

THE **RPS**
ROYAL
PHOTOGRAPHIC
SOCIETY

CONTEMPORARY
GROUP

Members' Showcase A Contemporary Group North Activity

Issue 20

February 2025

Members' Showcase

provides a platform for contributors to our monthly meetings to display the work they have shared.

Contributors have curated their own images and provided the accompanying text making this a collaborative group venture.

15th February 2025 —Meeting via Zoom

Chaired by Patricia Ruddle

Contributors:

Jim Souper

Philip Pearce

Michel Claverie

André Bergmans

Howard Fisher

Jackie Fisher



Jim SouperHalifax Grid Project 2023 – In Search of Urban Happiness

Throughout 2023, in addition to my own projects, I took part in a much bigger one: The Halifax Grid Project – In Search of Urban Happiness. The project was the latest in a number its mastermind, Dave Allen, has run since 2007.

It was a collaborative project involving 63 community contributors who between them produced some 2,471 photographs and 41 pieces of writing. A unique view of Halifax in 2023.

The project was based on ideas outlined by Kevin Lynch, in his 1960 book The Image of the City. There were five phases to the project, one for each of five elements identified by Lynch as contributing to the imageability of the city: paths, districts, landmarks, edges and nodes.

It was good to meet other participants at the start of each stage and to see everyone's work as it appeared on the website. A selection of images from the project was exhibited at the Crossley Gallery of Dean Clough Mills from October 2024 to 9th February this year.

<https://www.thegridproject.org.uk>



Dave Allen

IN SEARCH OF URBAN HAPPINESS THE HALIFAX GRID PROJECT 2023



NODE : HALIFAX BOROUGH MARKET (AREA C)

Albion Street

© JIM SOUPER



IN SEARCH OF URBAN HAPPINESS **THE HALIFAX GRID PROJECT 2023**



DISTRICT : ELLAND (AREA 3)

Victoria Road Area

© **JIM SOUPER**



IN SEARCH OF URBAN HAPPINESS **THE HALIFAX GRID PROJECT 2023**



DISTRICT : LOWFIELDS BUSINESS PARK (AREA 2)

Lowfields Way, Elland

© **JIM SOUPER**



IN SEARCH OF URBAN HAPPINESS **THE HALIFAX GRID PROJECT 2023**



LANDMARK : TOWN HALL (AREA C)

Crossley Street

© **JIM SOUPER**





IN SEARCH OF URBAN HAPPINESS **THE HALIFAX GRID PROJECT 2023**



EDGE : OVENDEN ROAD (AREA 1)

Shroggs Road to Ovenden Way

© **JIM SOUPER**





IN SEARCH OF URBAN HAPPINESS **THE HALIFAX GRID PROJECT 2023**



NODE : HIPPERHOLME CROSSROADS (AREA 2)

Denholme Gate Road (A644) - Leeds Road (A58)

© **JIM SOUPER**





IN SEARCH OF URBAN HAPPINESS **THE HALIFAX GRID PROJECT 2023**



LANDMARK : WAINHOUSE TOWER (AREA 3)

Wakefield Gate

© **JIM SOUPER**





IN SEARCH OF URBAN HAPPINESS **THE HALIFAX GRID PROJECT 2023**



PATH : No.255 BUS ROUTE (A58) (AREA 2)

