

# **THE BRIDGE**

**Photography**

**HANS FLEISCHNER #1**

Bridge Text May 2023.

22 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Thursday 25 of May.

Three Nights. Room 404.  
Overlooking The Bridge.

And to the left, the platforms and the  
terminal of Gare de l'Est, with a  
somewhat modern bridge like a gate to  
and from Paris at the bottom of the  
photograph.

The Bridge from Room 404, a Classic.  
Industrial Architecture, crossing the  
tracks of the Eastern Railway, the road  
leading towards Gare du Nord, passing by  
the once home of Albert Camus.

The Street.

The Hotel is named l'Aqueduc.  
For now I give that name  
to The Bridge, too.

Packed on Monday all my gear for those three nights. Got a taxi and was by lunchtime at the hotel.

I know the neighborhood well, from stays in Paris stretching over the past 10 years.

First time I stayed near The Metro station Jean Jaurès and on my walks discovered The Bridge. It became a major subject to be photographed over and over again.

Daytime, nighttime. In color. In black and white. Analog and digital. Various cameras and formats. Analog and digital.

Did I have lunch. I don't remember. But I remember meeting Tom, for a frugal and very tasty dinner next to the Gare du Nord Station. A friend of his suggested the place.

It was my Birthday and I celebrated it with Dal, Roti, Lassi and Masala tea.

Enjoyed our conversation.  
Plans, life and how good the food was.

Thanks Tom. It was a wonderful treat.

Tom took the Metro home, I just had a short walk across The Bridge to my hotel.

These four days and three nights were dedicated to two kinds of photography.

Streetphotography thru the windows of the coffeeshops and restaurants I frequented and The Bridge.

Daytime, during the night.  
On the ground and from the room.

A very rich experience, the photographs can tell the story for sure and it was more than a dry run for the large format camera project, which had already started near Vienna, will come into Vienna and was boosted by this Paris arrangement.

Hans Fleischner, Paris 2023, May.



November 2023 I went again  
to The Bridge for three nights.  
Mostly digital, some analog.

This time, April 2024, I will spend seven  
nights there. Photography pure. Mainly  
analog. 120 square Hasselblad, black and  
white, some experimental photography  
with various cameras, 120 and 135, also  
black and white and then digital to  
complete this photographic journey.  
Using regular lenses and a couple of  
unusual ones with adapters. Canon,  
Minolta and Leica. These lenses have  
been used here before, but this time they  
kind of spice up the classic Hasselblad  
photography.

Will I meet Tom for Indian Food dinner.  
We do not know, yet. He is very busy.  
But I will have a couple of times some  
Indian Food. Tastes good, feels good and  
always reminds me of my time in India,  
which is more than forty years ago.

What makes this trip so special. I will have The Bridge seven days and nights in front of me. I will be able to photograph it several times a day, with rest stops at the hotel and still got a for me familiar neighbourhood to chill, have some food or coffee and do some street photography as I'm cruising around. On foot, but still in the cruising mode, mood, chilling.

The Bridge, 11 April 2024.

Flight was smooth. Franz got me to the airport, was off to a job right away, so no time to talk, but in the car.

Train to Gare du Nord not crowded. Getting out of the station, still a puzzle, at least for me and I know that station.

Finally on the street.

Turn left and I was at home. Went straight to the hotel, but the brain started ticking and I will photograph that walk a couple of times in the next couple of days.

Room 404. No, 321. Where is that. Okay, Room 304. Same view as 404, just one floor below.

Maybe 404 or even 504 become available in a few days.

Light was good.

Decided to feel my view into the different angles, digitally.

Lenses 250, 500, plus 2x up to 1000,  
Mirror, Minolta and Canon, with  
adapters.

Pure pleasure. 304 view worked well.

The play between focus and out of focus  
gave me some new touches.

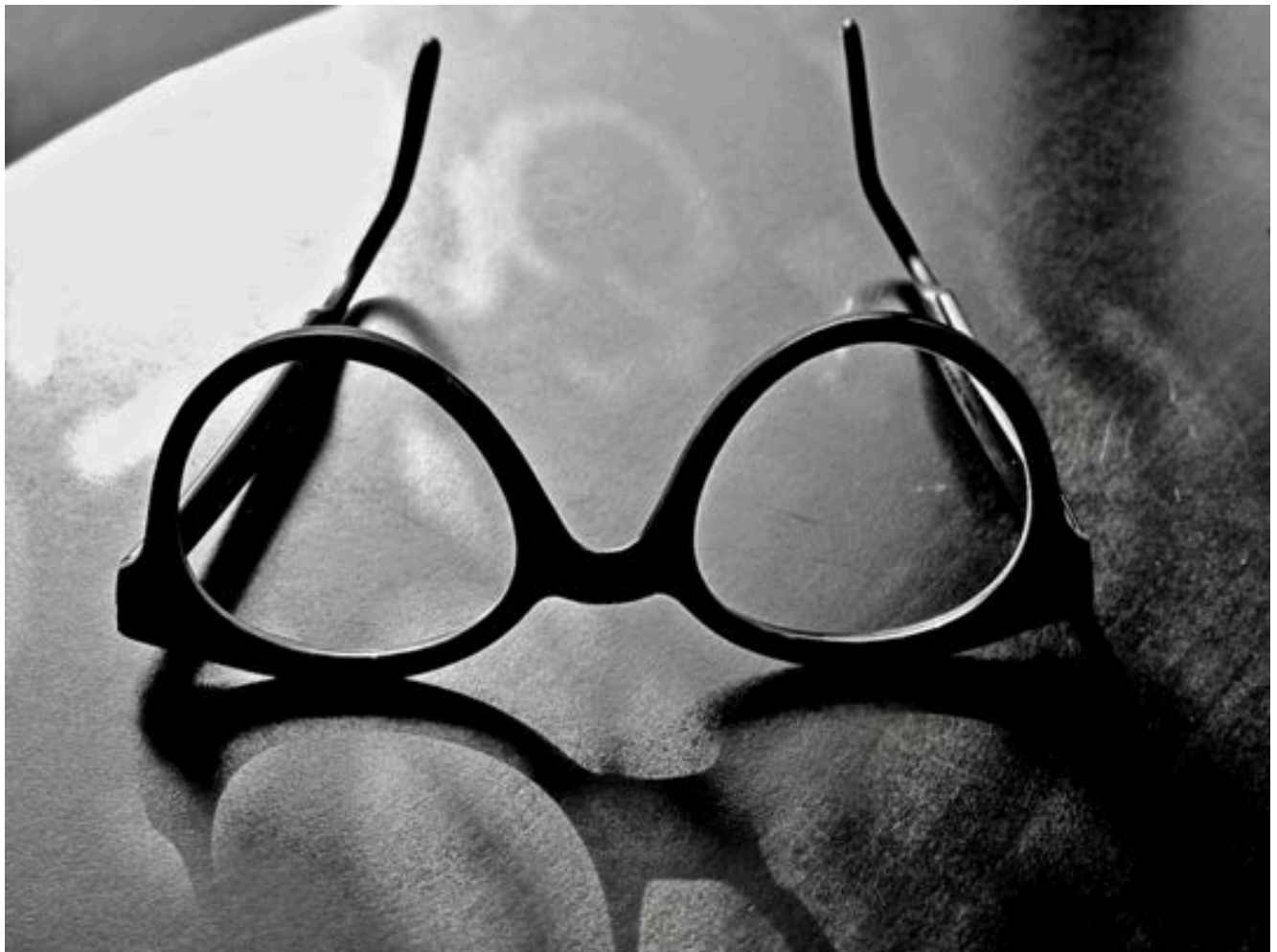
Nice spice.

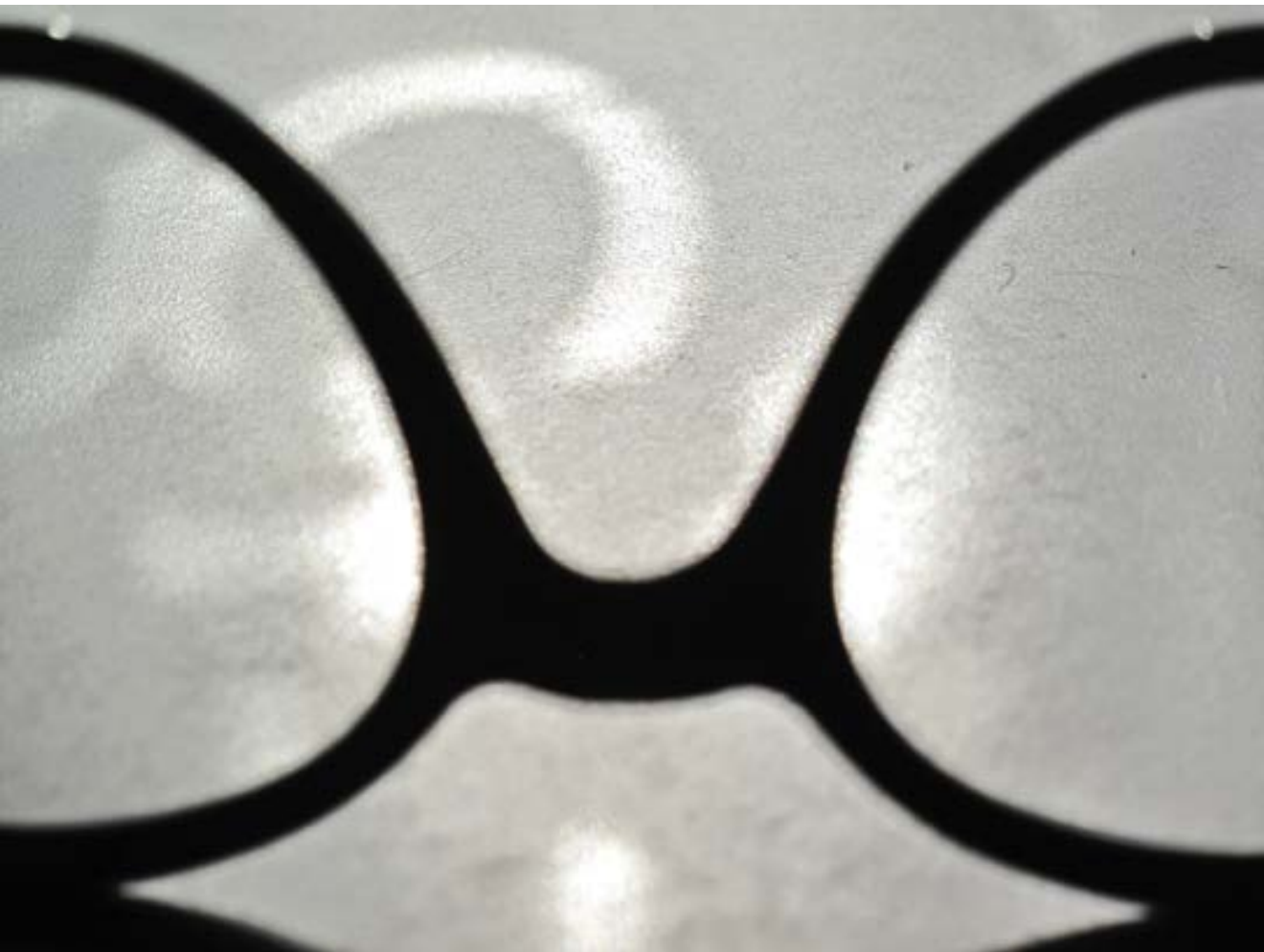
Right up there with all the other images  
taken over the last 10 years or so.

Hans Fleischner, May 2024, Vienna.













































































































