and Loods 6, Amsterdam (NL) | “Lichtgevoelig”, 2011**

**Photoacademy Award 2011 | NOMINATION**

LONG TERM PROJECT

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# Days

*Life consists from  
days like these*















“Days” was exhibited at:

**Stadtgalerie, Osnabrück (D) and Kunstkerk, Amsterdam (NL) | “Still. How are you”; duo-exhibition with Adrian Faes, 2011 / 2012**

**International Photo Festival Noorderlicht, Groningen (NL) | “Metropolis / Broos”, 2011**

**Galerie Fotogram and Loods 6, Amsterdam (NL) | “Lichtgevoelig”, 2011**

**Photoacademy Award 2011 | NOMINATION**



In the exhibition 'Lichtgevoelig', "Island" and "Days" were presented together; the presentation consisted of fine art prints, text and two artist books.

Both projects focus on a sense of loneliness.

In "Island" we see an elderly couple being alone together; "Days" shows the point of view of an individual, getting confronted with isolation and the rising awareness of being anonymous.

**Exhibition view: Loods 6, Amsterdam (NL) | "Lichtgevoelig", 2011**



In this exhibition the complete photo series "Days" was presented (18 fine art prints), together with sculptures of Adrian Faes.

**Exhibition view: Kunstkerk, Amsterdam (NL) | "Still. How are you"; duo-exhibition with Adrian Faes, 2012**

# SHORTS

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On Going

Anywhere in suburbia



SHORTS

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# On Going





Every year, during the summer holidays, my father walks by the water for hours; a daily ritual which anchors him: the calming effect of the sea, the repetition of the tide, the endlessness.

Withdrawn, his back turned to the world.

As time passes, the same is different every year.







“On Going” was exhibited at: **Photo Festival Naarden (NL) | “Water, Water”, 2015**

SHORTS

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# Anywhere in Suburbia





Lots of space for emptiness. Where is everybody?

Lifeless architecture; wide, interchangeable, and despite the height, horizontal. Built for now, not for later.

Suburbia exists without time









“Anywhere in Suburbia” deals with the characteristics and differences in both the suburb and the city, their history, urban development and identity. The project was realized in collaboration with the twin cities of Apeldoorn: Minden, Gladsaxe, Wilmersdorf, Gagny and Sutton.

“Anywhere in Suburbia” was exhibited at: **Kommunale Galerie Berlin (D) and Mindener Museum (D), 2013**  
**GRID International Photo Festival, Apeldoorn (NL) | “Suburbia”, 2012**

# SINGLES

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## EXHIBITION | SELECTION

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2019

Kloster Gravenhorst / DA (D) | "Kunst in der Region"  
Kunsthal 45, Den Helder (NL) | "Lands End?"  
Galerie Pictura, Groningen (NL) | "...iets met ruimte" #2

2018

Hal 25, Alkmaar (NL) | Art-Manifestation Impuls  
Kunsthal 45, Den Helder (NL) | "...iets met ruimte" #1

2017

Galerie Historischer Keller, Berlin (D) | "Es ist" ("It is") | D  
Artist Association Kunstliefde (NL) | "Nieuwe Liefde 17"

2016

Zitadelle Spandau, Berlin (D) | "Enthüllt - Eine andere Sicht auf Denkmäler"  
Kunsttraject, Amsterdam (NL) | "Gastvrijheid"

2015

Photo Festival Naarden (NL) | "Water, Water"  
International Photo Festival Leiden (NL) | "New Photographers"  
International Photo Festival New York "Photoville" (USA) and Sydney "Head On" (AUS)

2014

Photo Biennial EMOP, Berlin (D) | "Umbrüche und Utopien. Das andere Europa" | S  
International Photo Festival Leiden (NL) | "New Photographers"  
International Photo Festival New York "Photoville" (USA)

2013

Photo Festival Naarden (NL) | "Dutch photographers on the move"  
International Fine Art Photography Award IFAP, Paris (F)  
Kommunale Galerie Berlin (D) and Mindener Museum (D) | "Suburbia"  
West'ival, Amsterdam (NL) | "Democratic Neighbourhood"  
GUP New Dutch Photo Talent (NL) | "New Photography 2013"

2012

Salon Art Prize London | Matt Roberts Art Gallery / Griffin Gallery (GB)  
Kunstkerk, Amsterdam (NL) | "and I repeat"  
BBK-Galerie, Osnabrück (D) | "Platzhalter" | D  
GRID International Photo Festival, Apeldoorn (NL) | "Suburbia"

2011

Stadtgalerie Osnabrück (D) and Kunstkerk Amsterdam (NL) | "Still. How are you" | D  
International Photo Festival Noorderlicht, Groningen (NL) | "Metropolis / Broos"  
Galerie Fotogram and Loods 6, Amsterdam (NL) | "Lichtgevoelig"

*S = Solo Exhibition , D = Duo-exhibition with sculptor Adrian Faes*

## NOMINATIONS

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2015 International Photo Festival Leiden (NL)

2015 3. Ruhr Biennale, Fine Art Festival; Essen (D)

2014 International Photo Festival Leiden (NL)

2013 International Fine Art Photography (IFAP) Award, Paris (F) |  
Juror Award of Merit

2012 Salon Art Prize London (GB)

2012 Photo Academy Award (NL)

2011 Photo Academy Award, double nomination (NL)

## BIOGRAPHY

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Katharina Pöhlmann (1969 Erlangen, Germany) is a photographer and visual artist. Before she started working in photography she studied choreography, performance- and visual-arts at the Academy of Arts Amsterdam and specialized further in audiovisual media. Katharina became a teacher in video-composition and audiovisual media at the Academy of Arts Amsterdam and worked many years as camera-operator and Director of Photography for television and film.

In 2008, she started studying photography at the Photo-Academy Amsterdam and graduated in June 2011. Since then Katharina has worked on her own photography projects both in the Netherlands and abroad and exhibits frequently. She has also been nominated for several awards and prizes.

## CONTACT

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