Lightcliffe to Halifax Bus Station

© **JIM SOUPER**



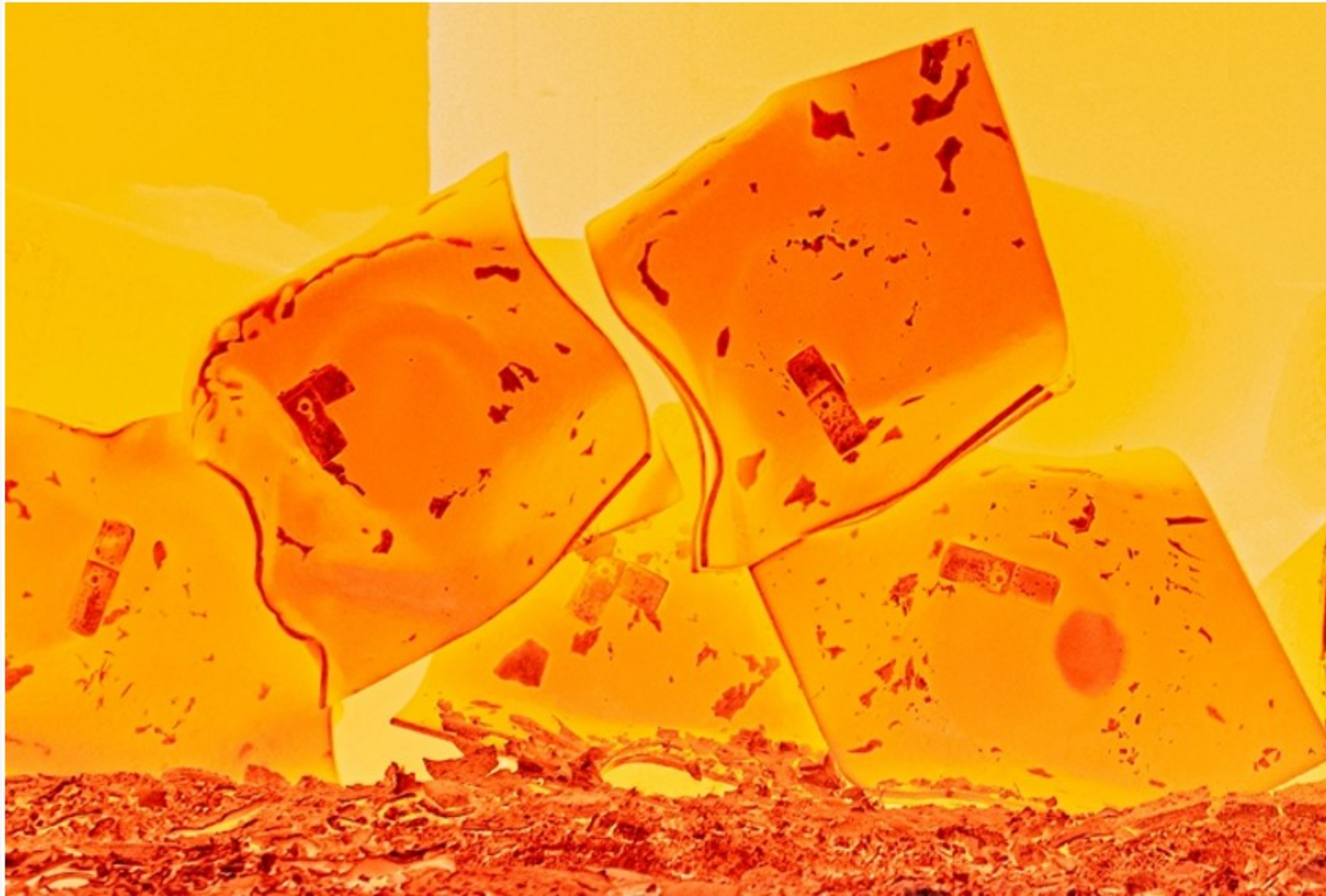


Philip Ian Pearce

With the photo artworks shown here, I would like to give a small insight into an exhibition that I have been working on for almost two years now. The exhibition will be presented to the public in three local museums for three consecutive months from October 2025 to October 2026.

The exhibition is entitled '*IndustrieART-EN*' which is a word created from industry, art and EN - an abbreviation for the **Ennepe-Ruhr** district in which I live. The subjects of the exhibition are small and large industrial companies in the district I was allowed to photograph in. With the edited images, I give the viewer a glimpse into the everyday business life of their industrial neighbours. However, this insight differs significantly from the usual representations of industrial work, as it reflects the perspective of a photo artist. To do this, I edit my photos with the digital color palette in Photoshop and create industrial works of art with a new message.