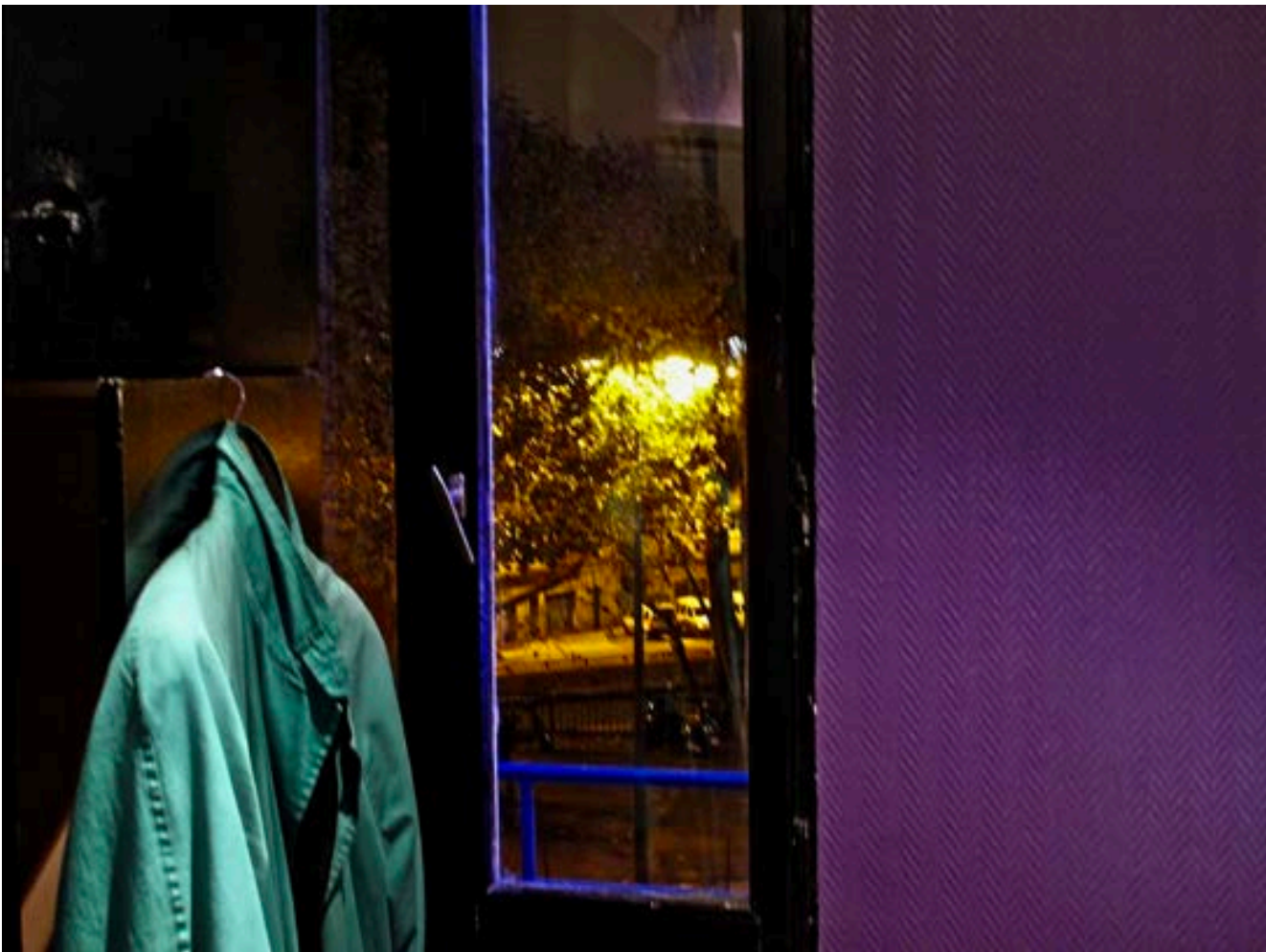




























































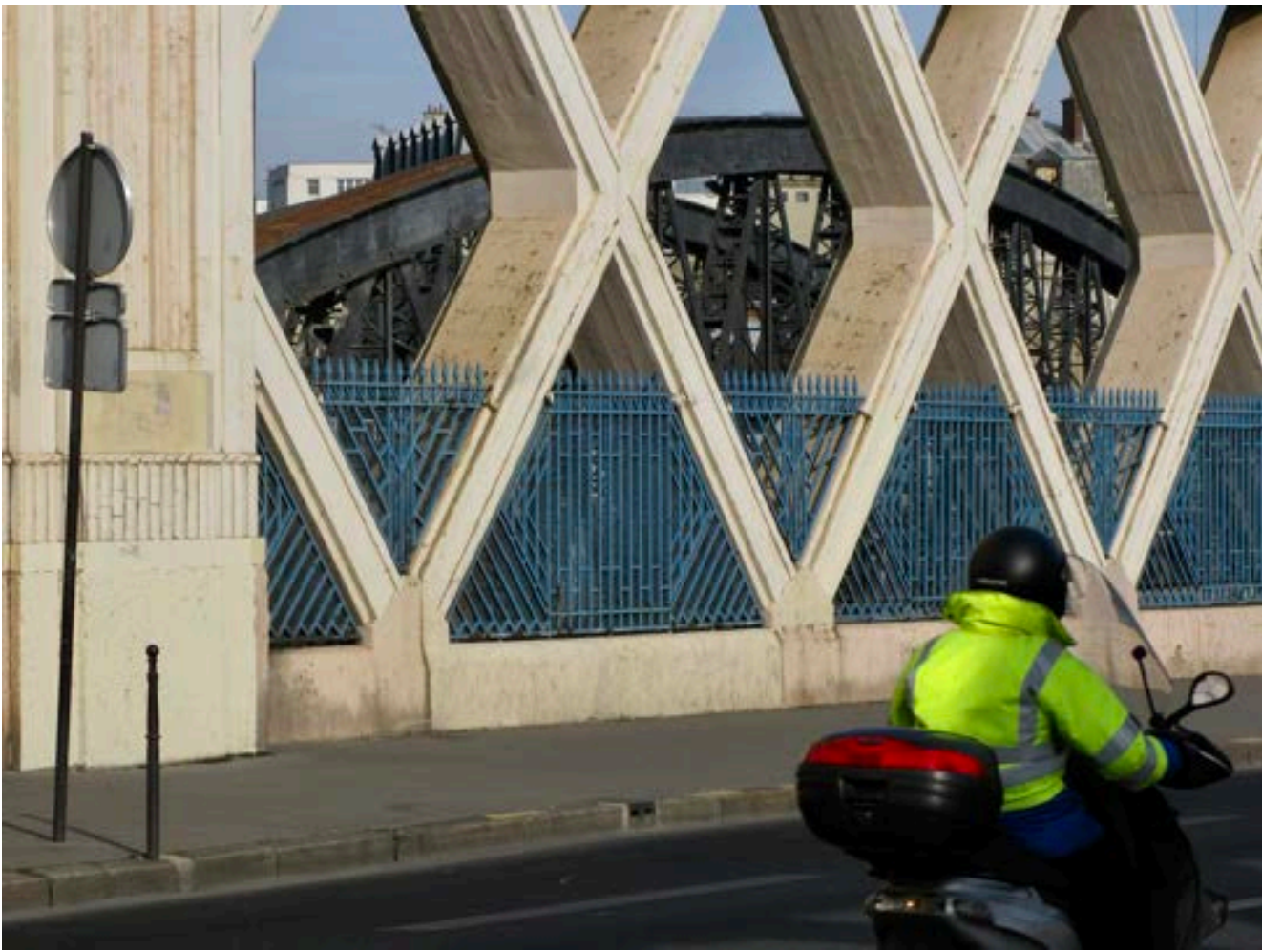


















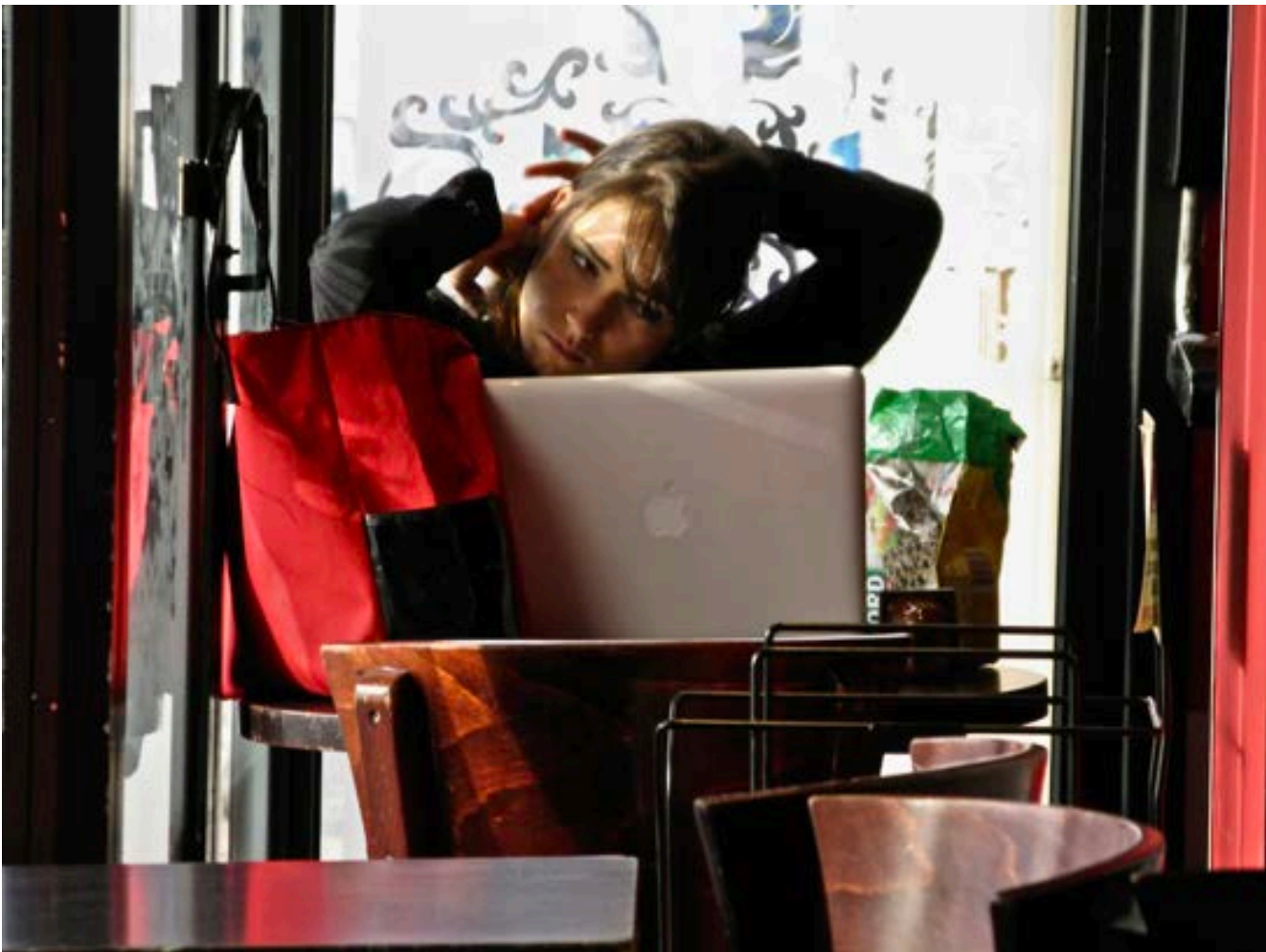












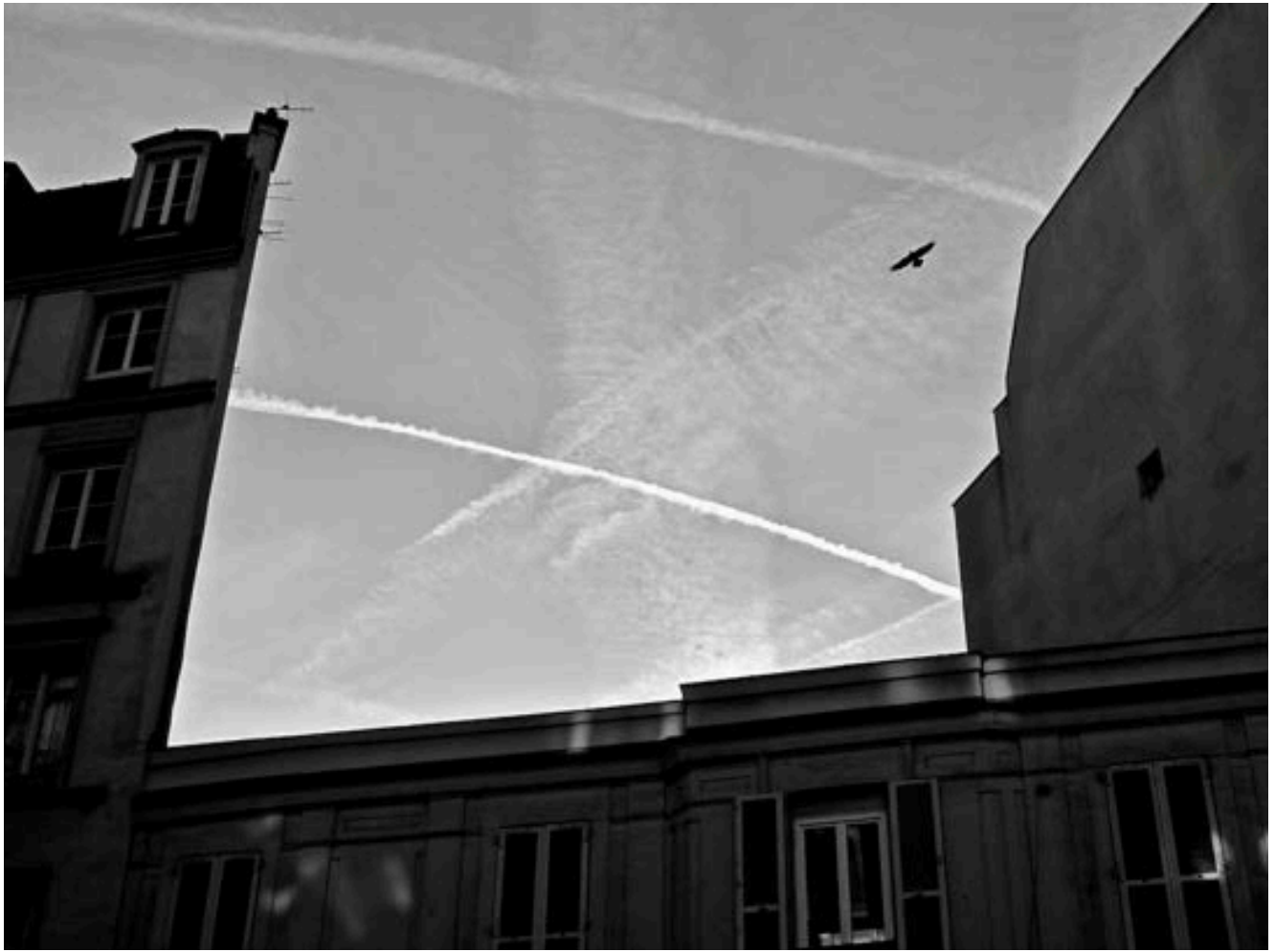
















































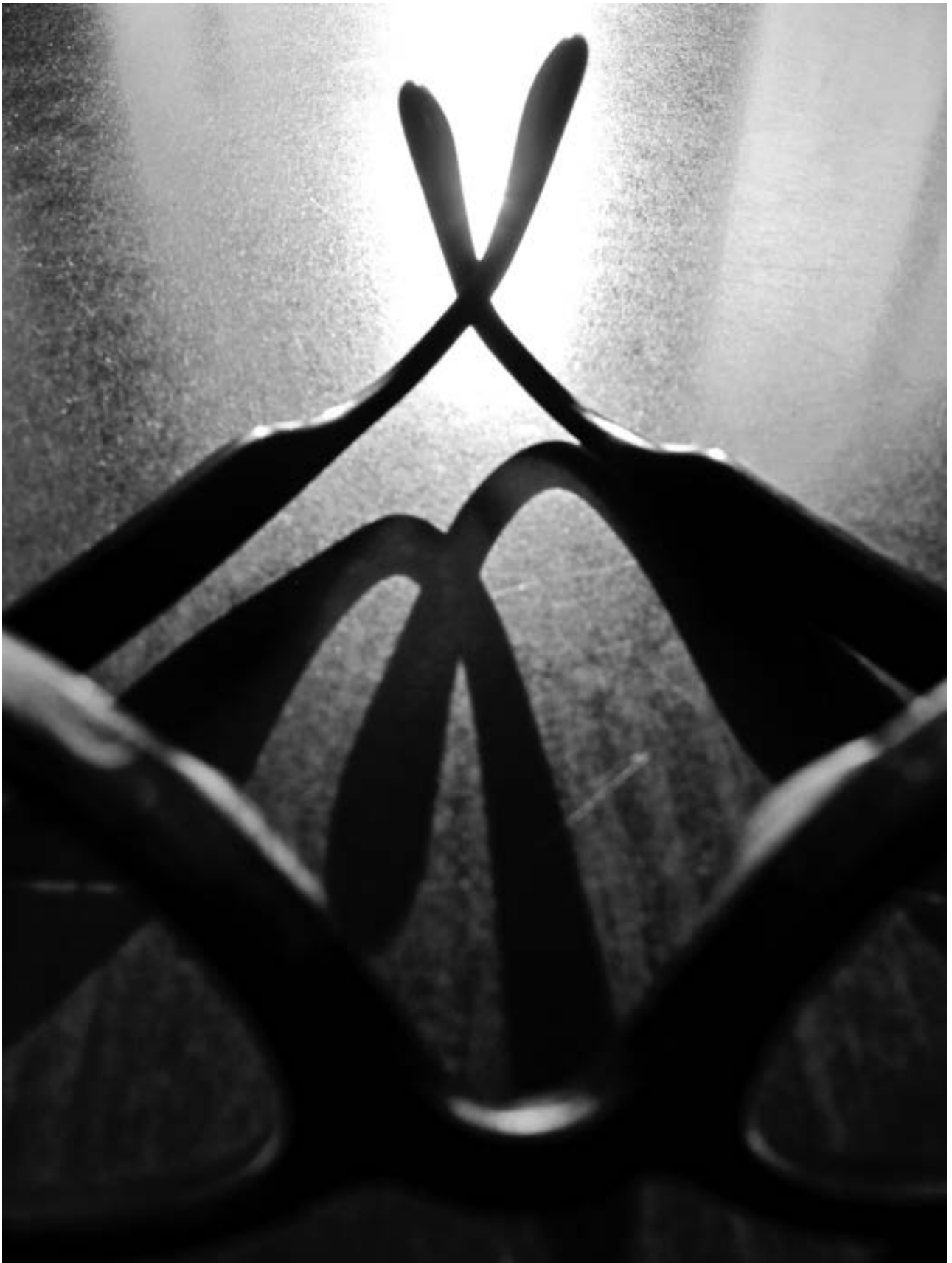
