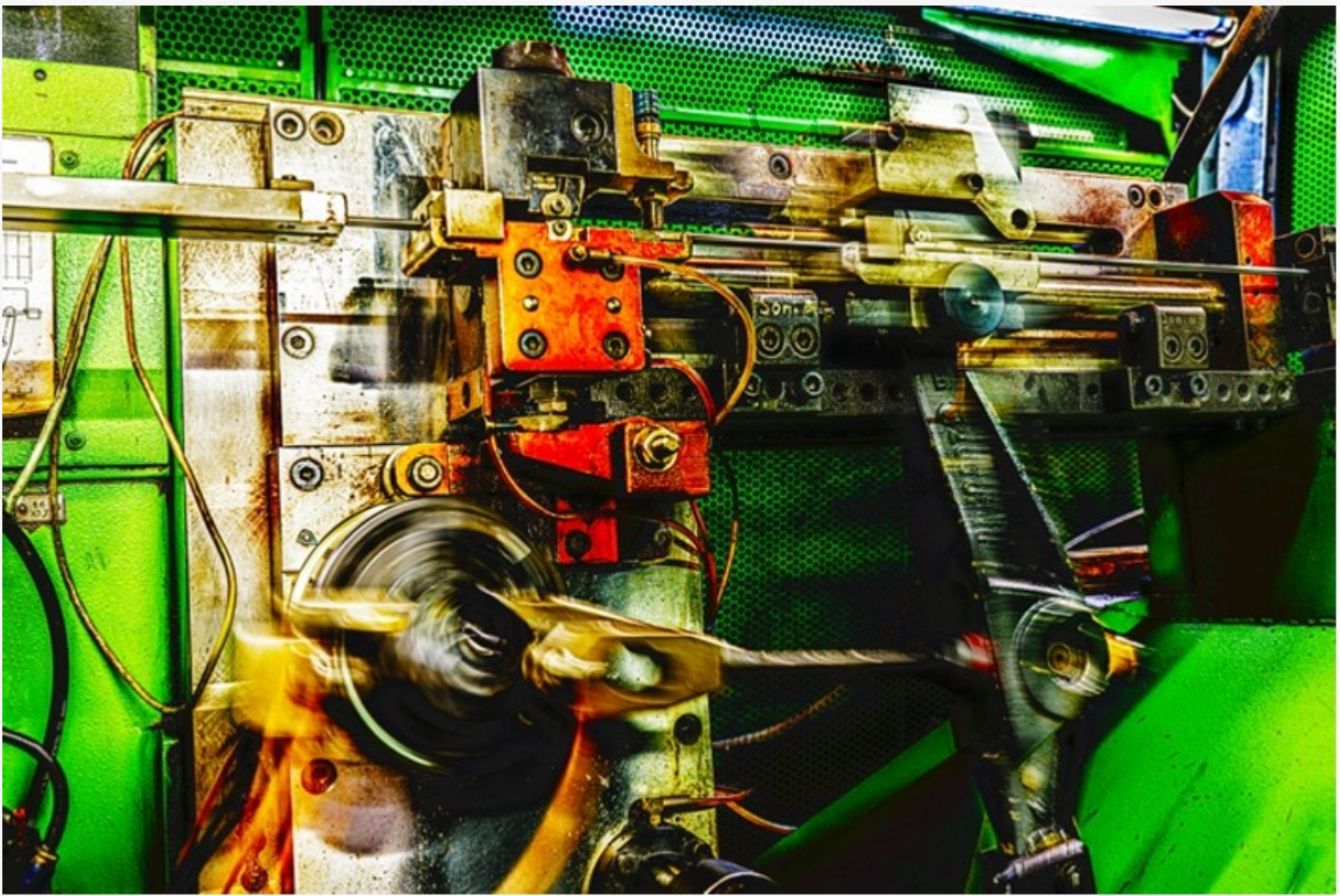


The exhibition aims to give a positive view of the industrial neighbours' skilled work, products and processes. Here art is created in a place, namely in the companies, an environment that is not generally associated with art.

The works of art are intended to convey the message that industry, crafts and skilled work are future-oriented and exciting. Viewers are invited to engage with the topic of industry and work in a positive context.