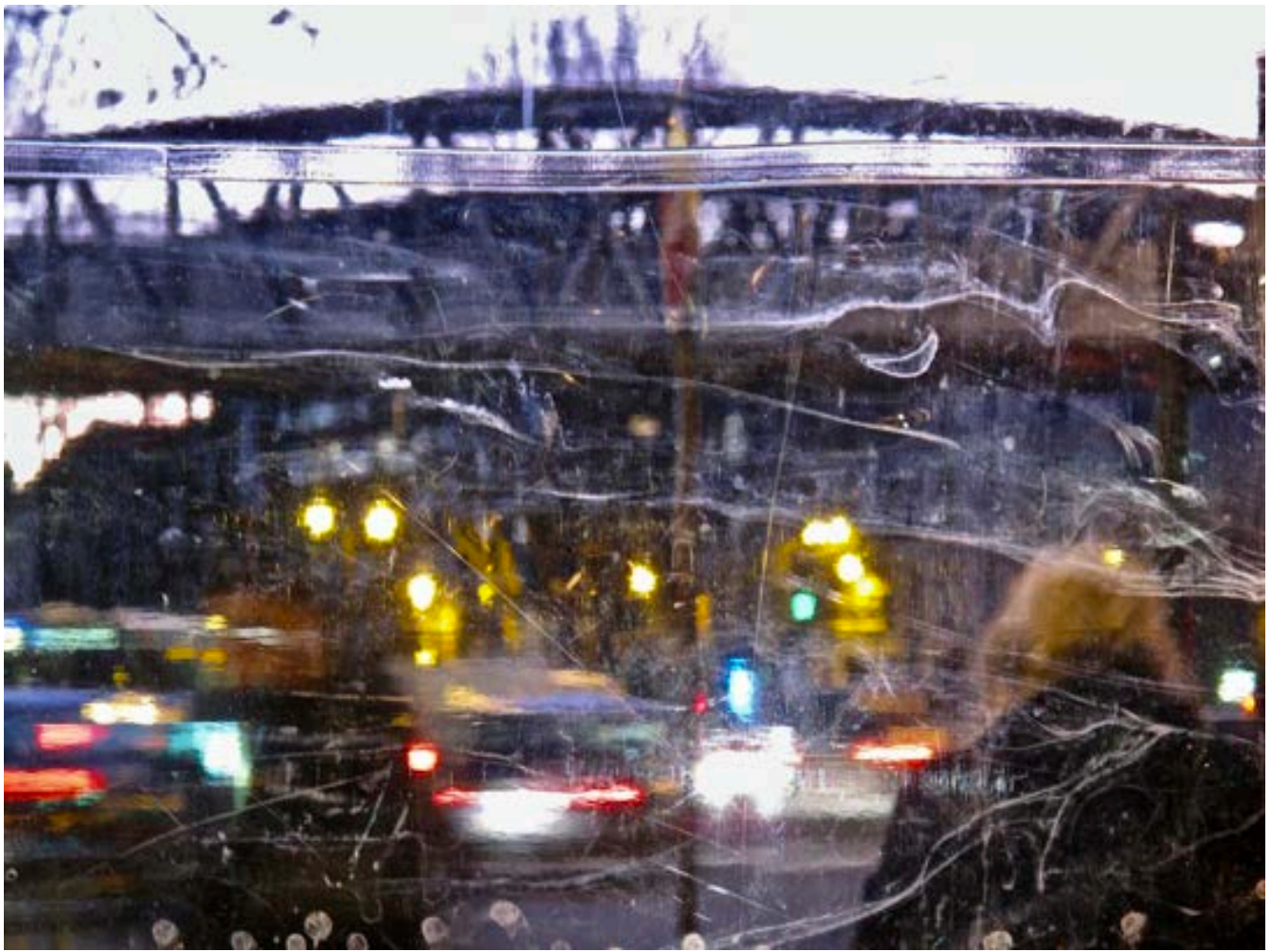












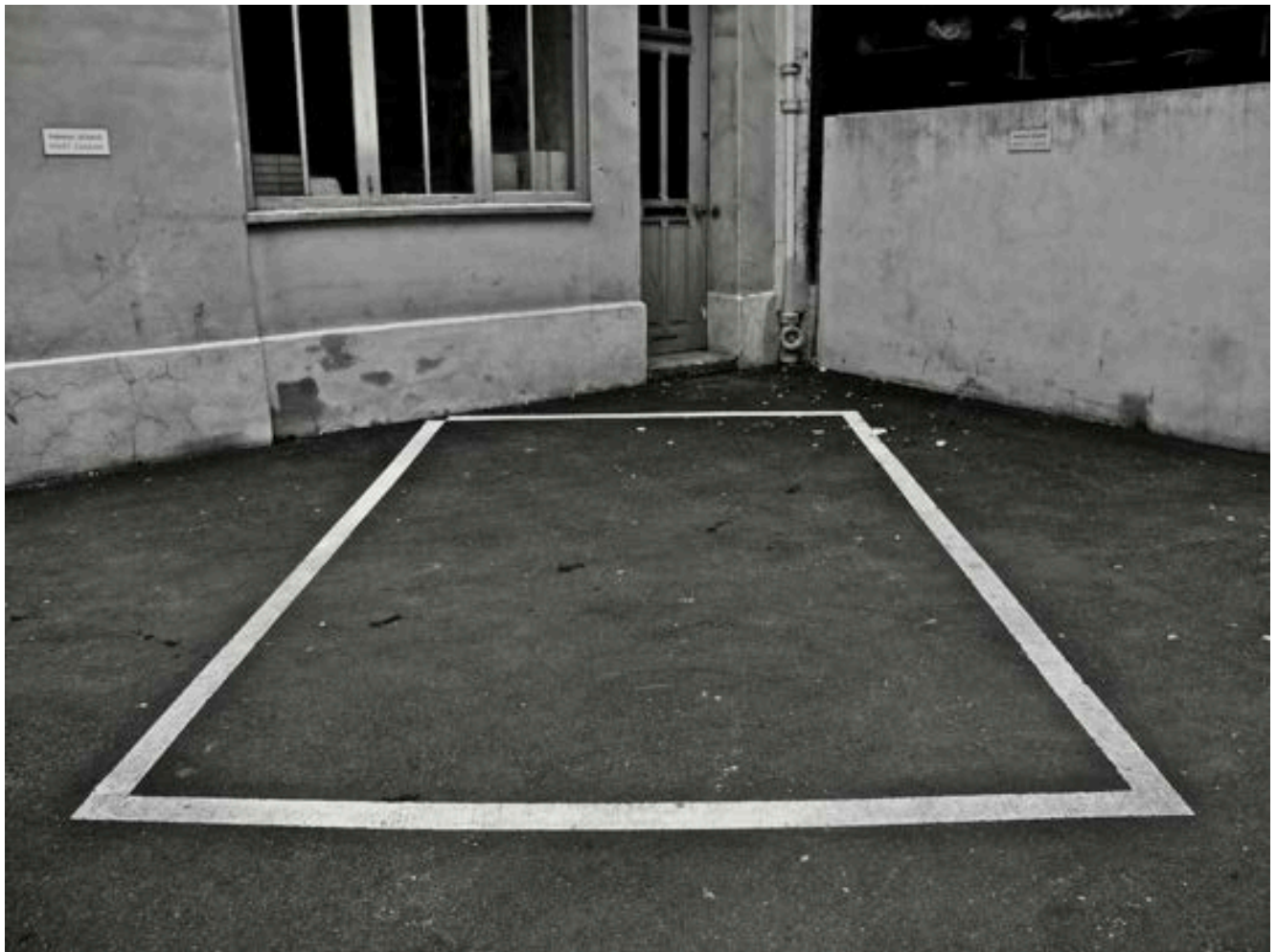


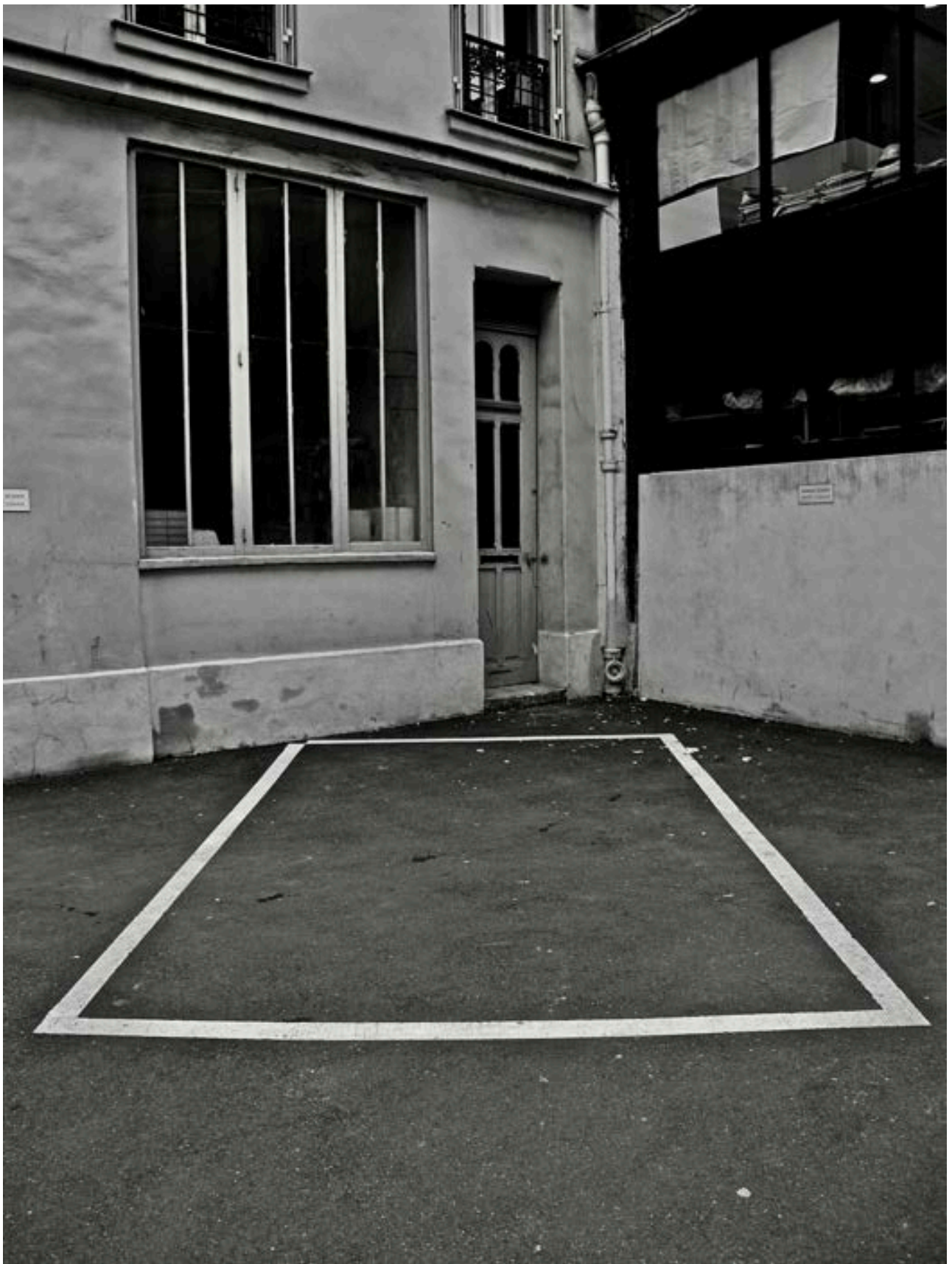














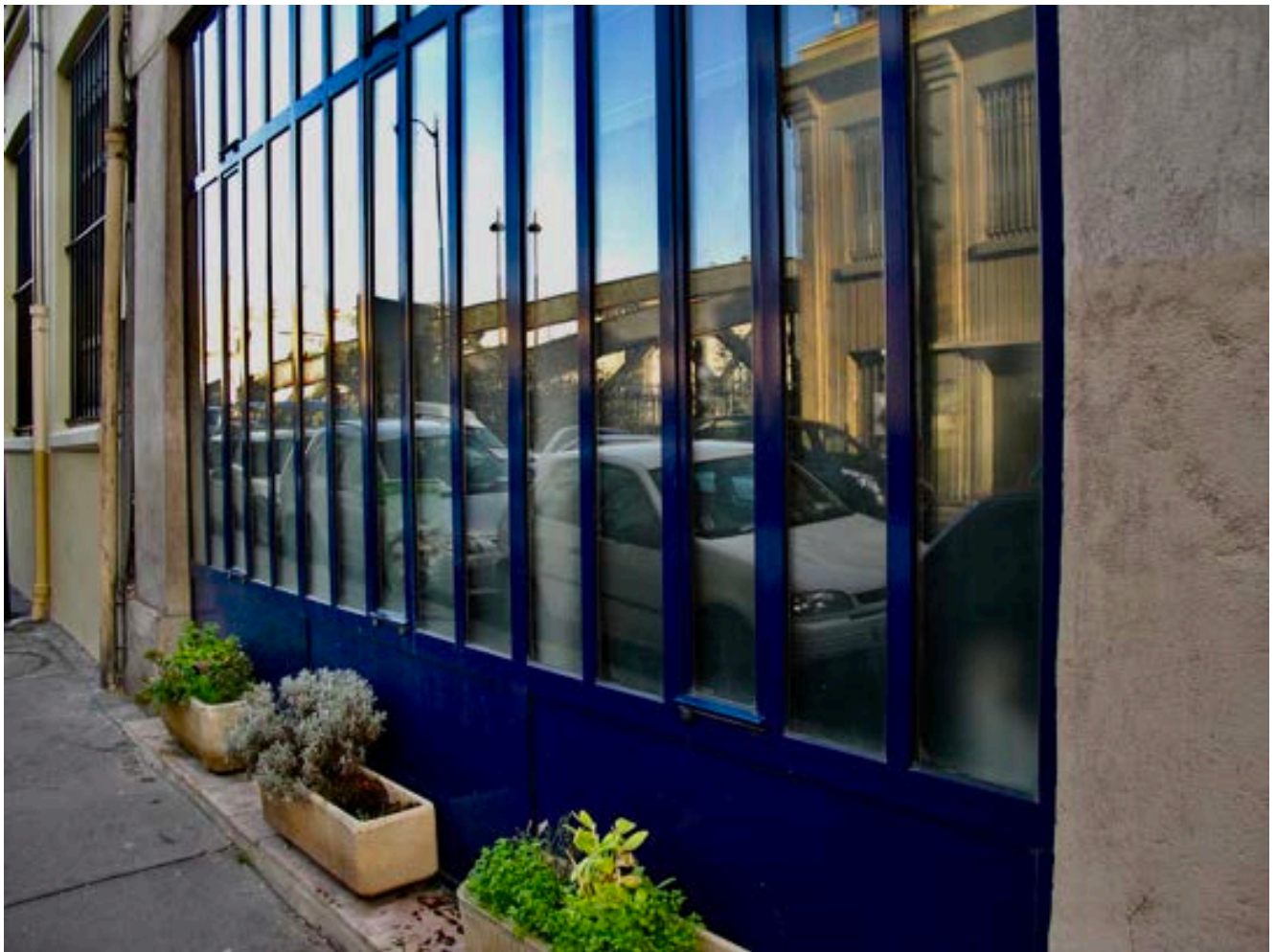


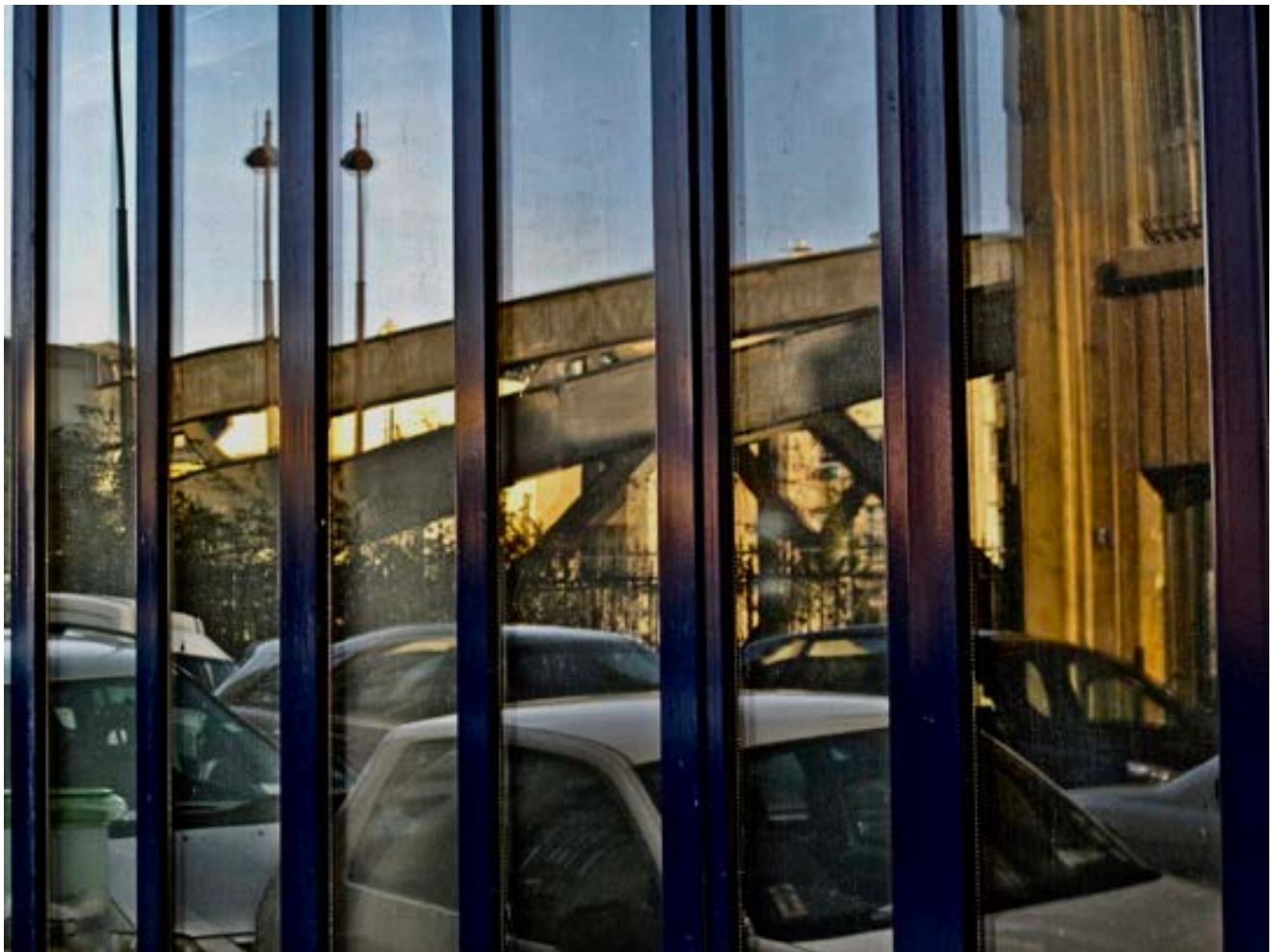






























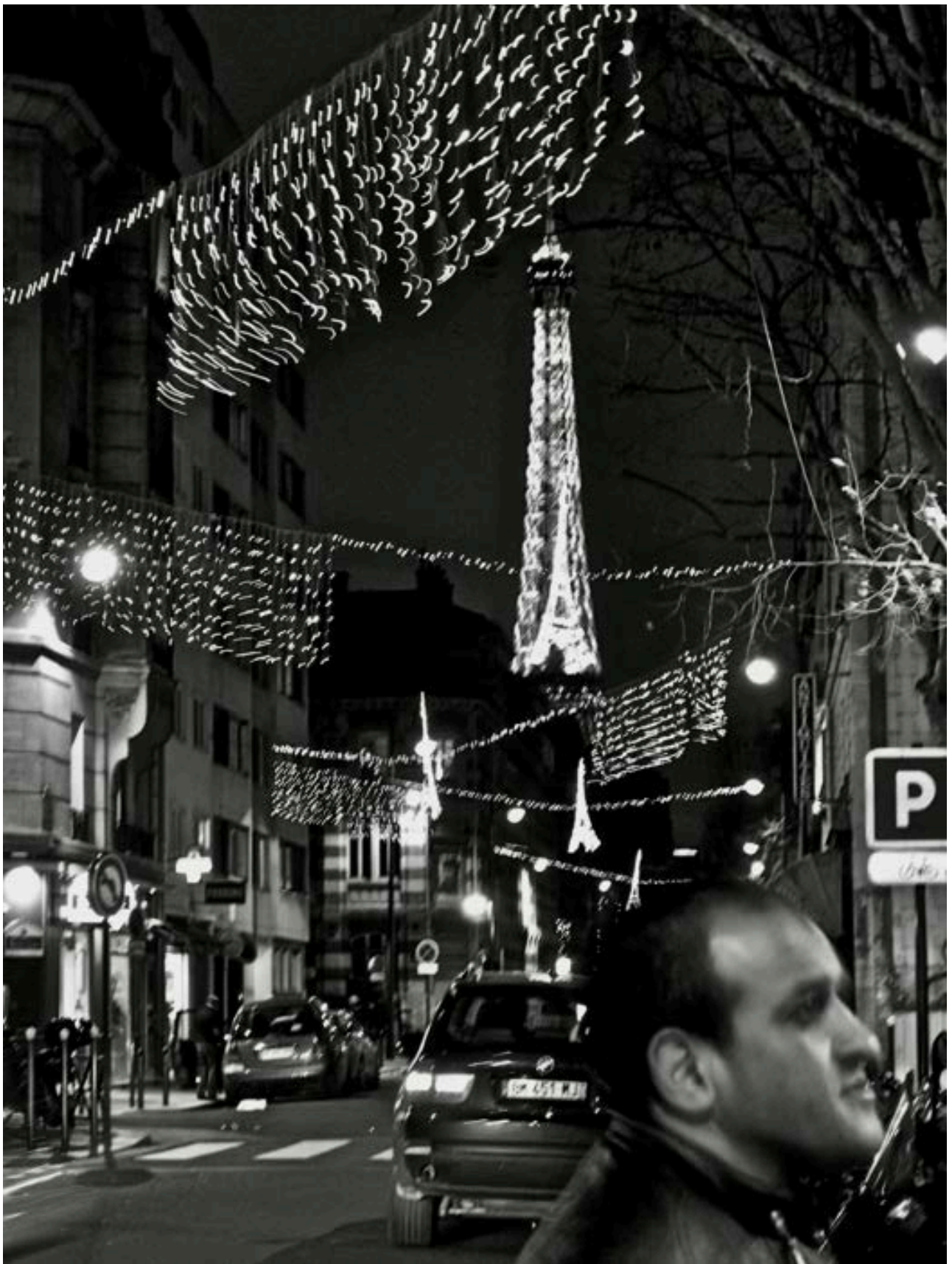








