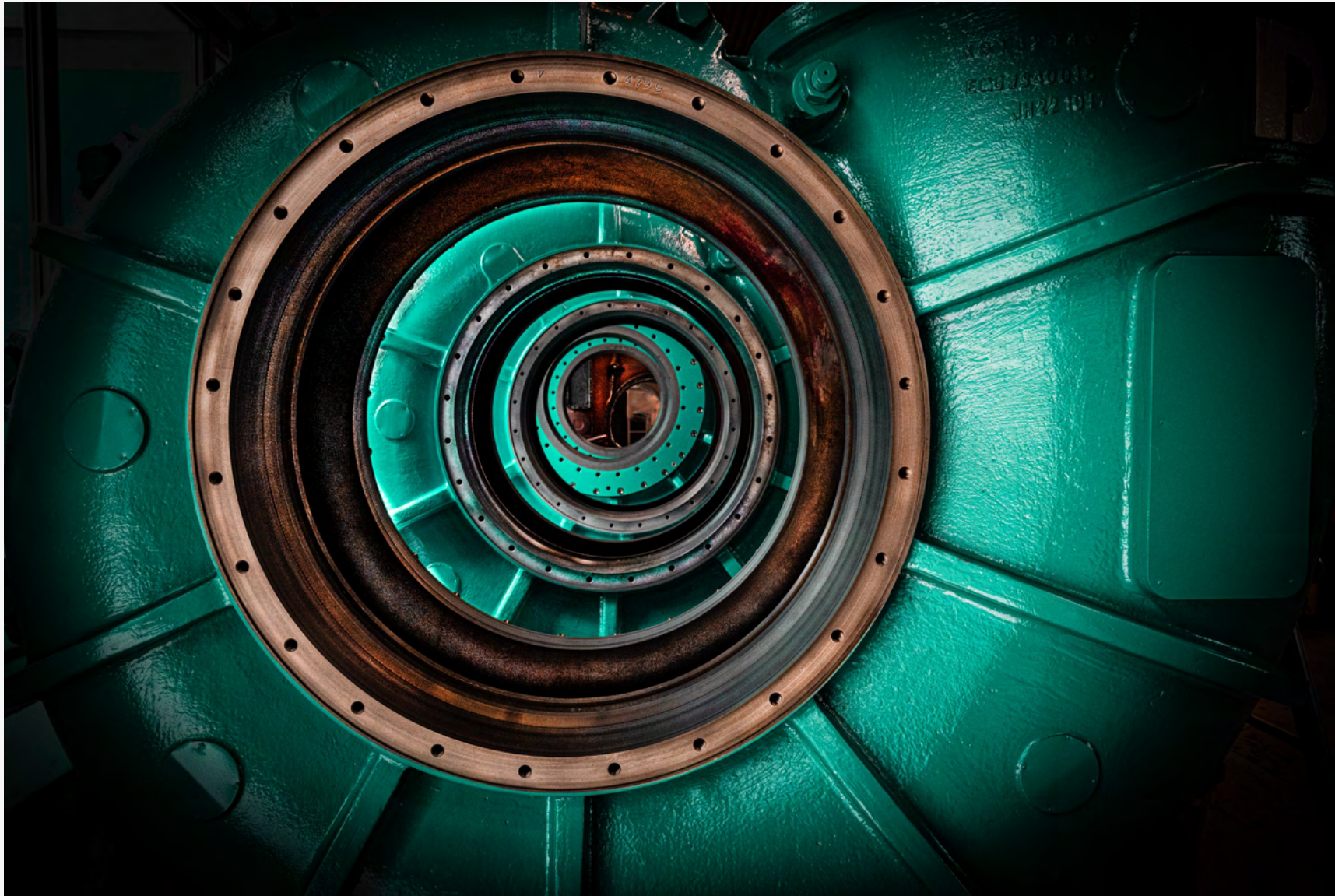
The artistic perspective on work, products and machines is intended to generate visibility, appreciation and pride among the people of the region, the employees and those responsible.