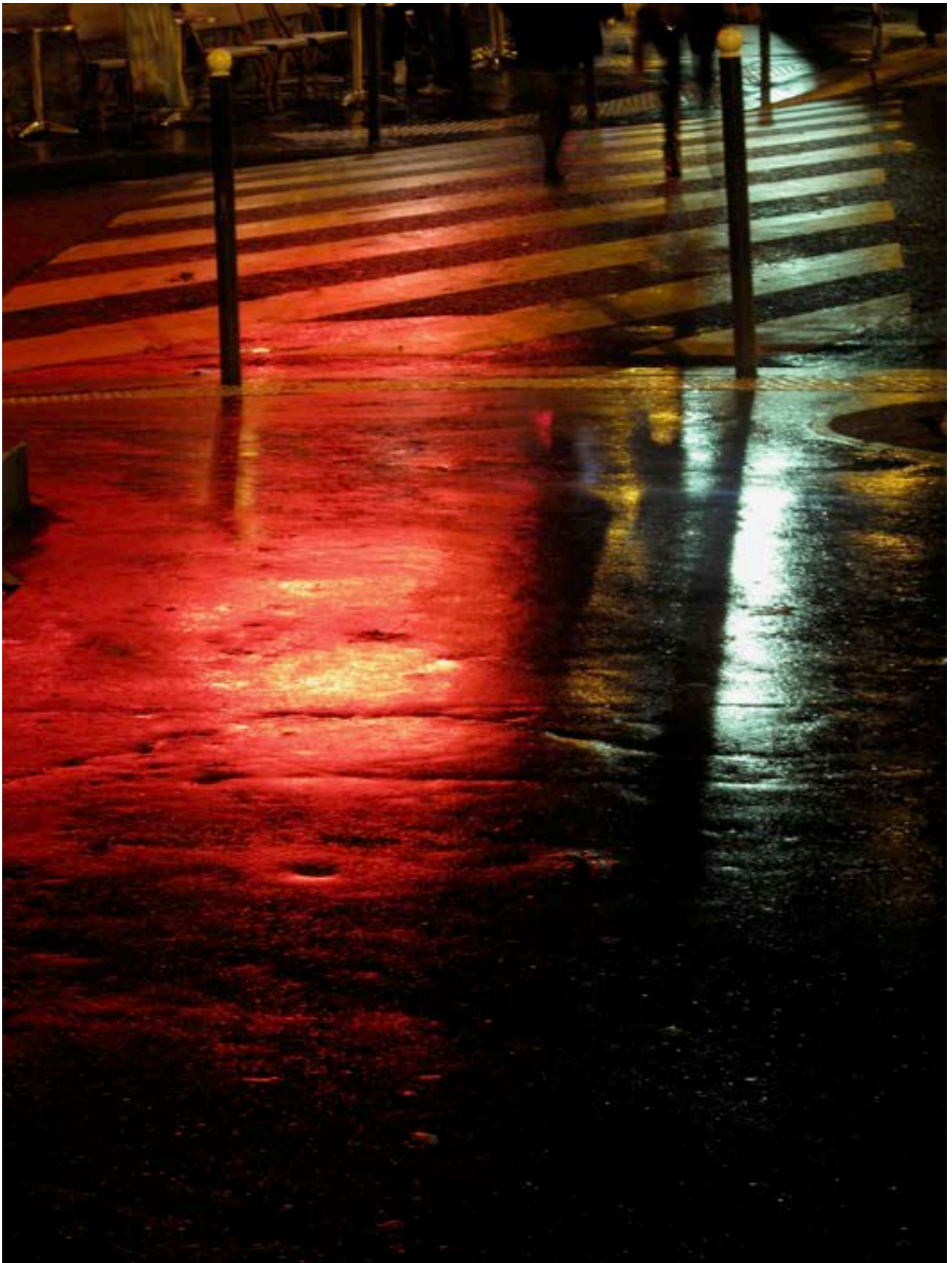














































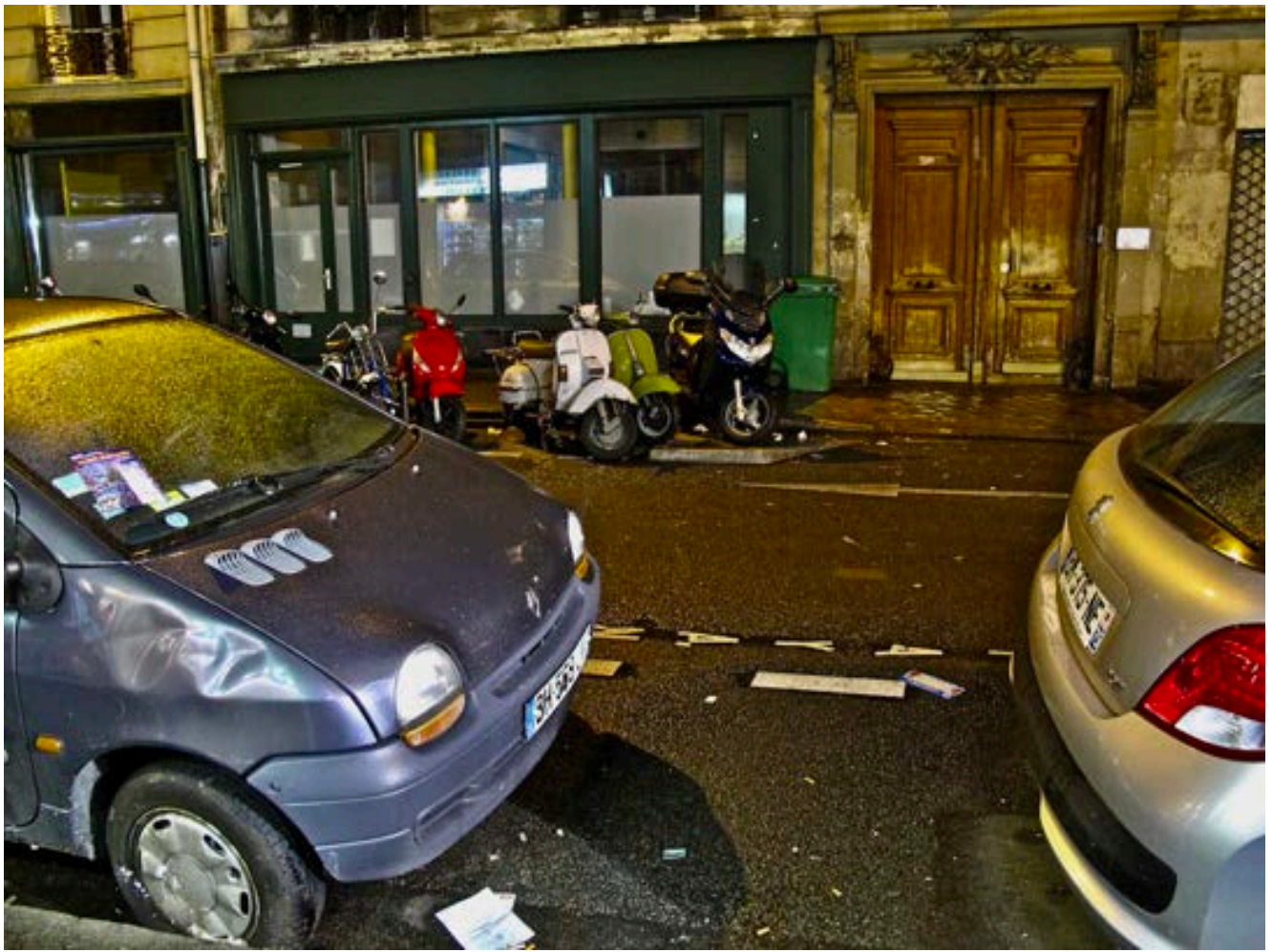
























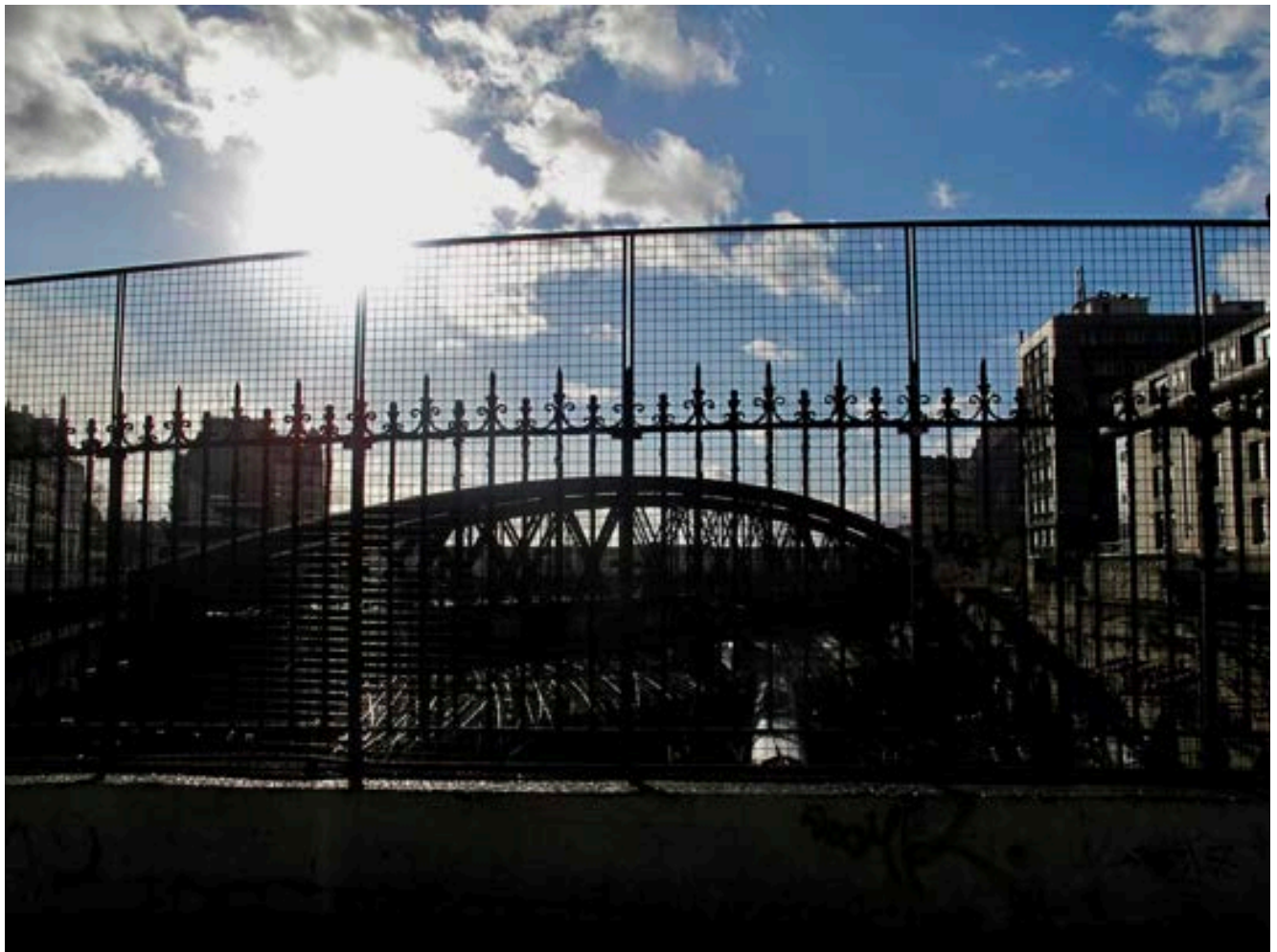


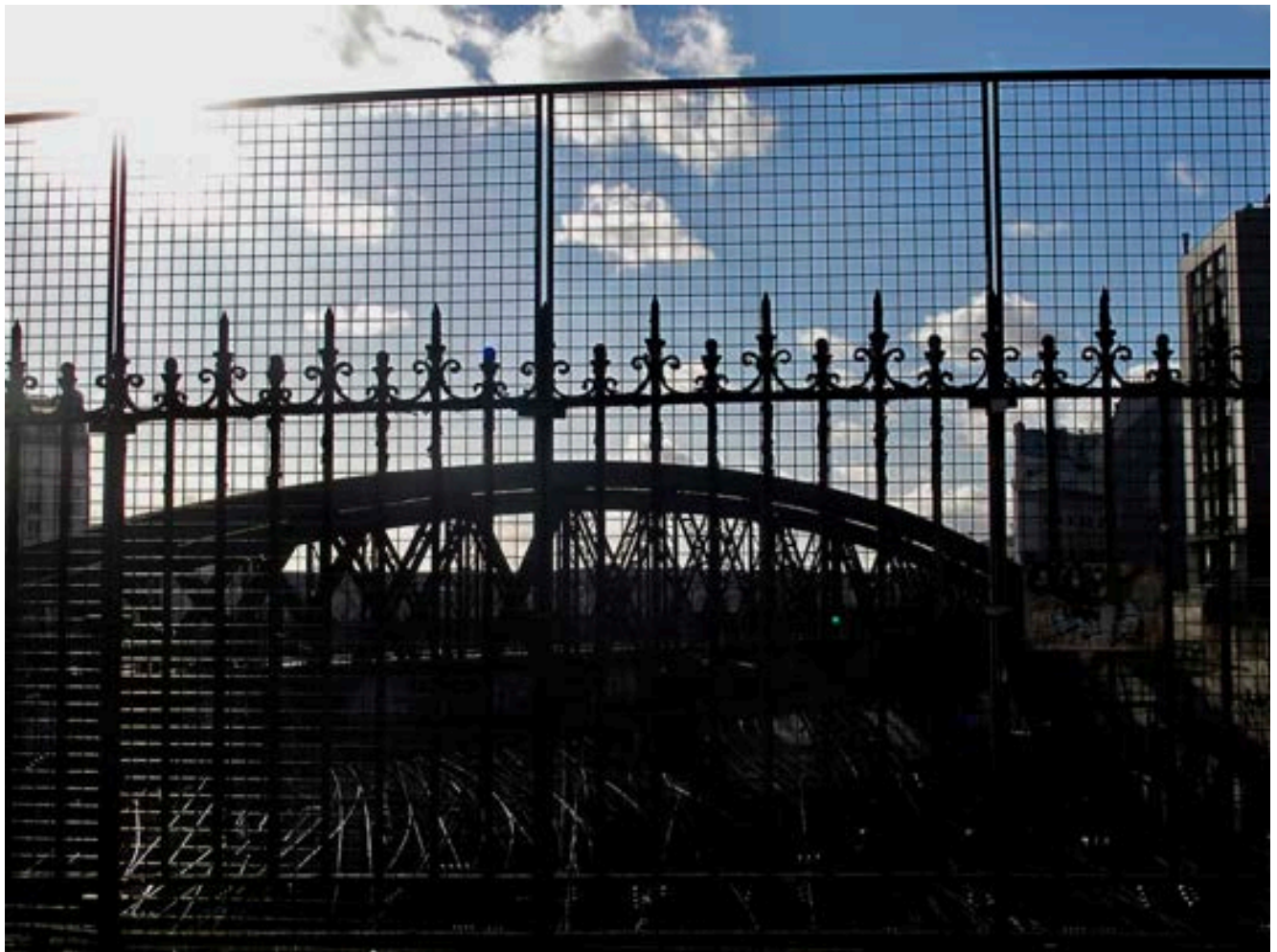




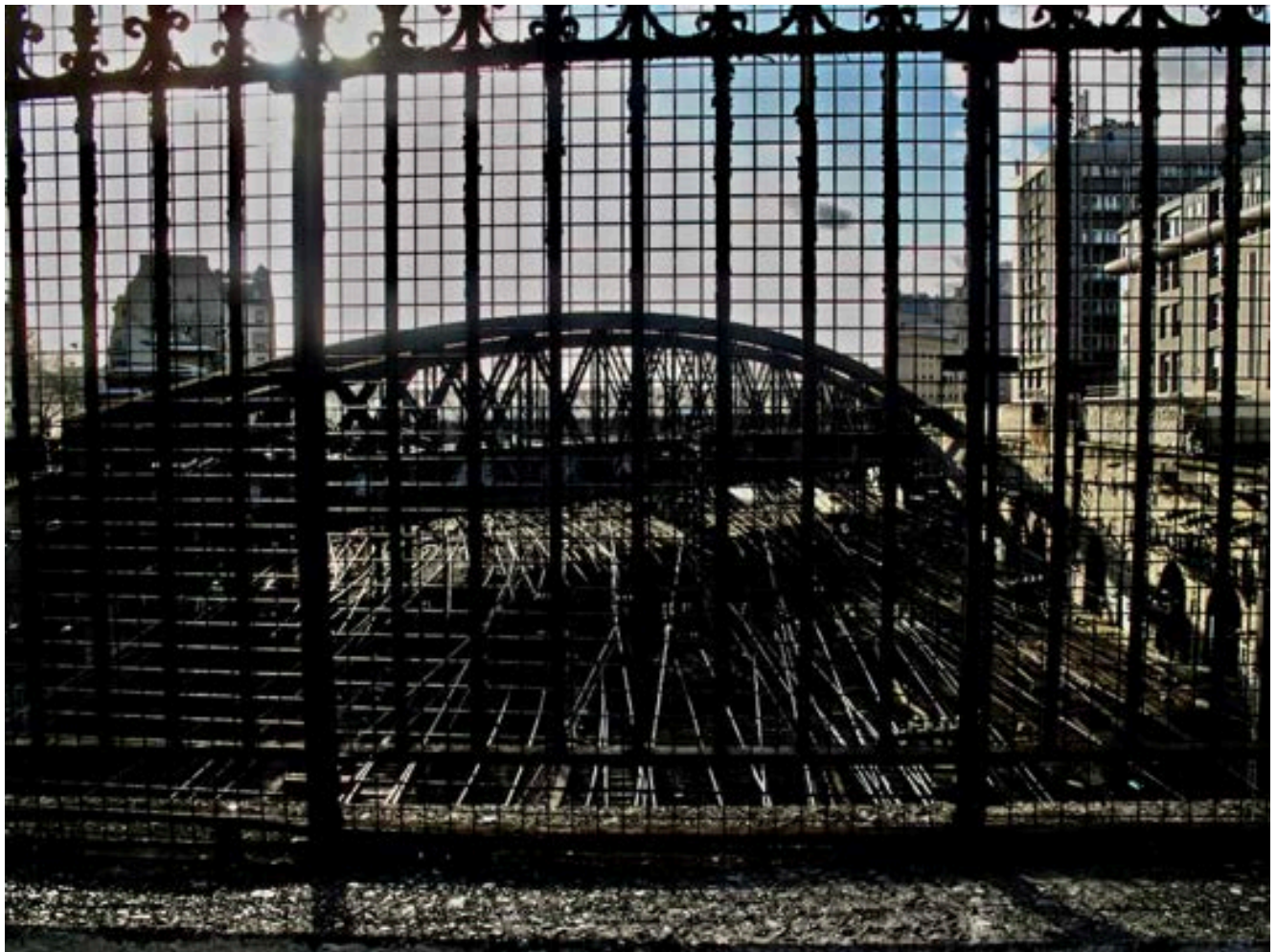








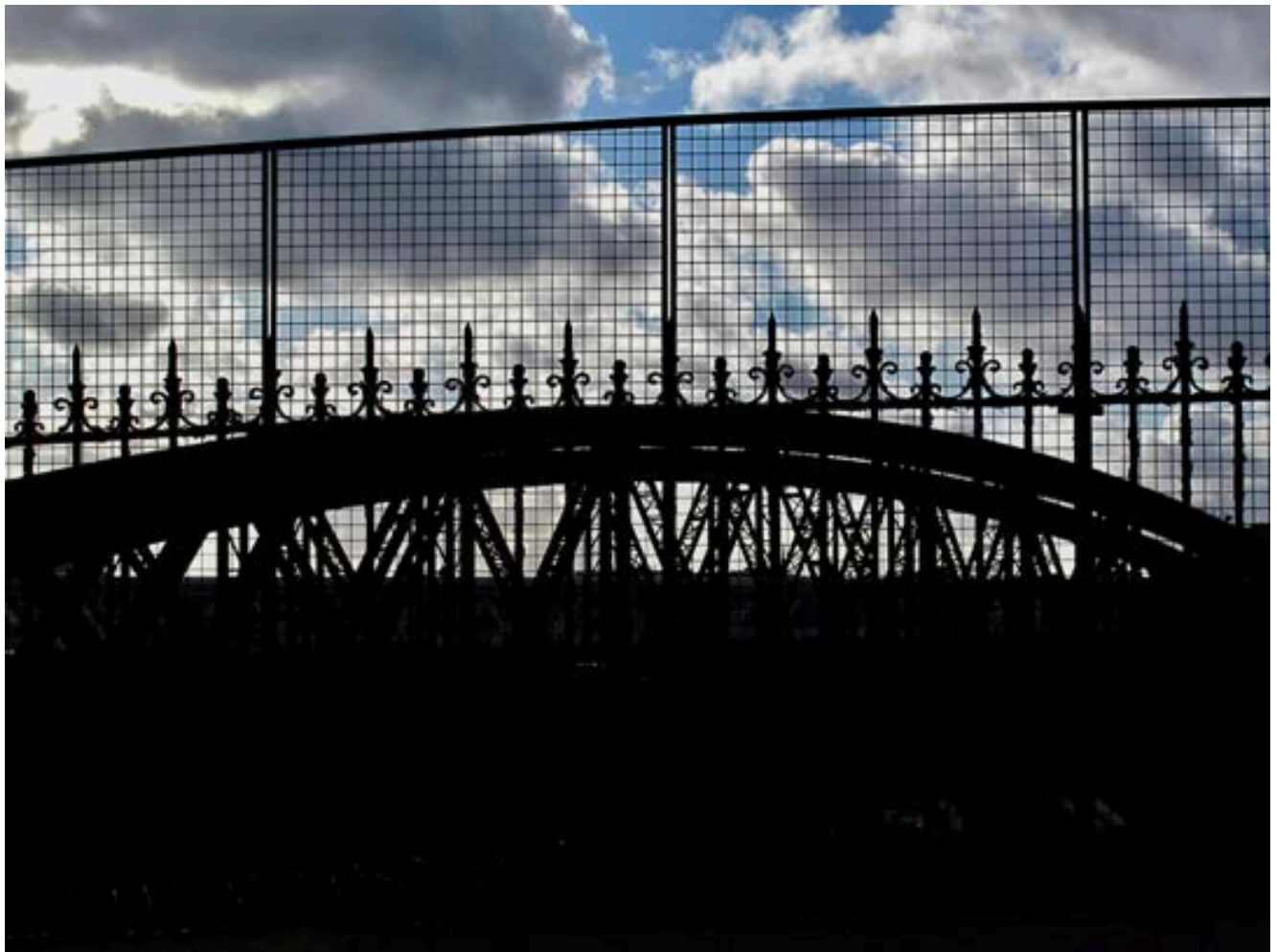






















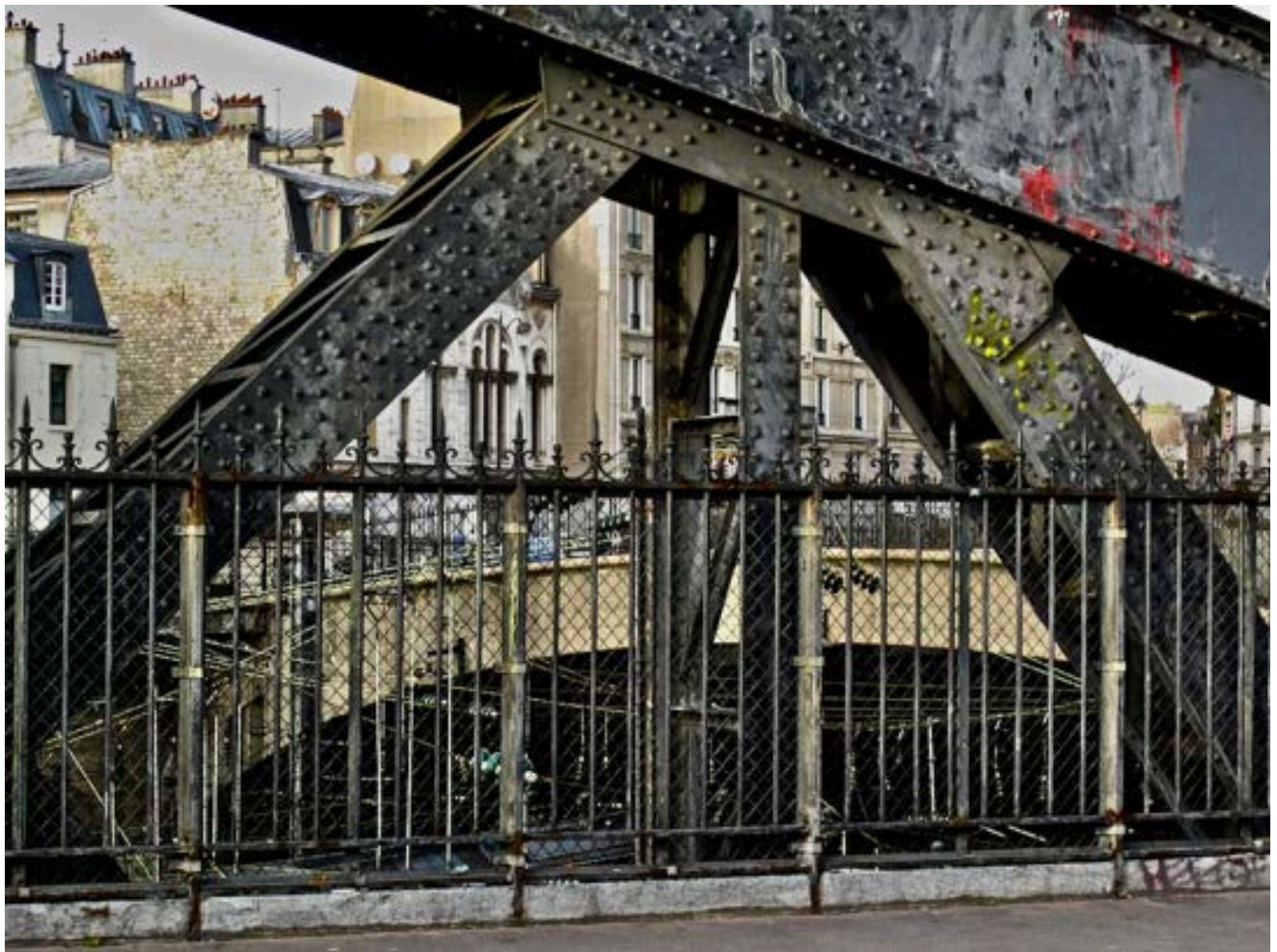




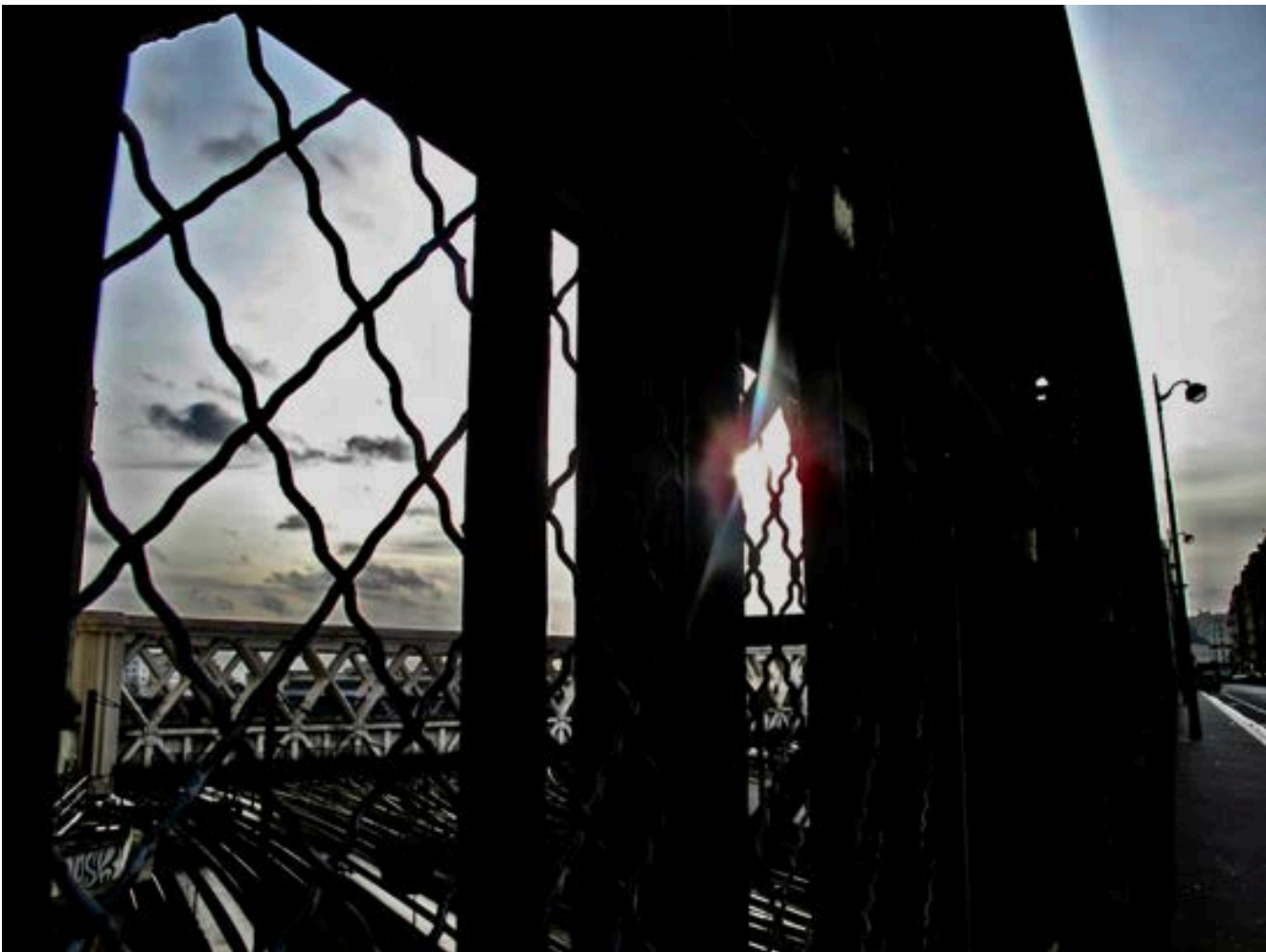
































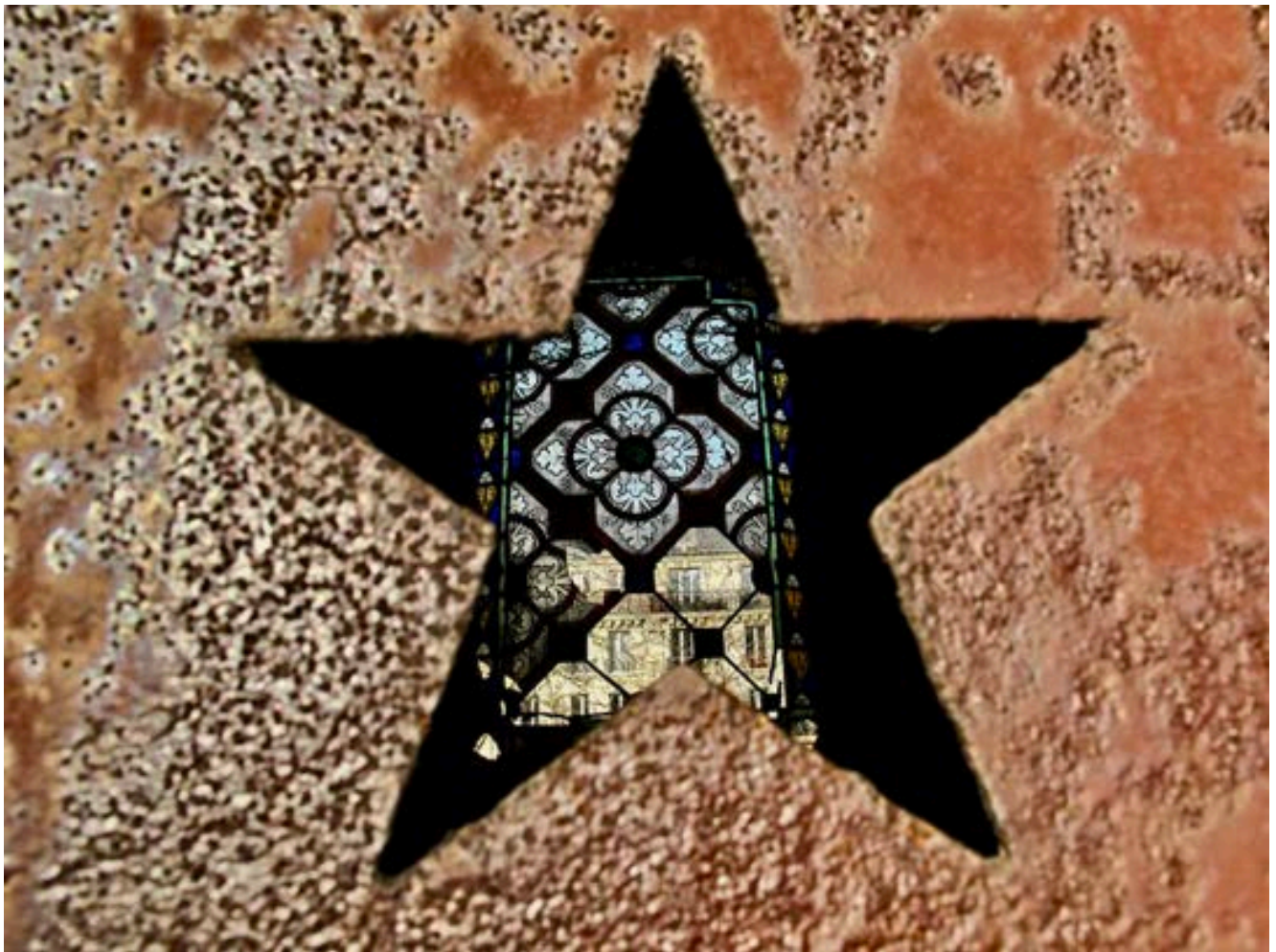




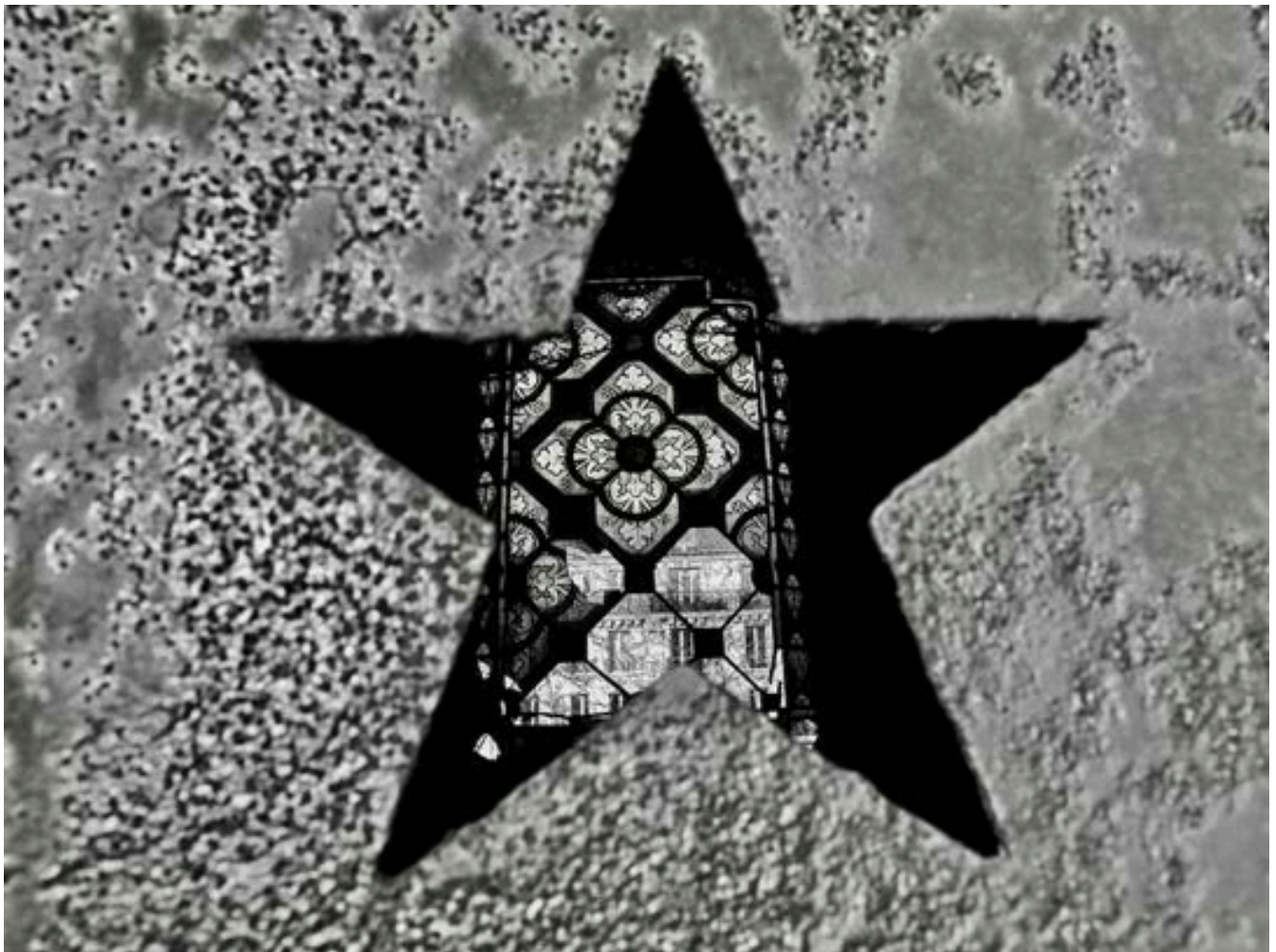






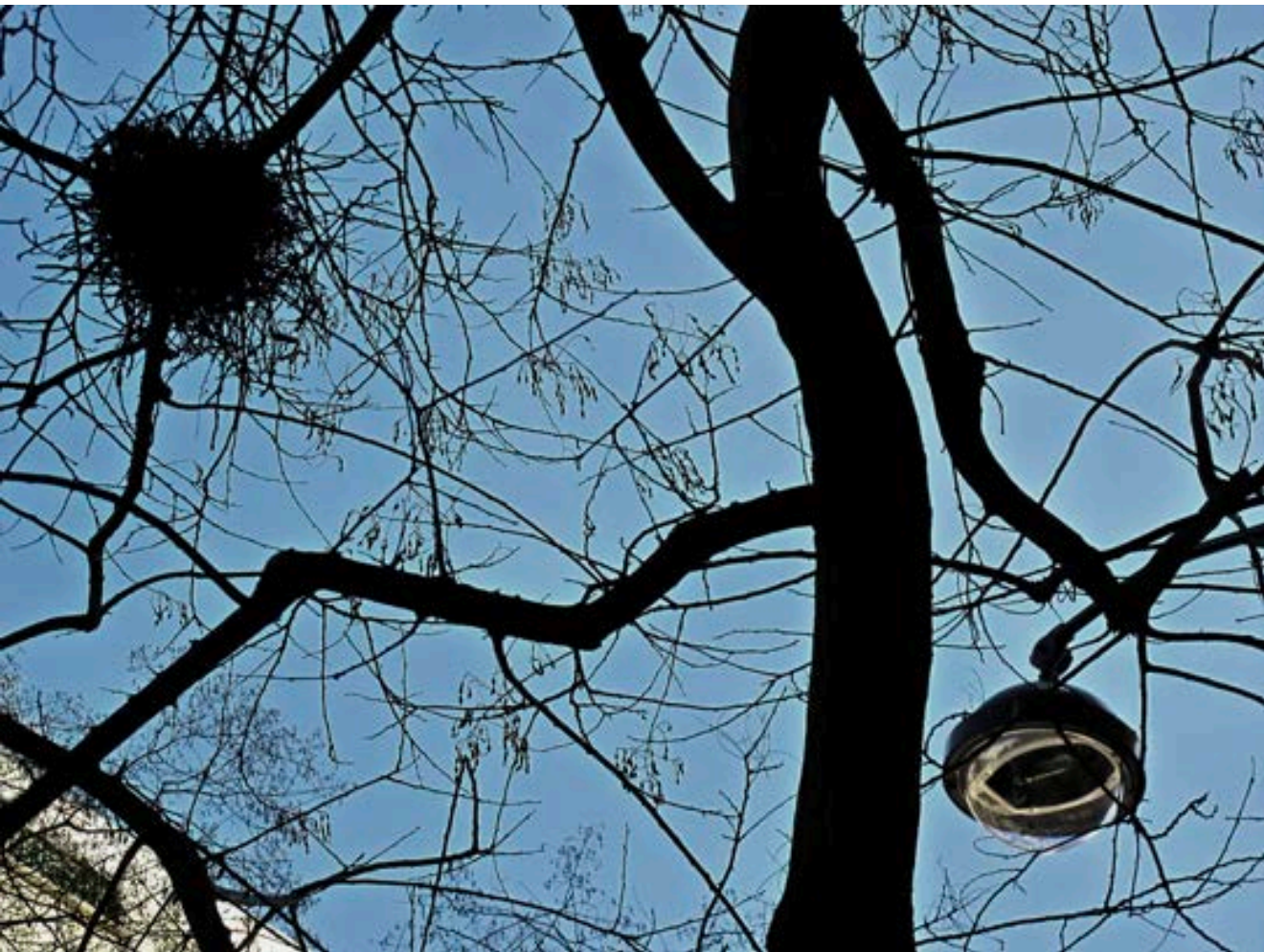










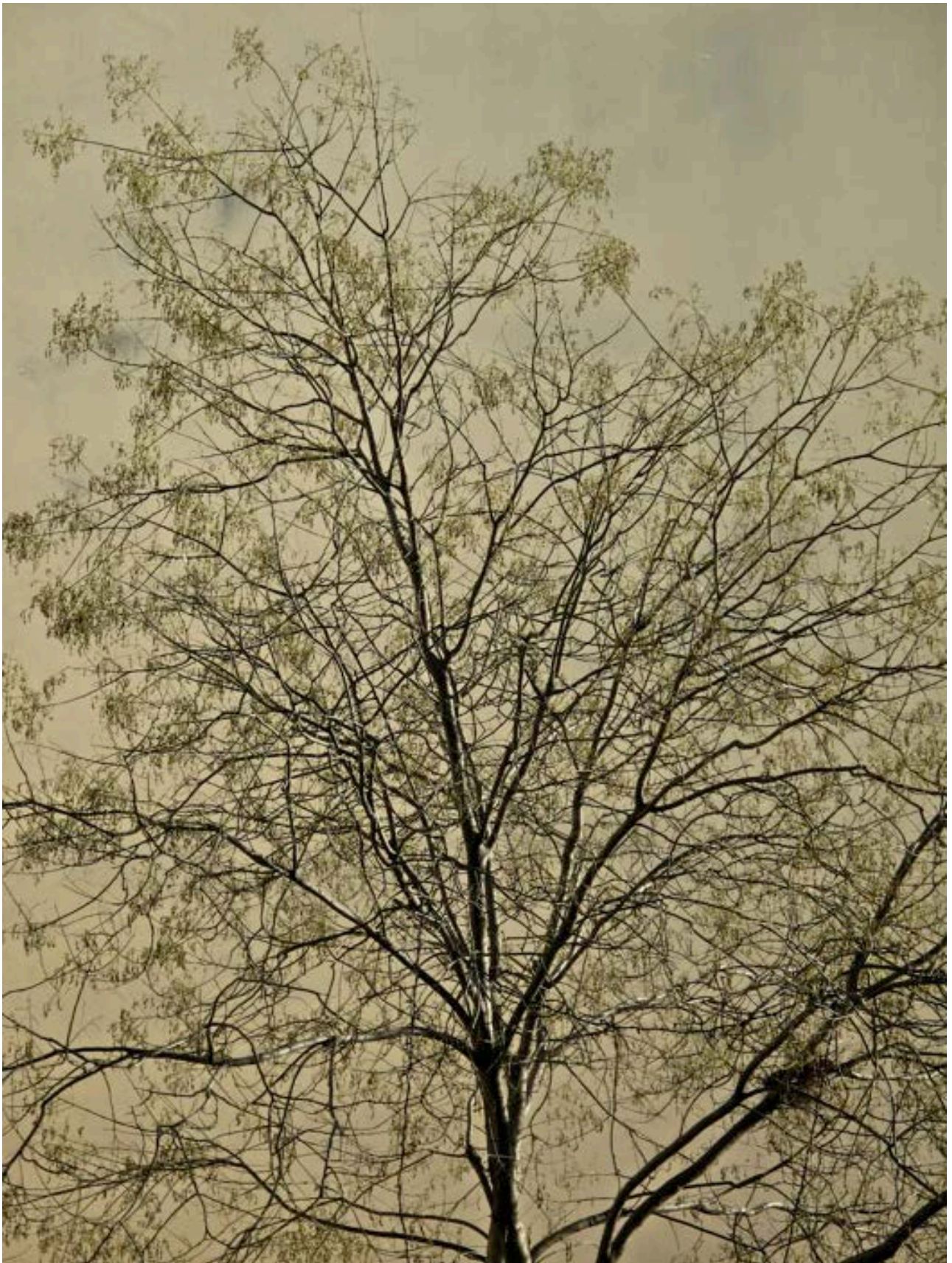












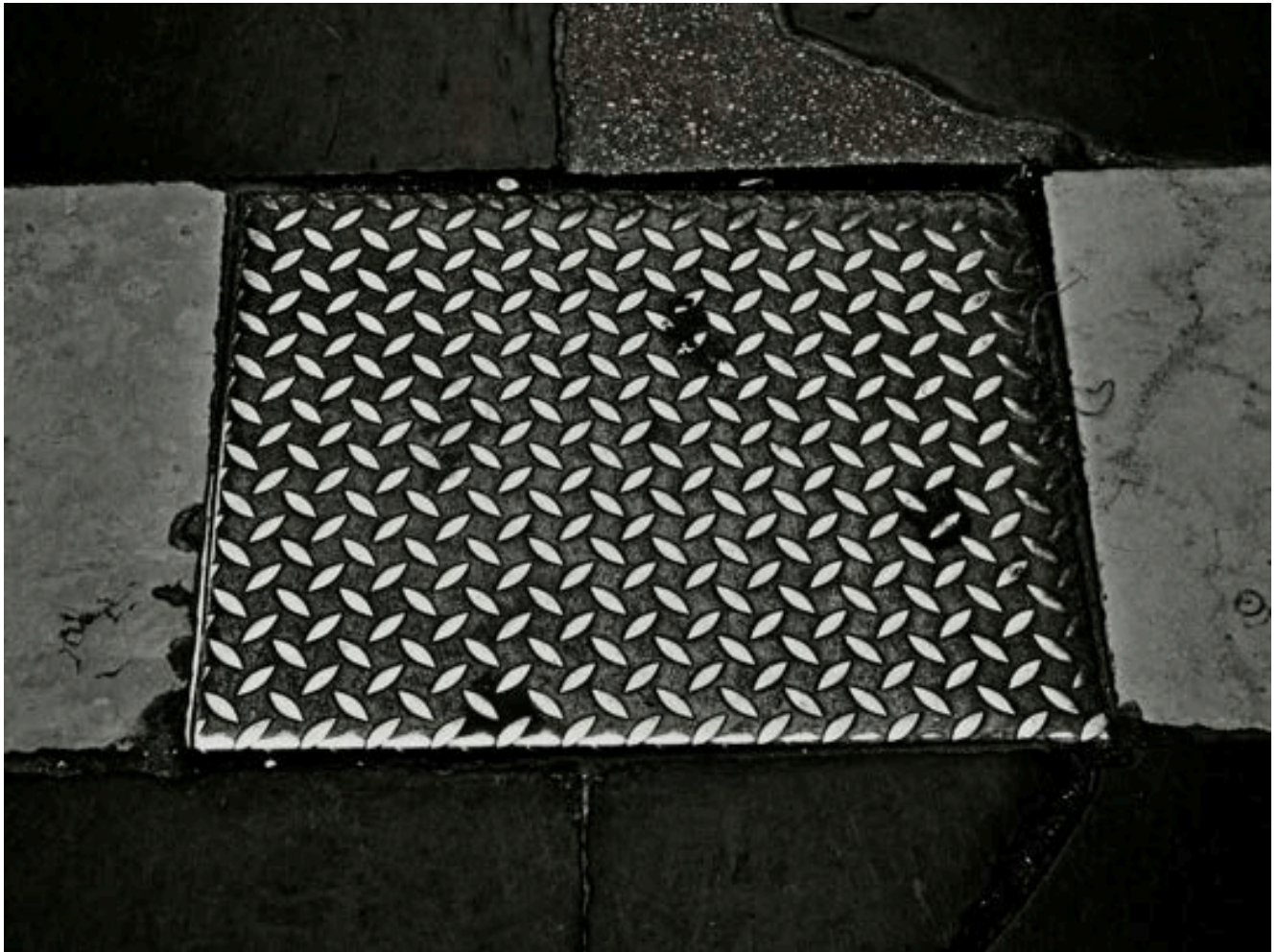