The exhibition will consist of around 50-60 photo artworks and 5-6 pieces of work created by a sculptor.









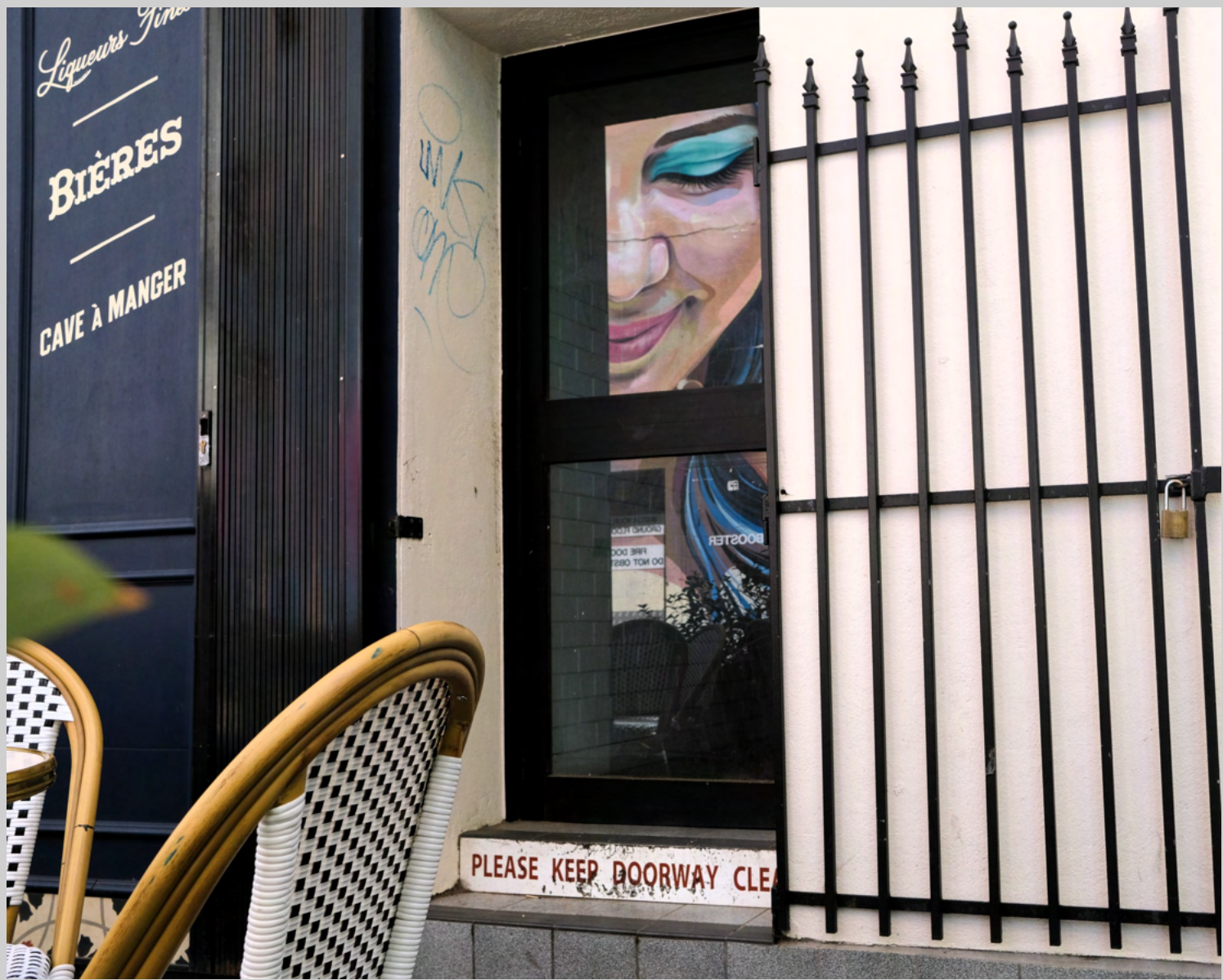
Michel ClaverieReflections on the City

I started this project when I moved to Adelaide (South Australia) last November as a complement to my usual street photography. Instead of a direct representation of people and their activities, these pictures are one level removed, showing us the interaction of the city and its inhabitants through their reflections and incidental presence among windows and glass panes.