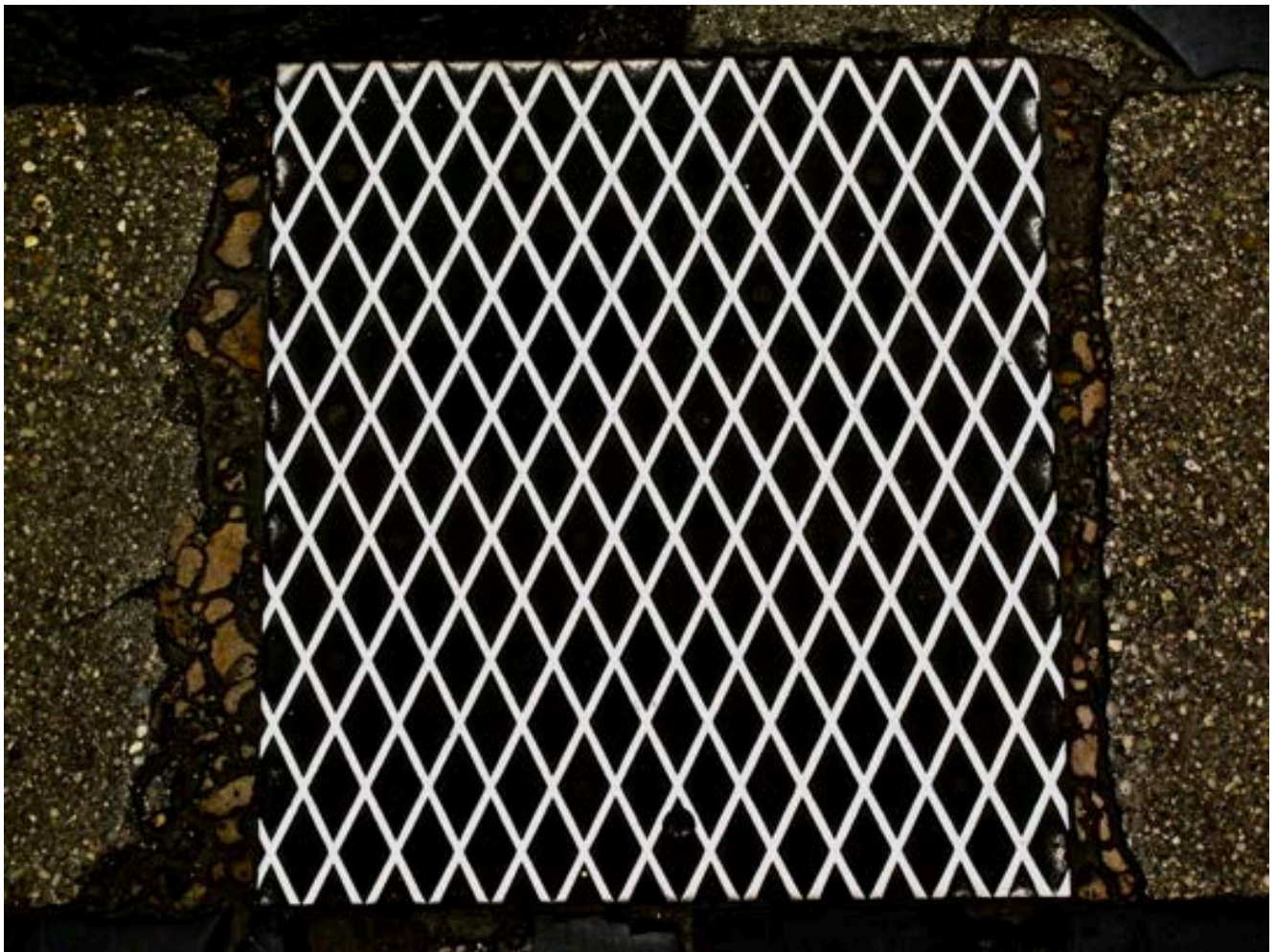


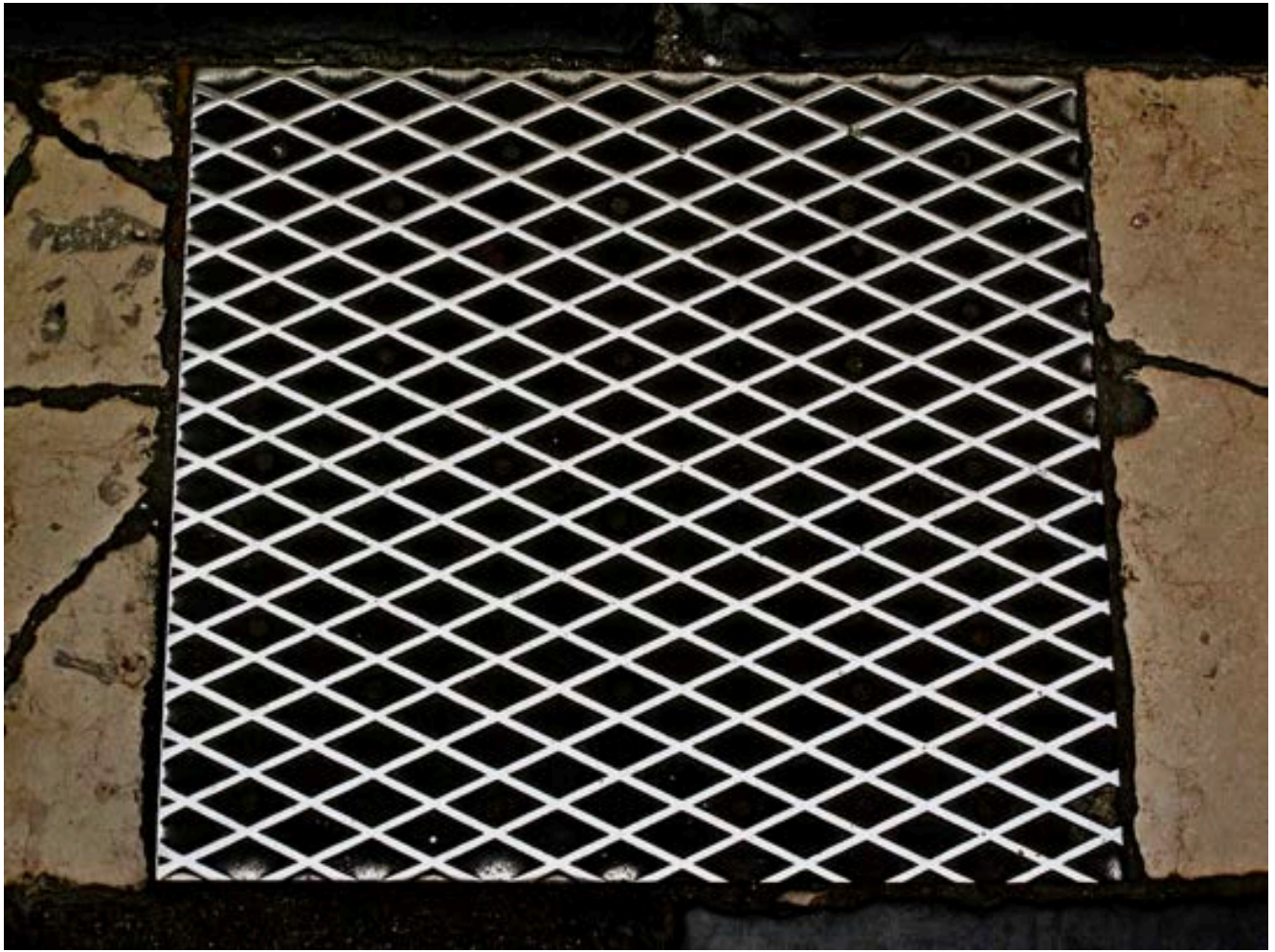




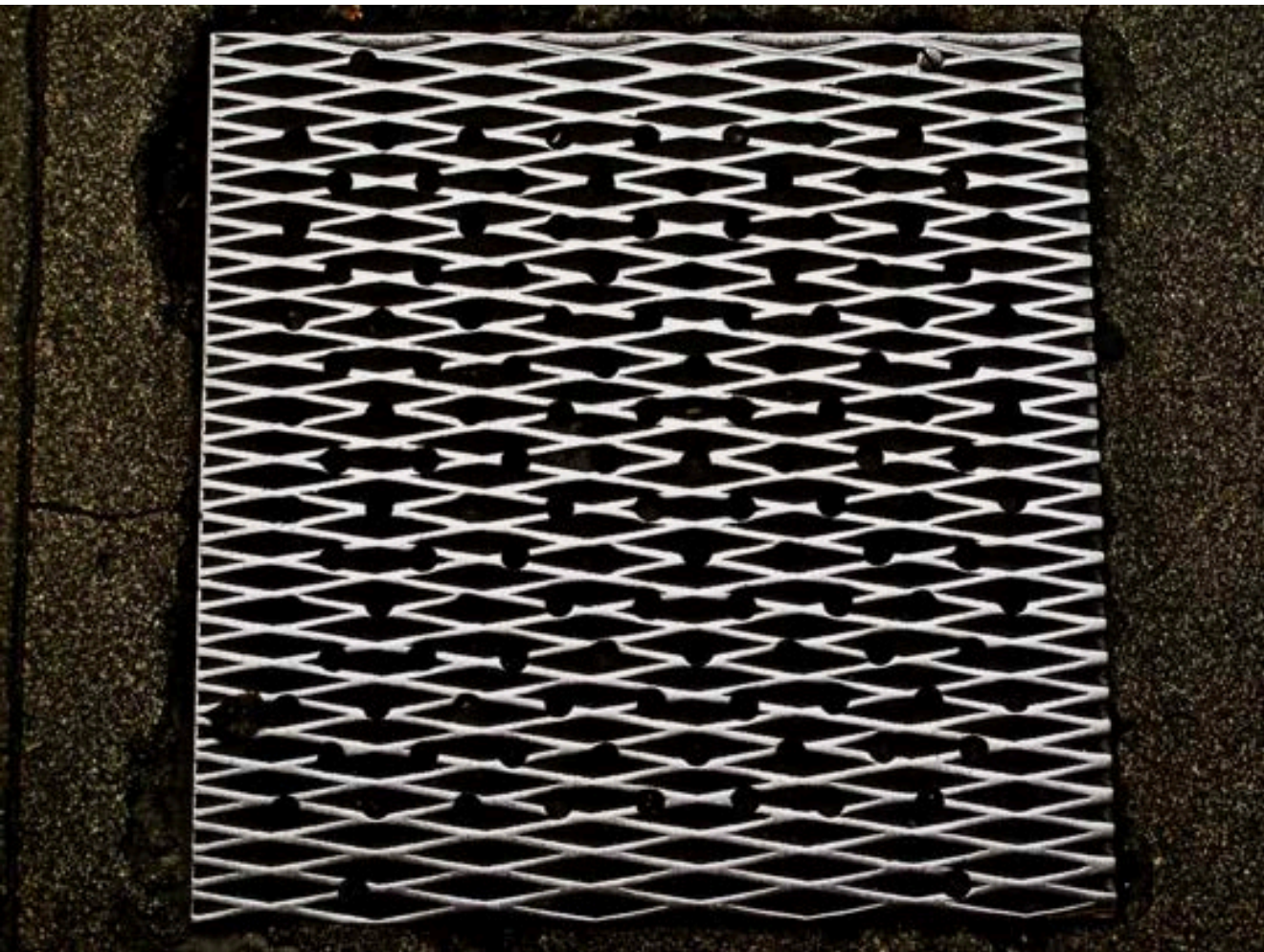














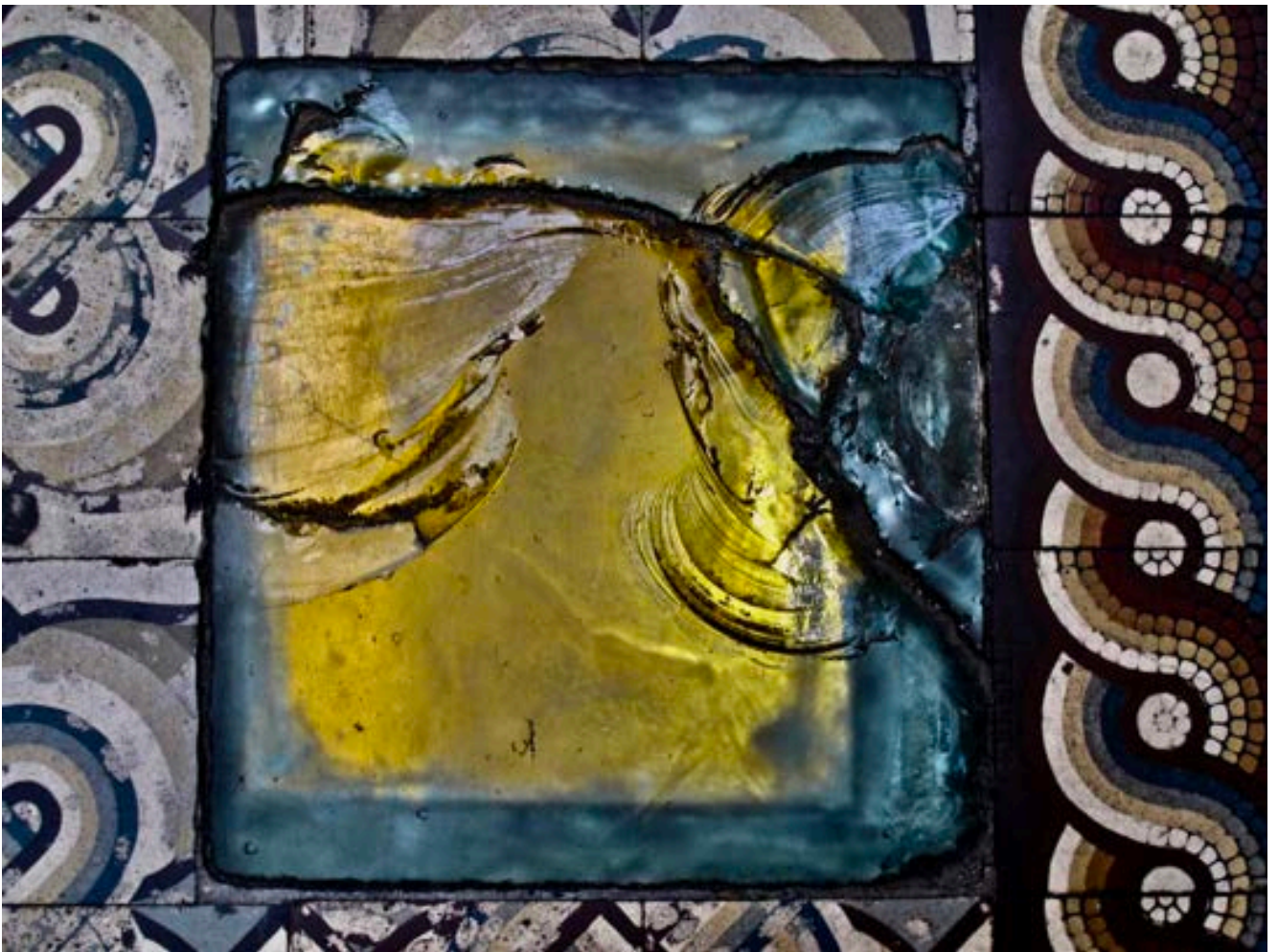






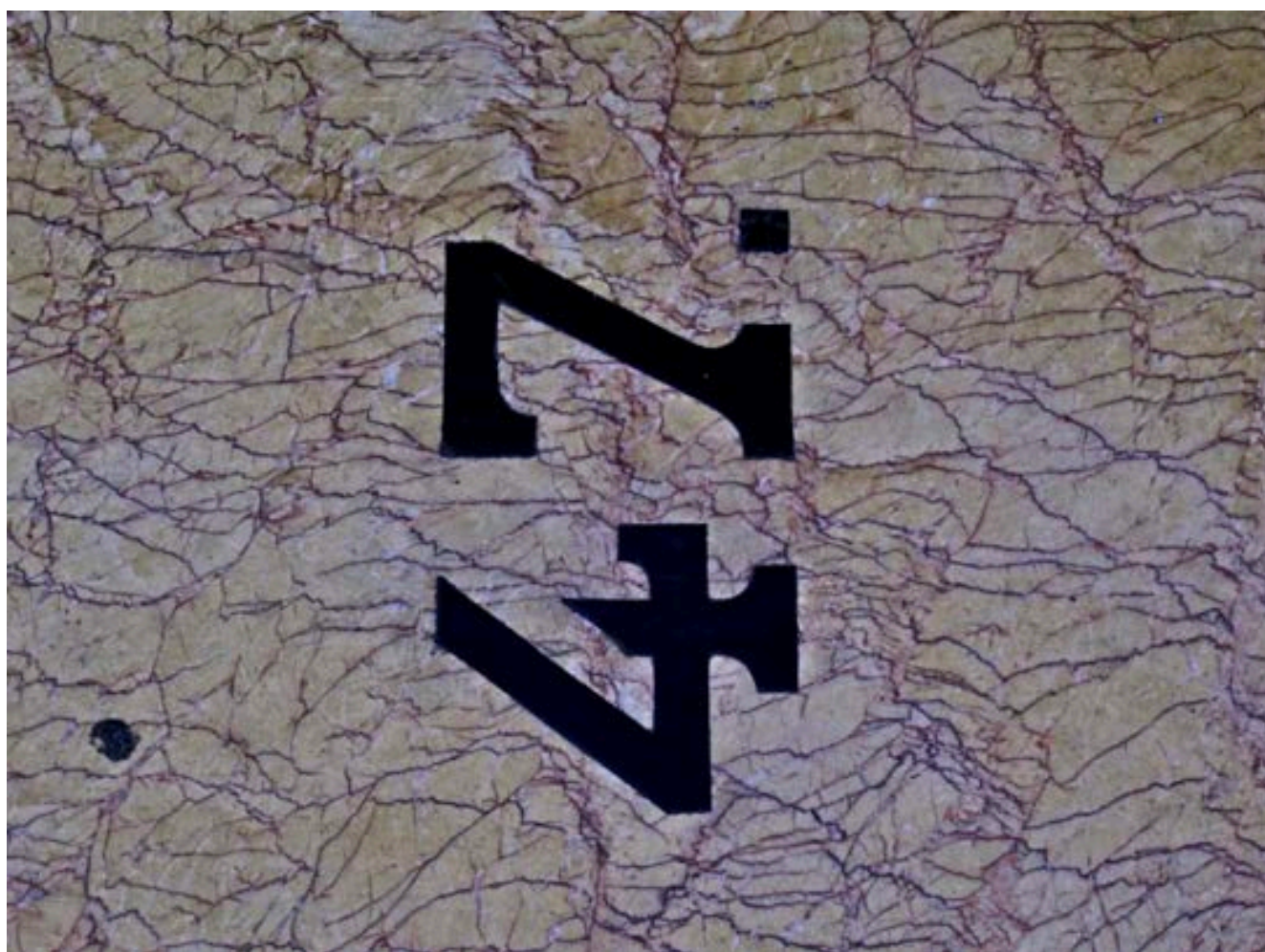




























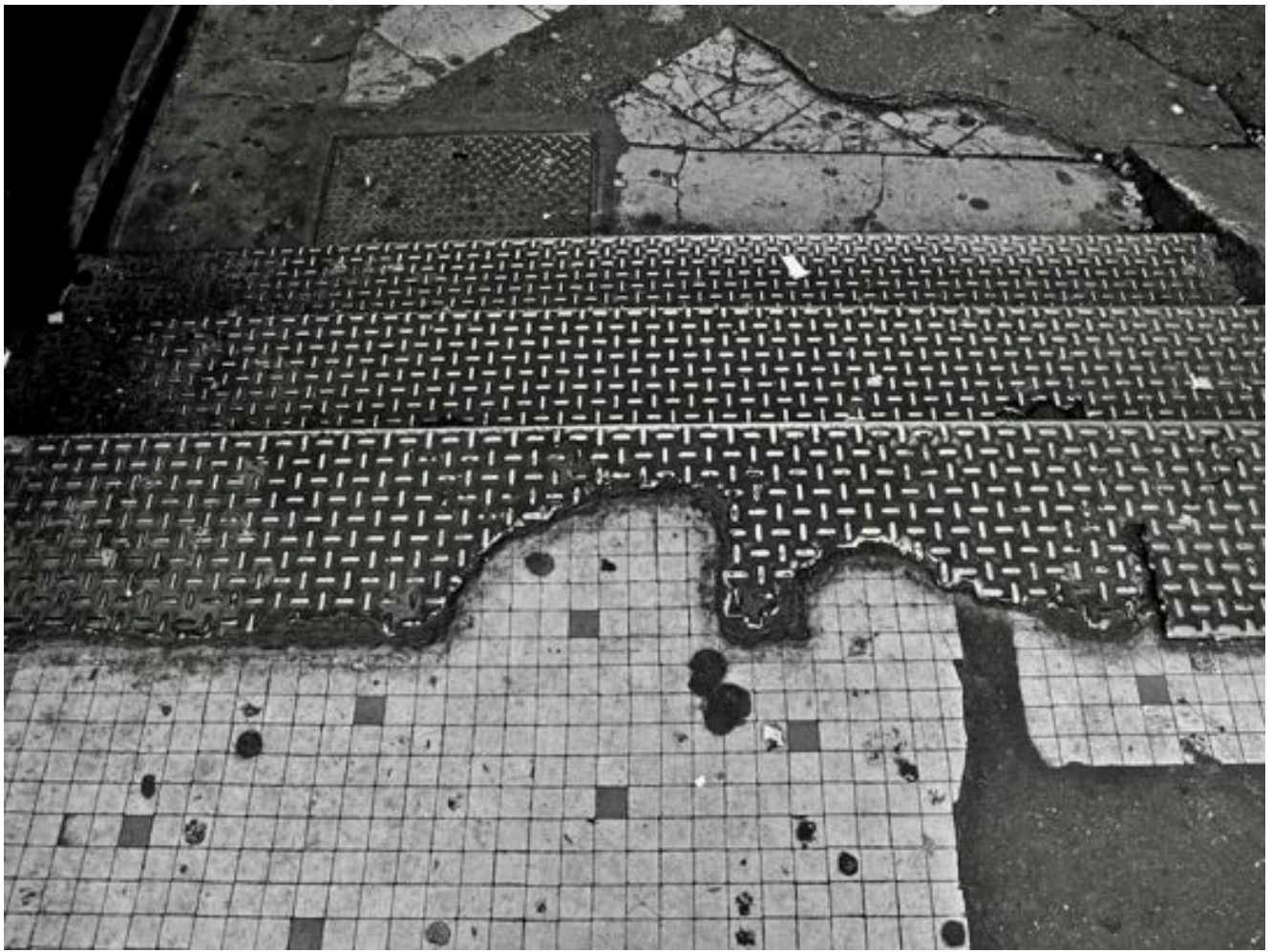






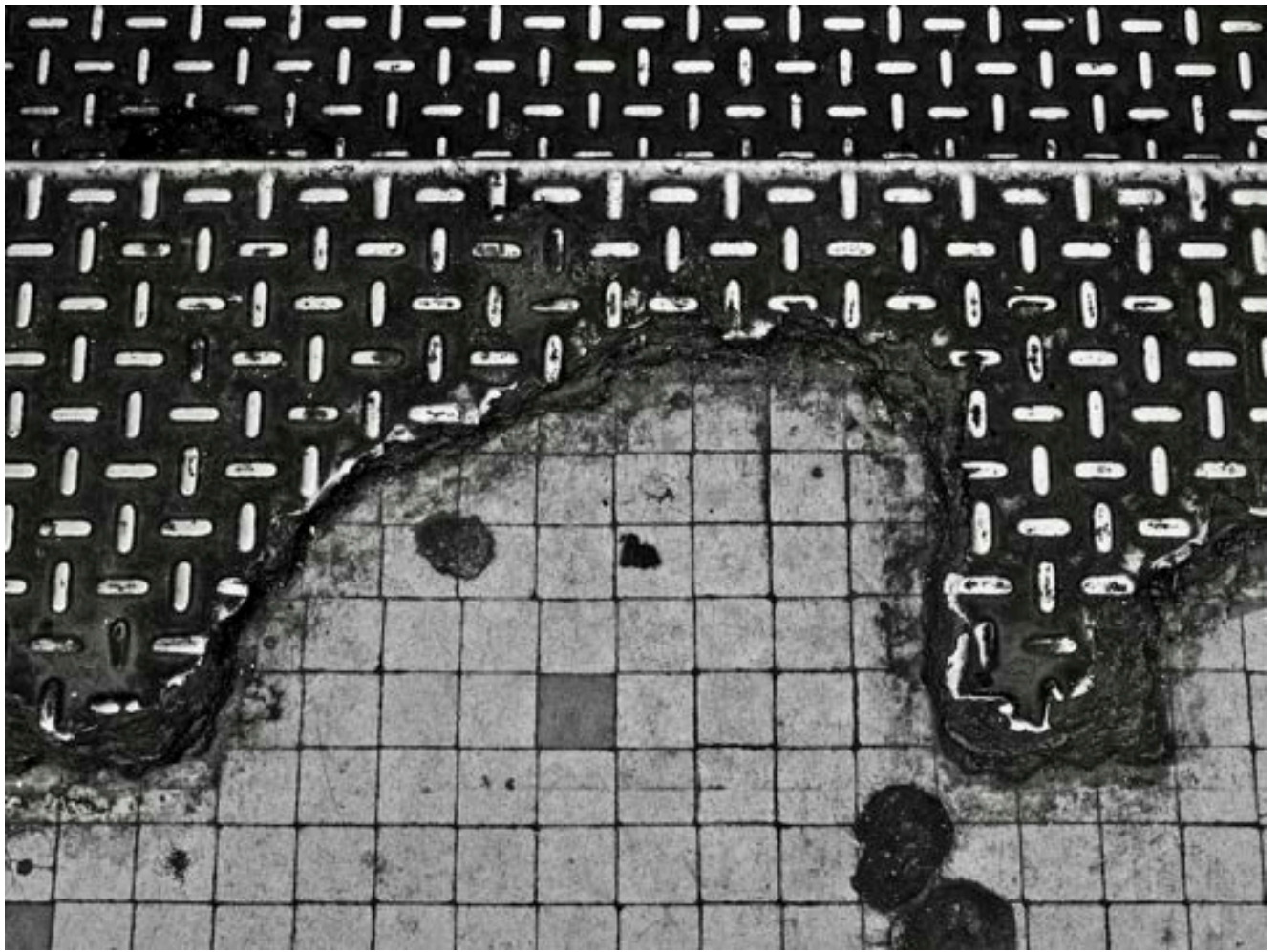




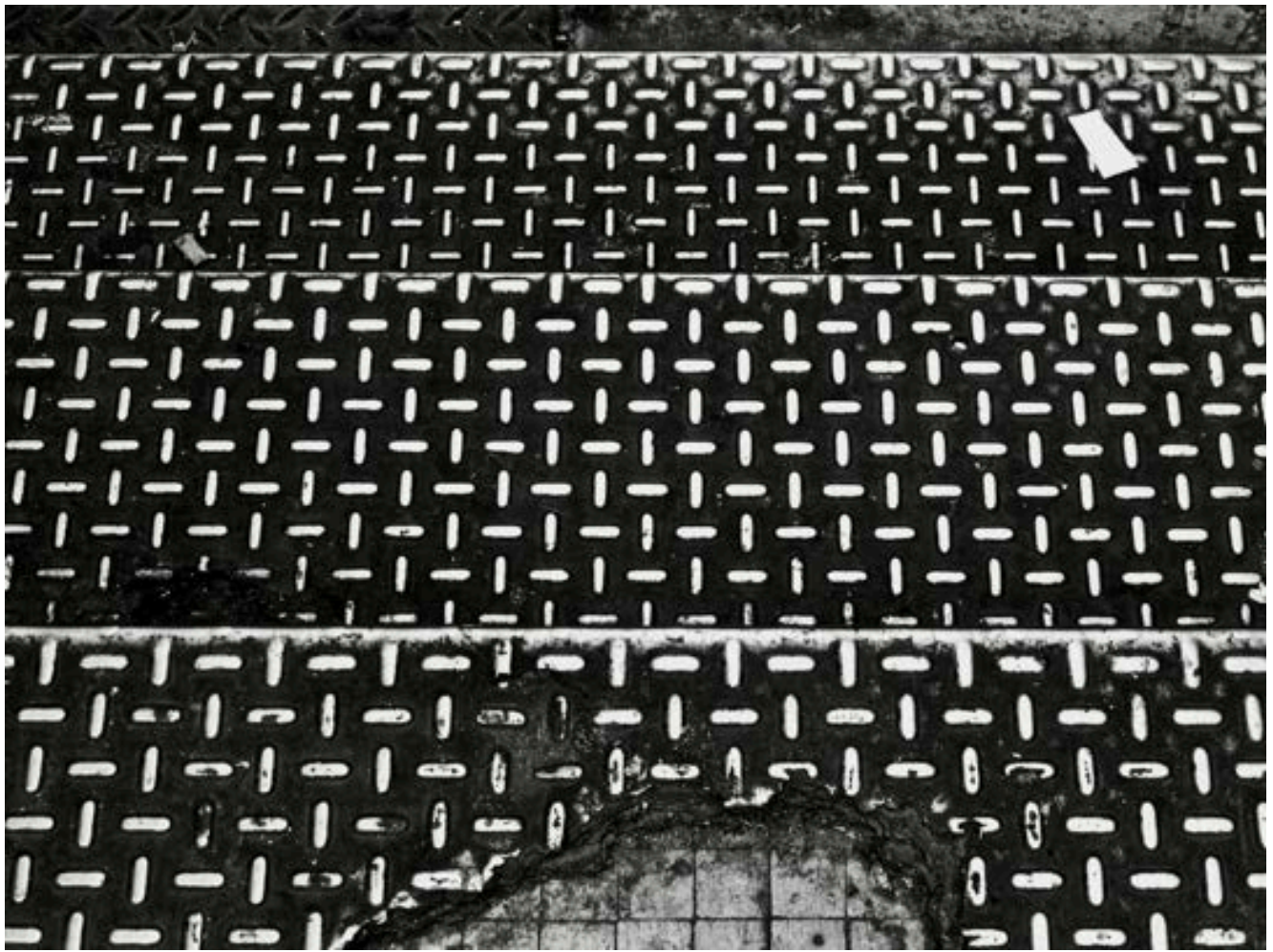














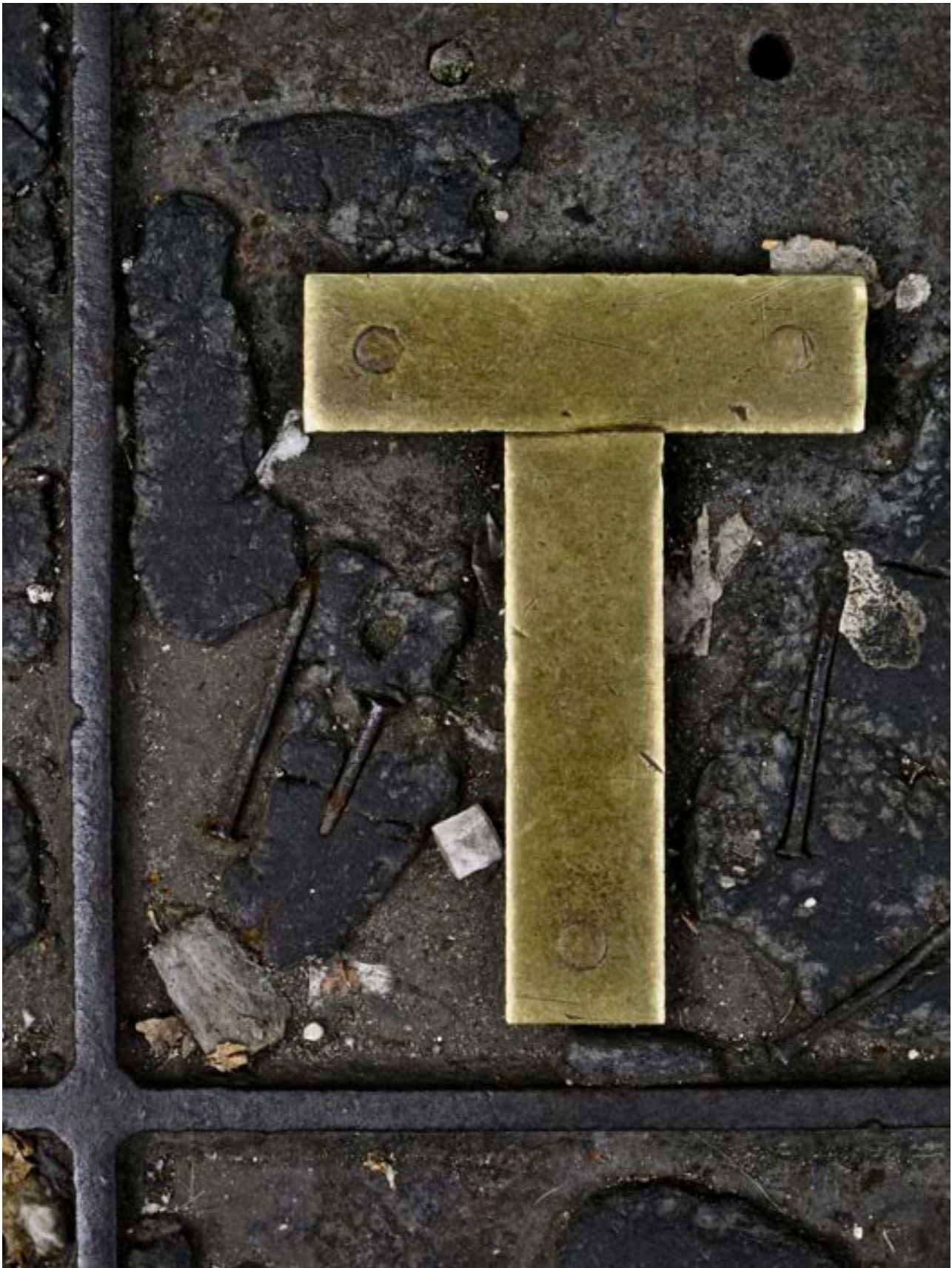














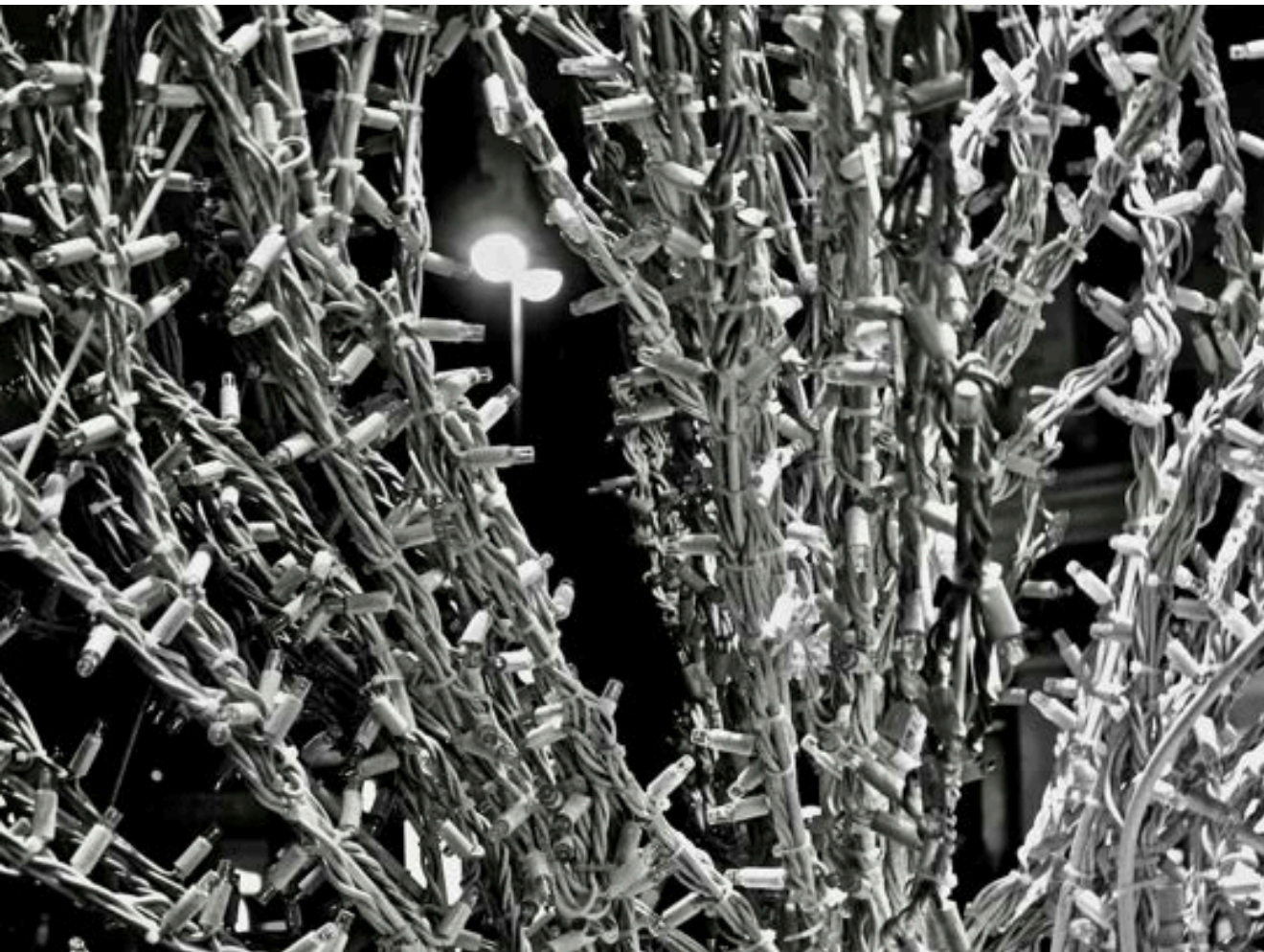


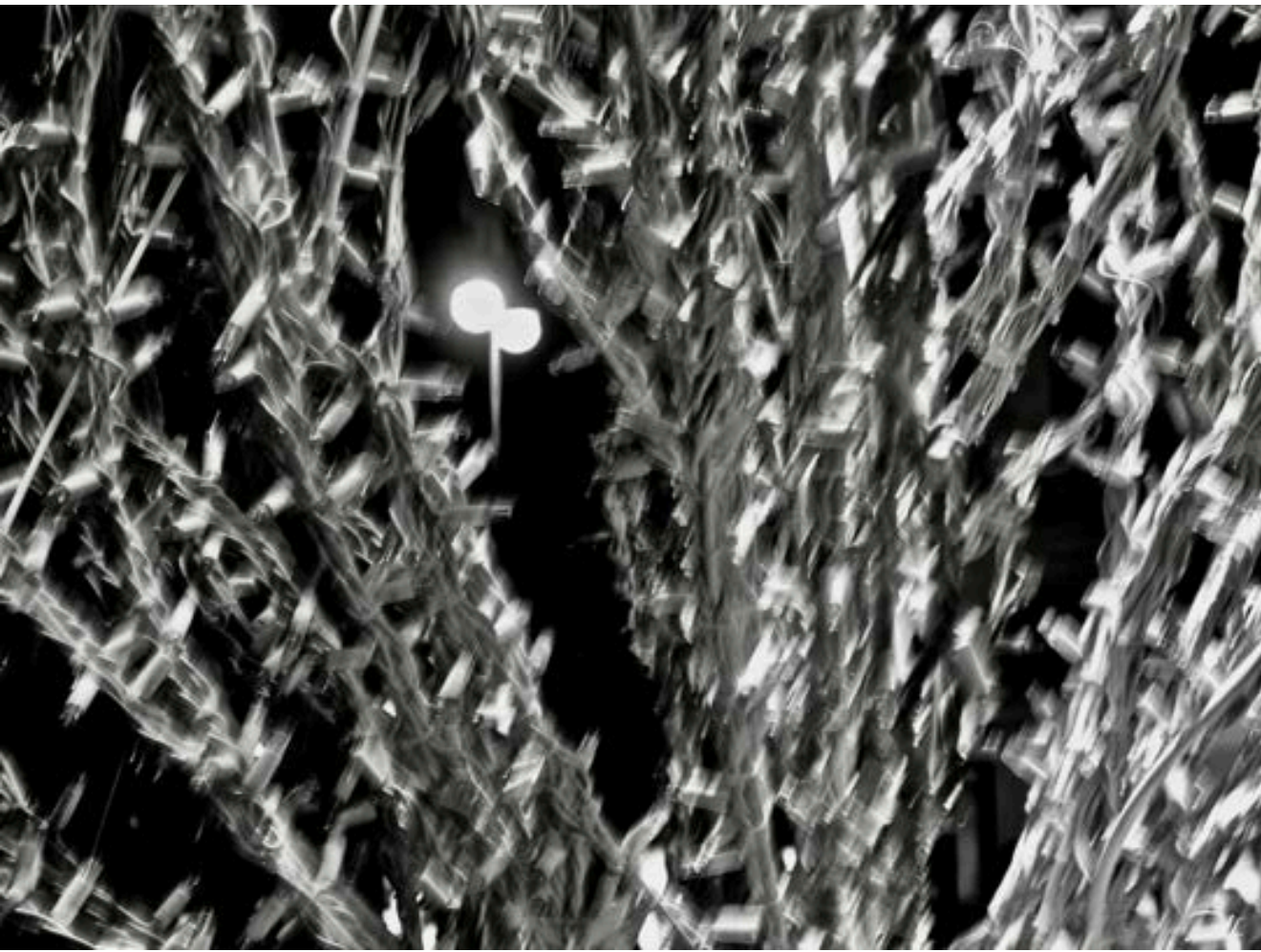




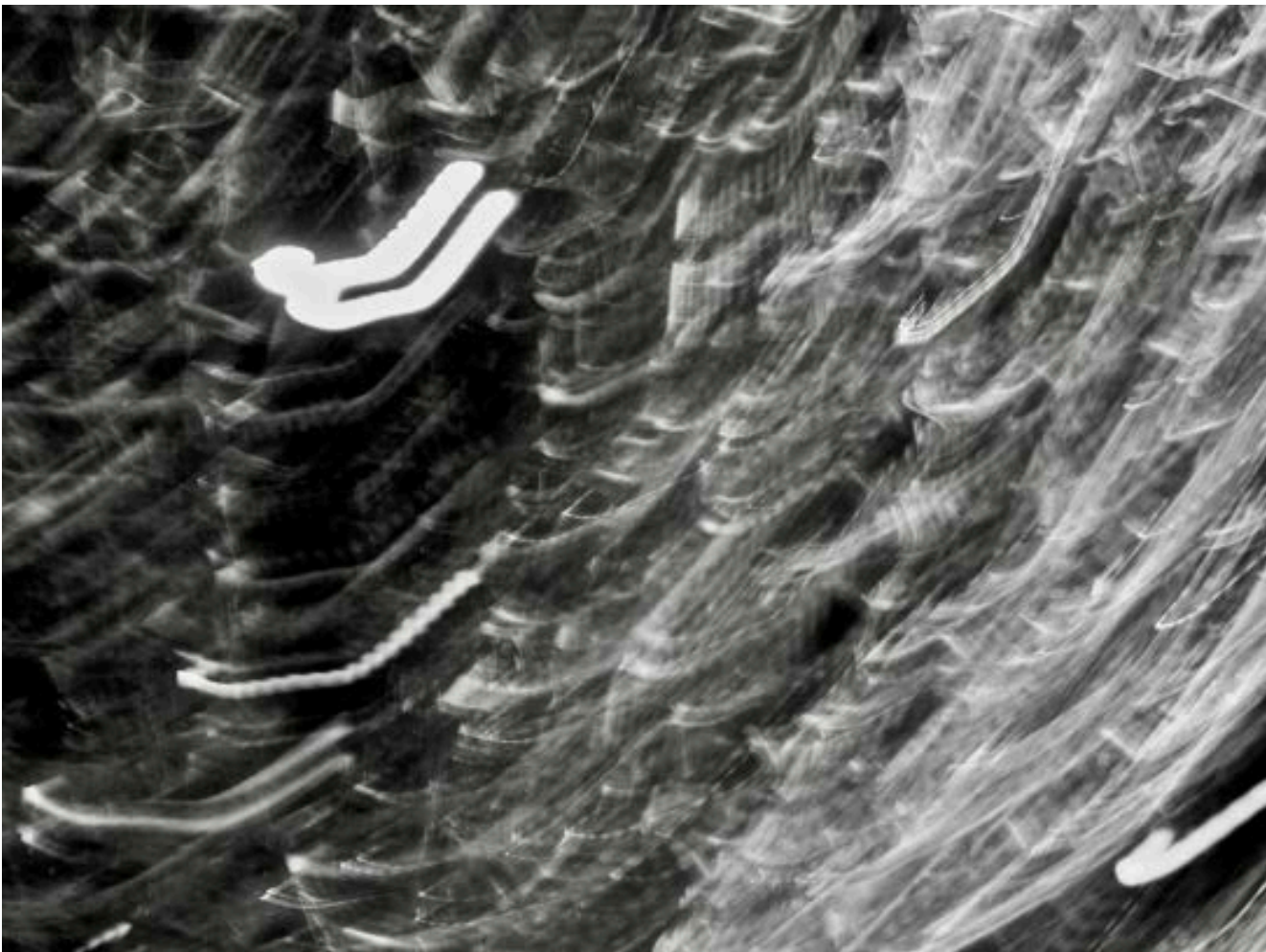






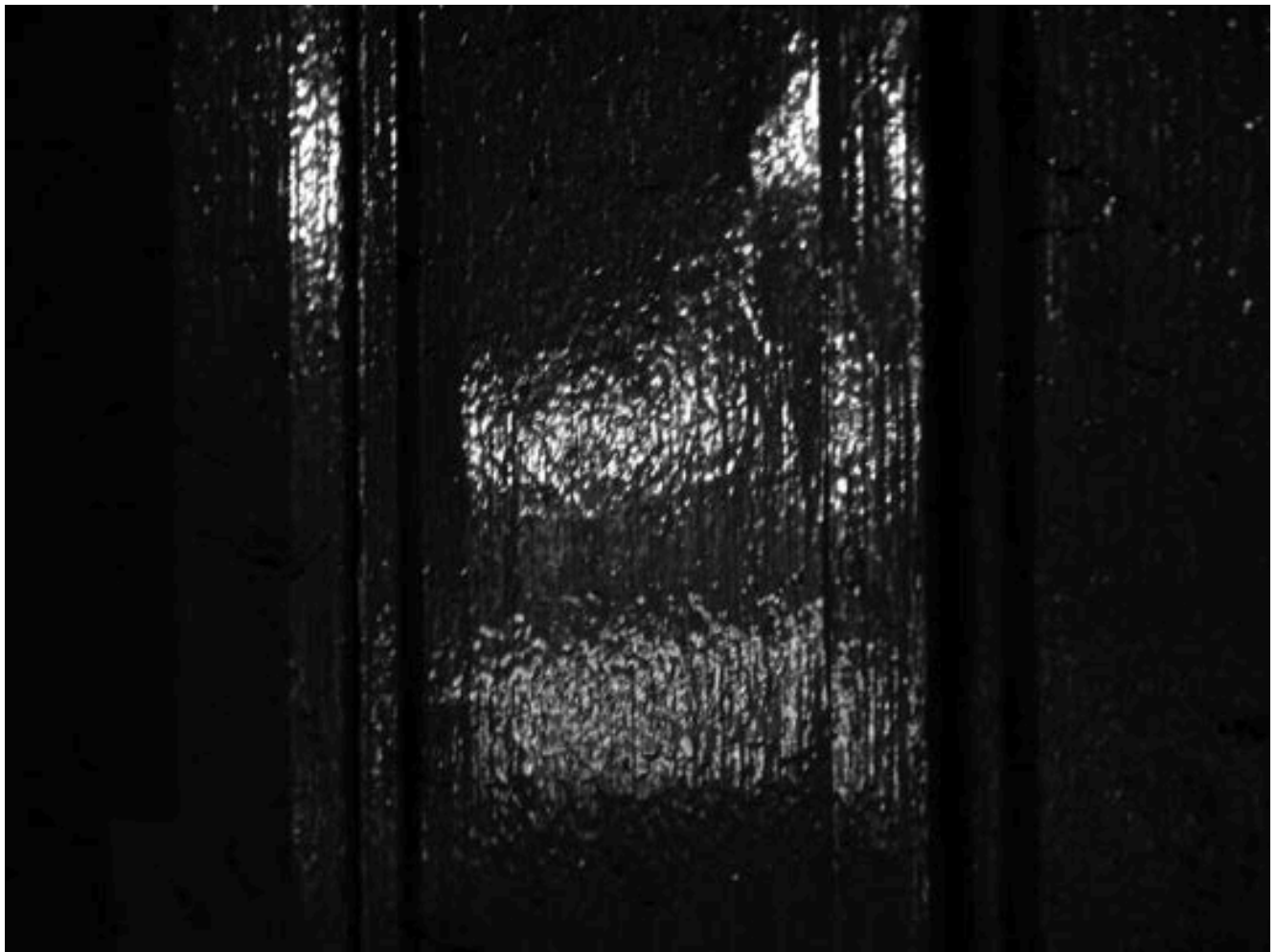










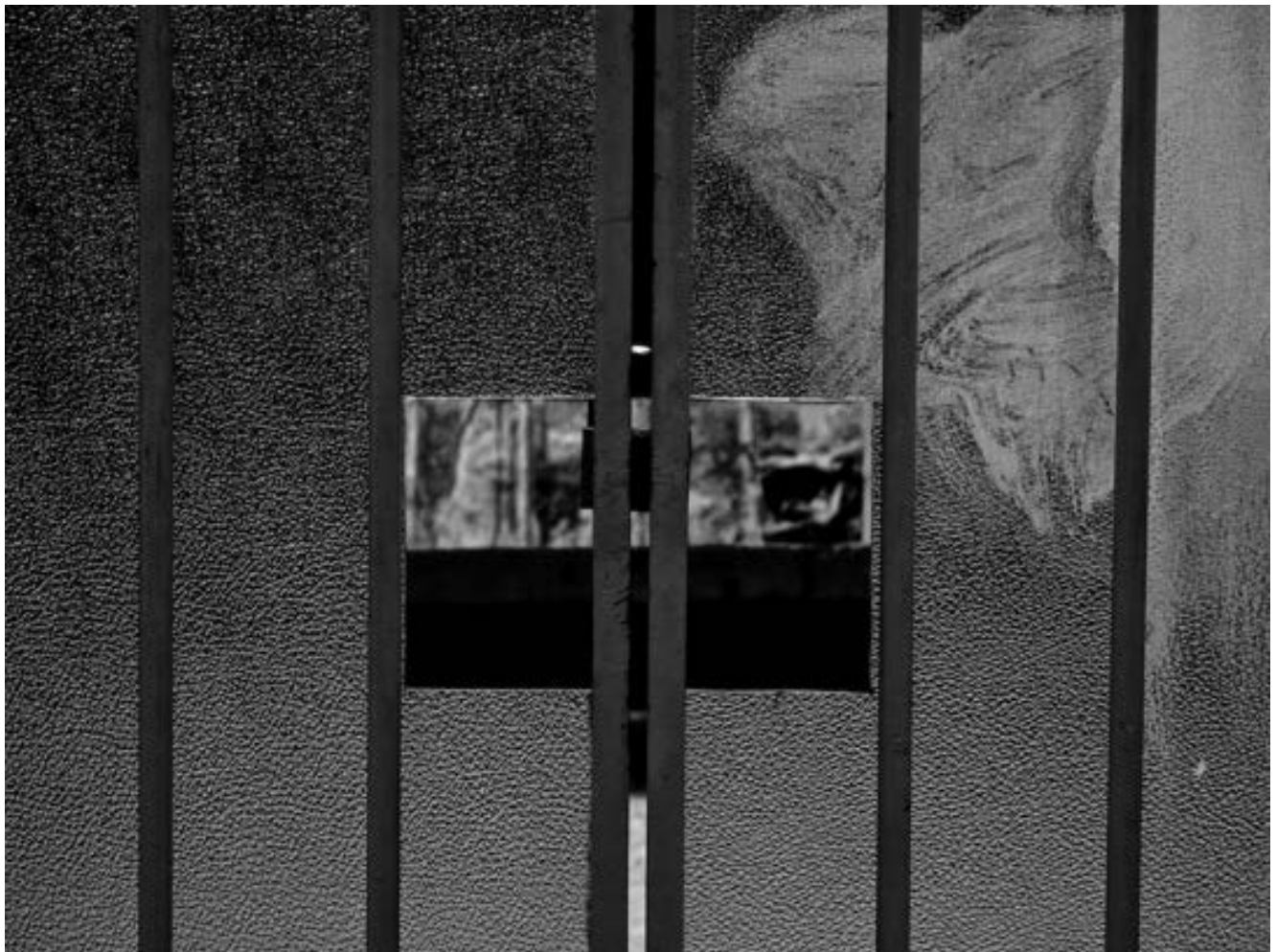








