Andre BergmansSaint Nicholas

Rain or shine... Saint Nicholas and his personal assistants, the Black Peters, travel from Spain to the Netherlands by steam boat. Saint Nicholas, Patron Saint of children, celebrates his birthday with the giving of gifts and sweets on St. Nicholas' Eve (5th December). His many Moorish assistants, the Black Peters, will help him distributing these gifts.

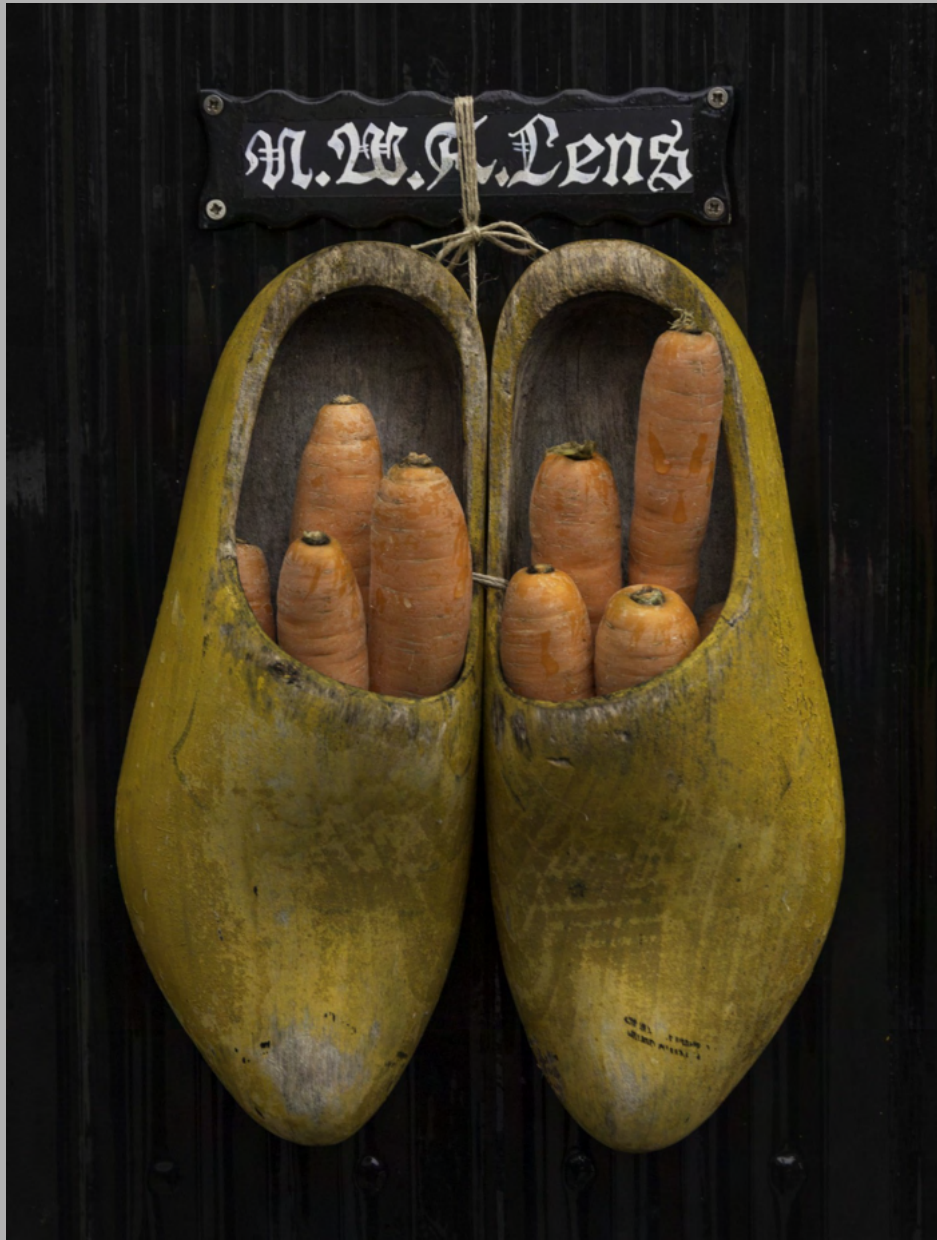
Children put out their clogs, shoes or boots, filled with hay and carrots, for the horse of the Holy Man. The next morning they find the Black Peters have taken the carrots and filled the shoes with sweets. Rumour has it, they use the chimney to enter the house.

I took my photos without a plan or intention but with the help of members of Contemporary Group North, I have now decided the direction of the project. I will aim to photograph my childhood memories of the feast of Saint Nicholas using selective out of focus techniques, intentional camera movement, multiple exposures, suggestive cropping and maybe flash. The inspiration will be the text of an old Saint Nicholas song.













A project by Howard and Jackie Fisher

Clumber Park











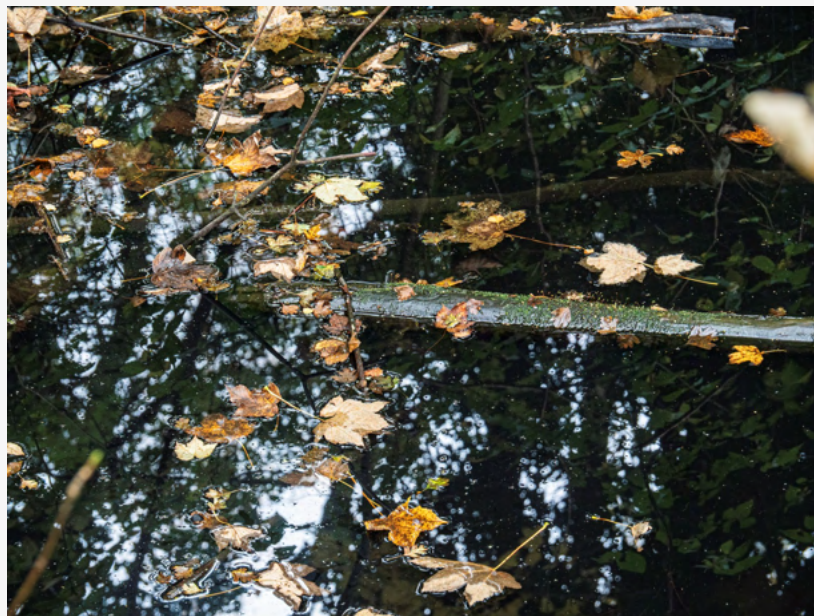
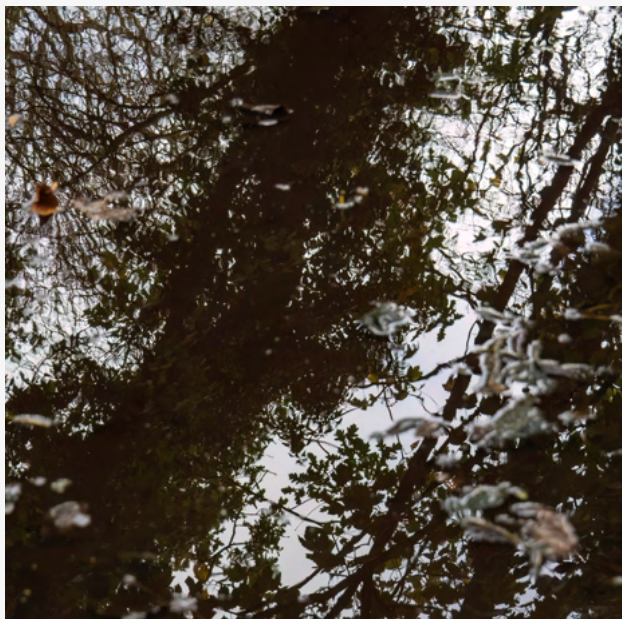


Moira









Willingham Woods









The Humber