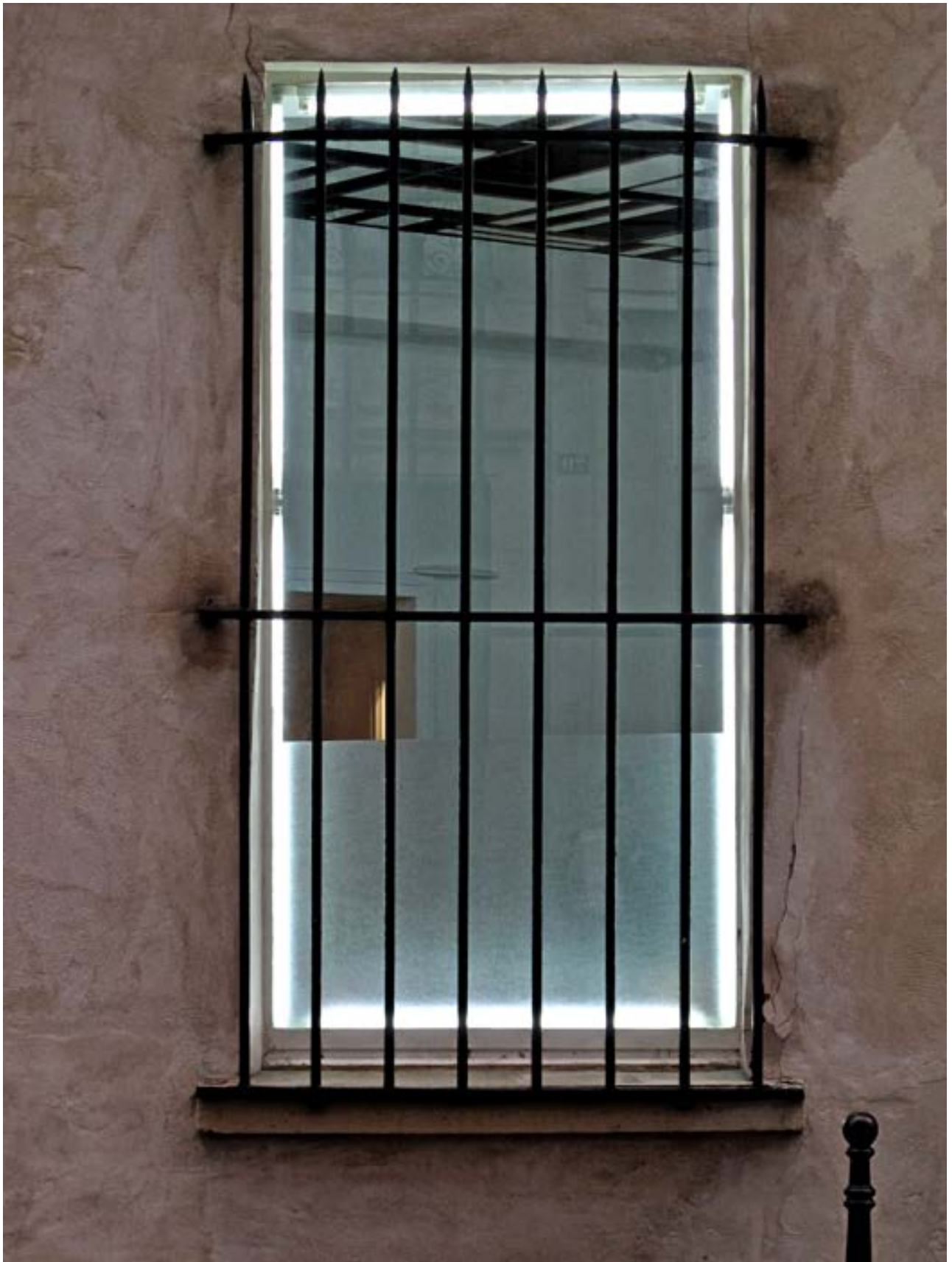


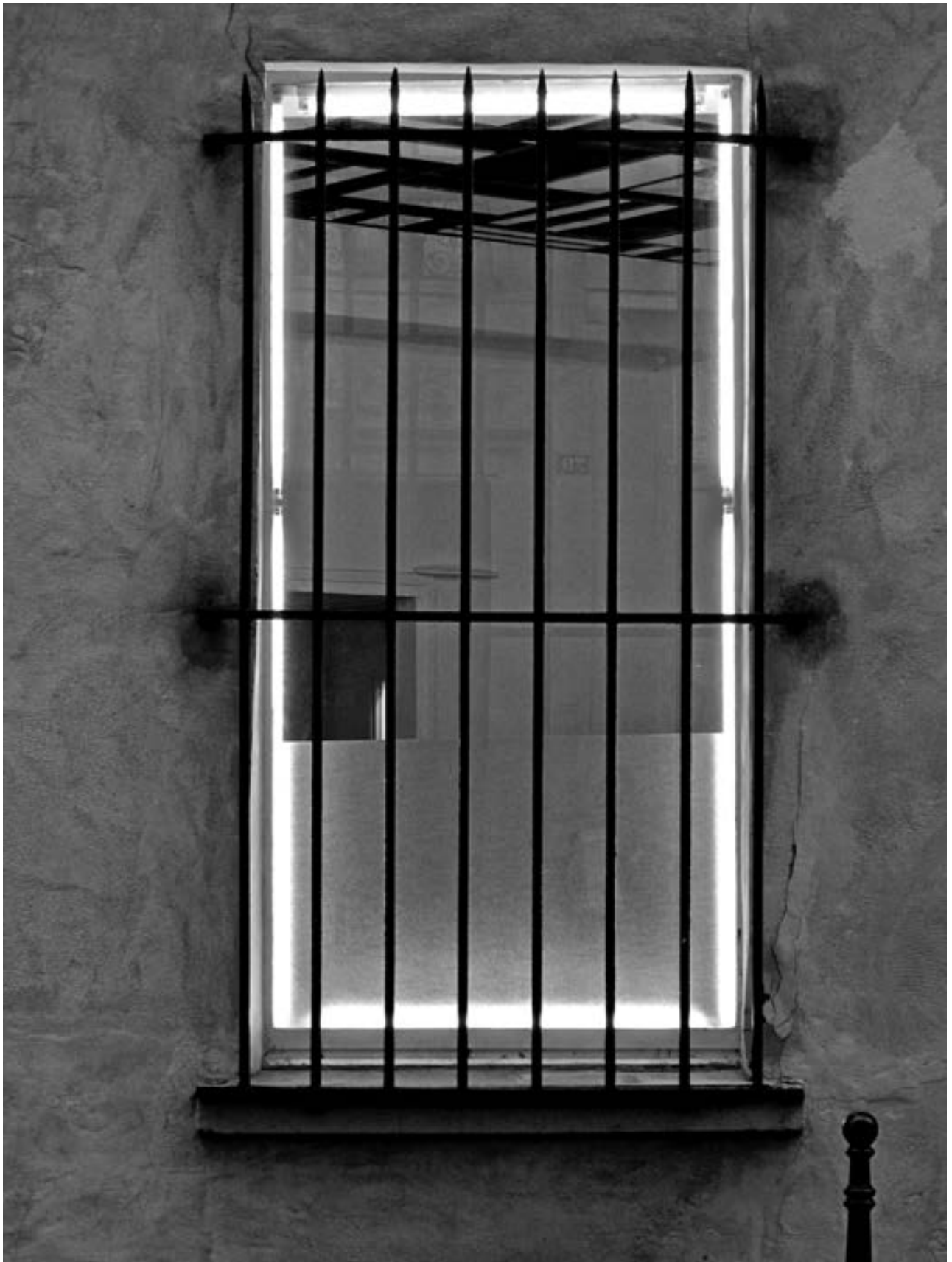
























































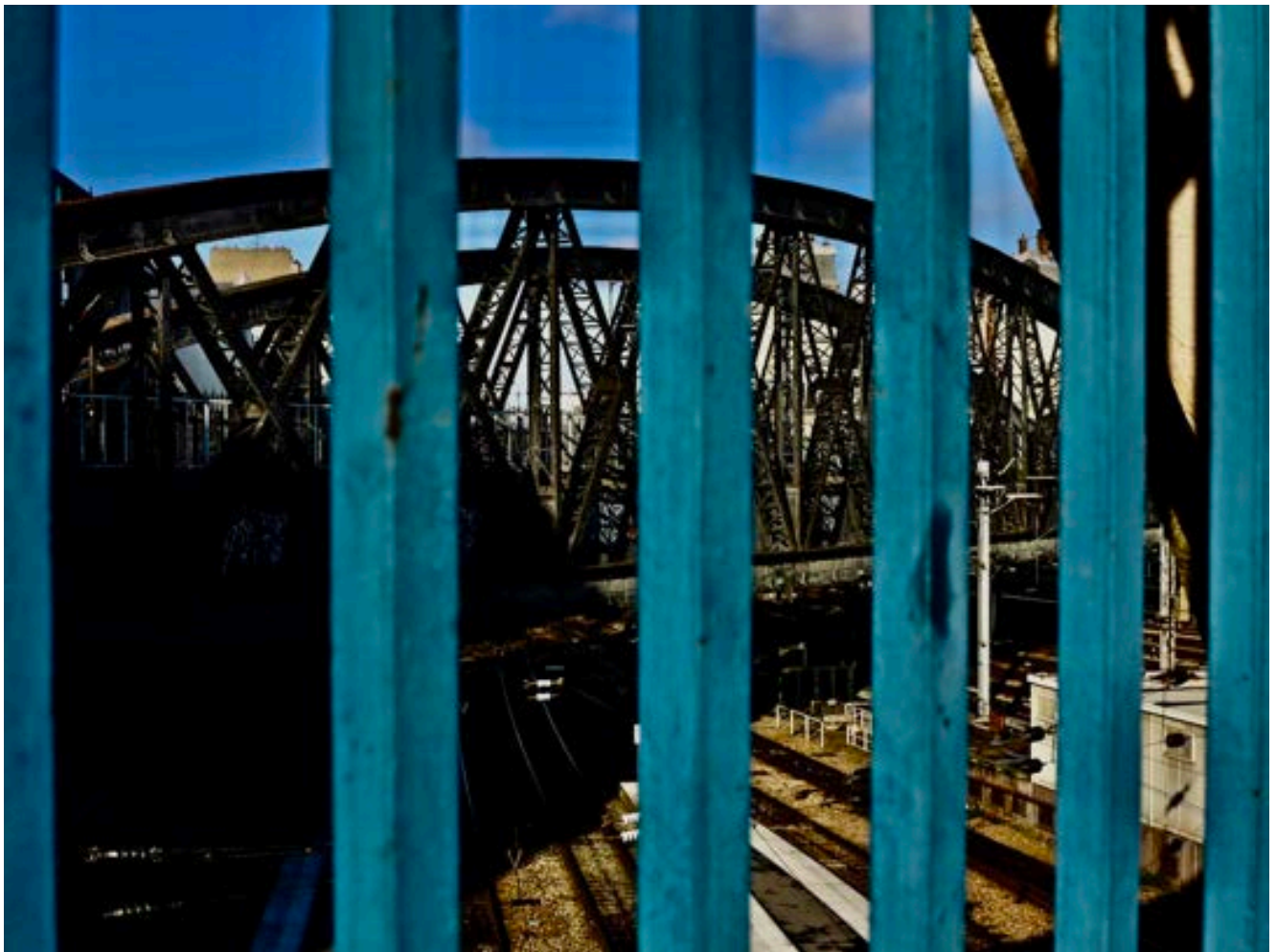












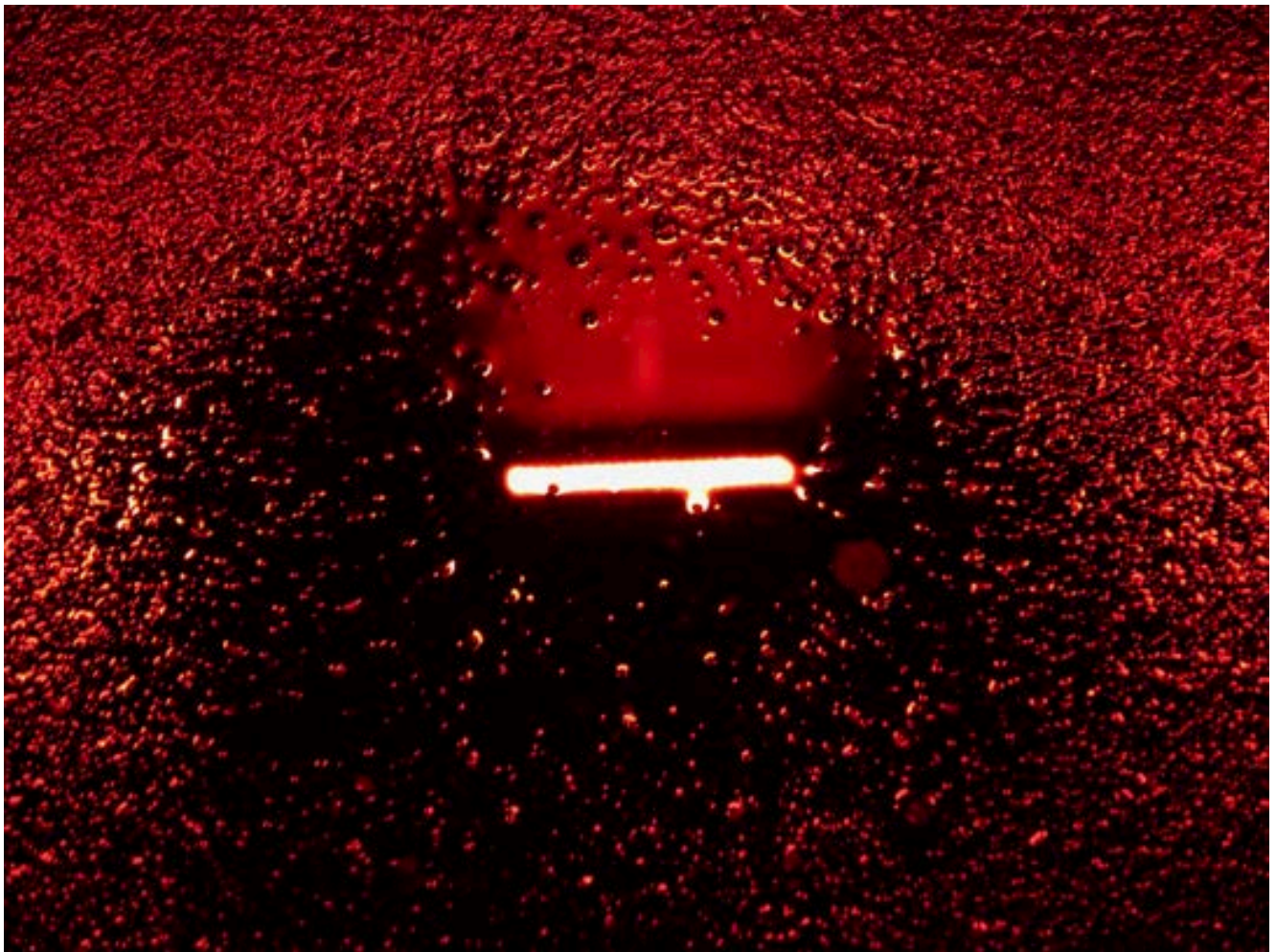


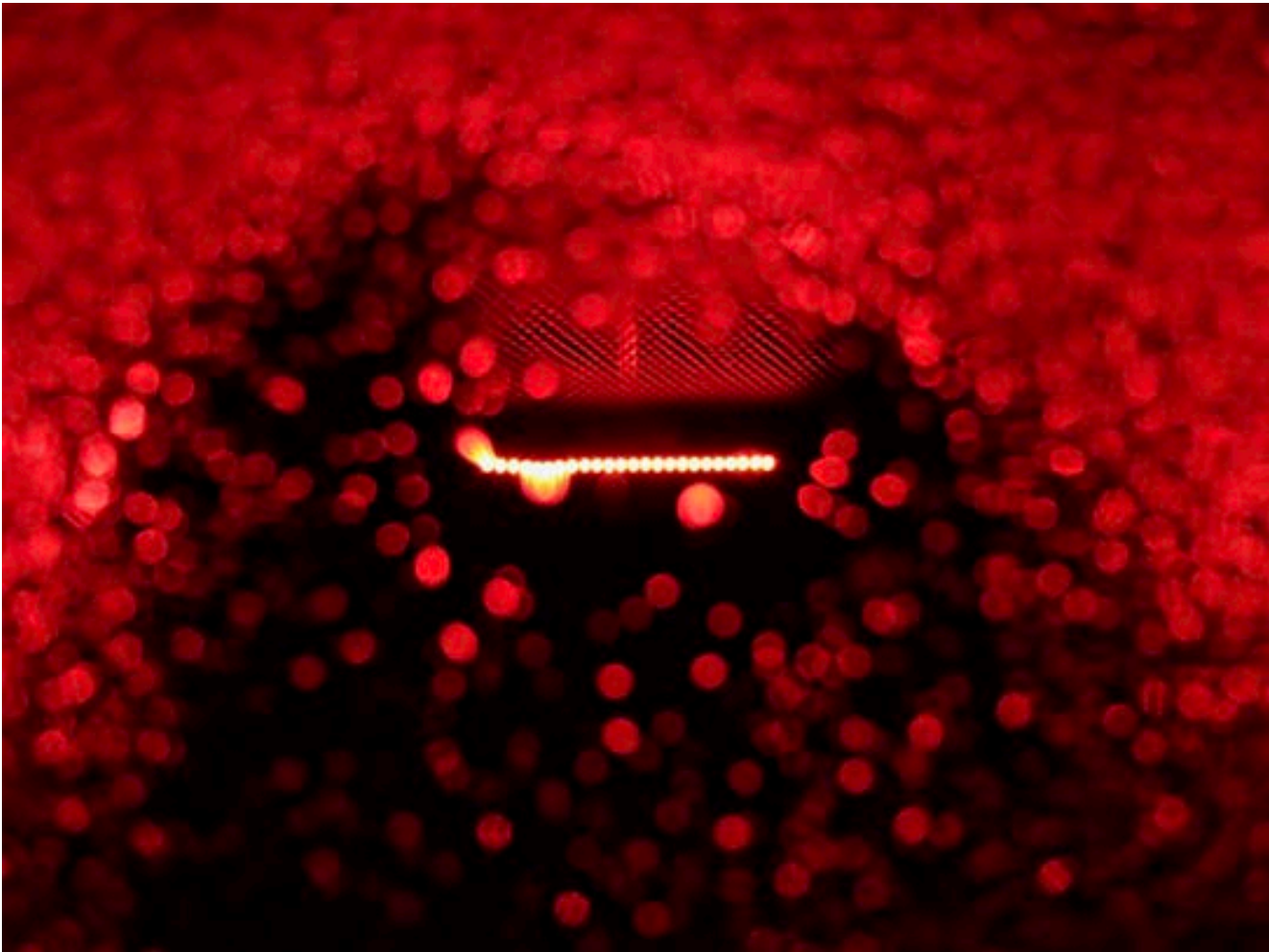


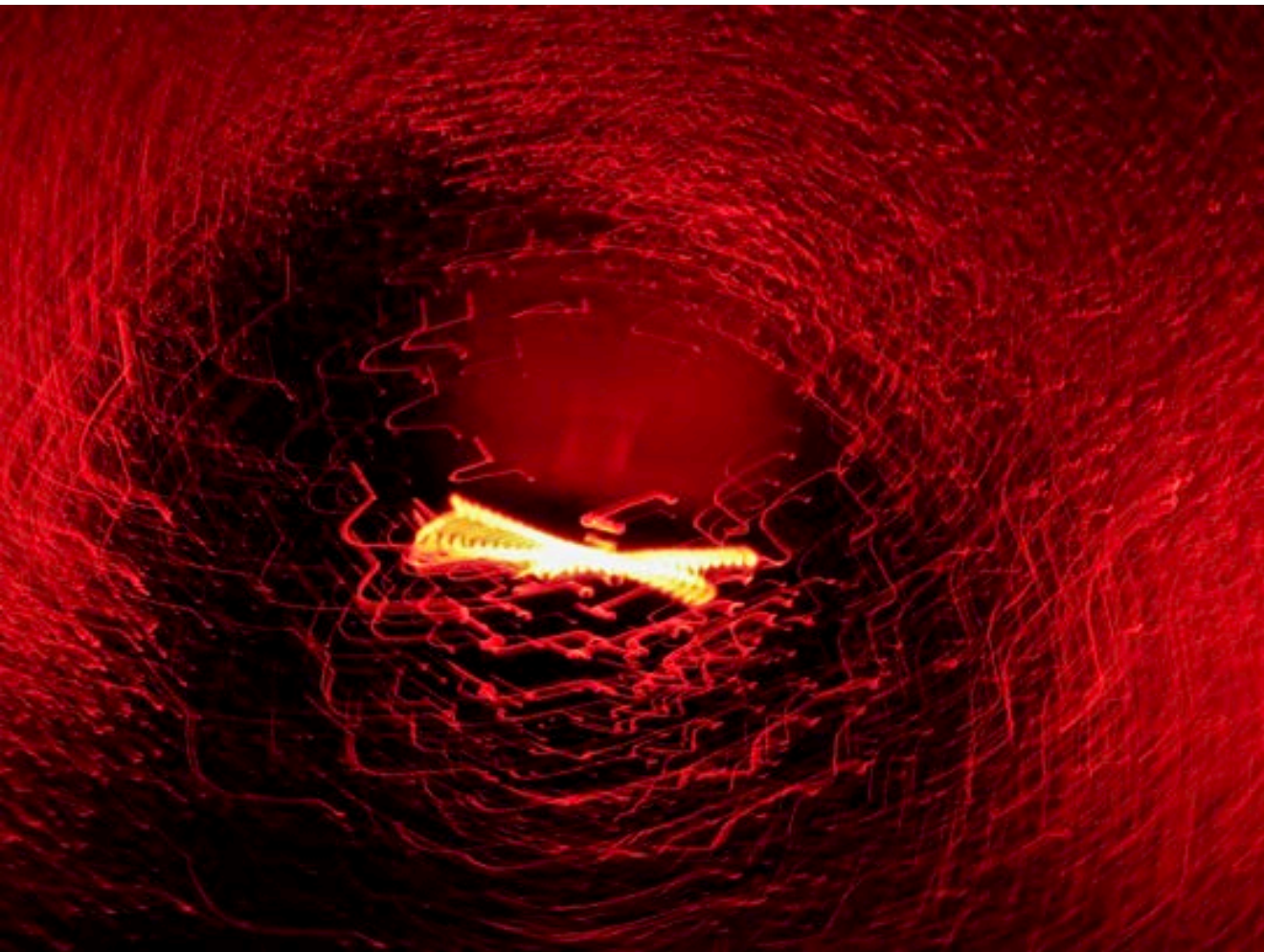




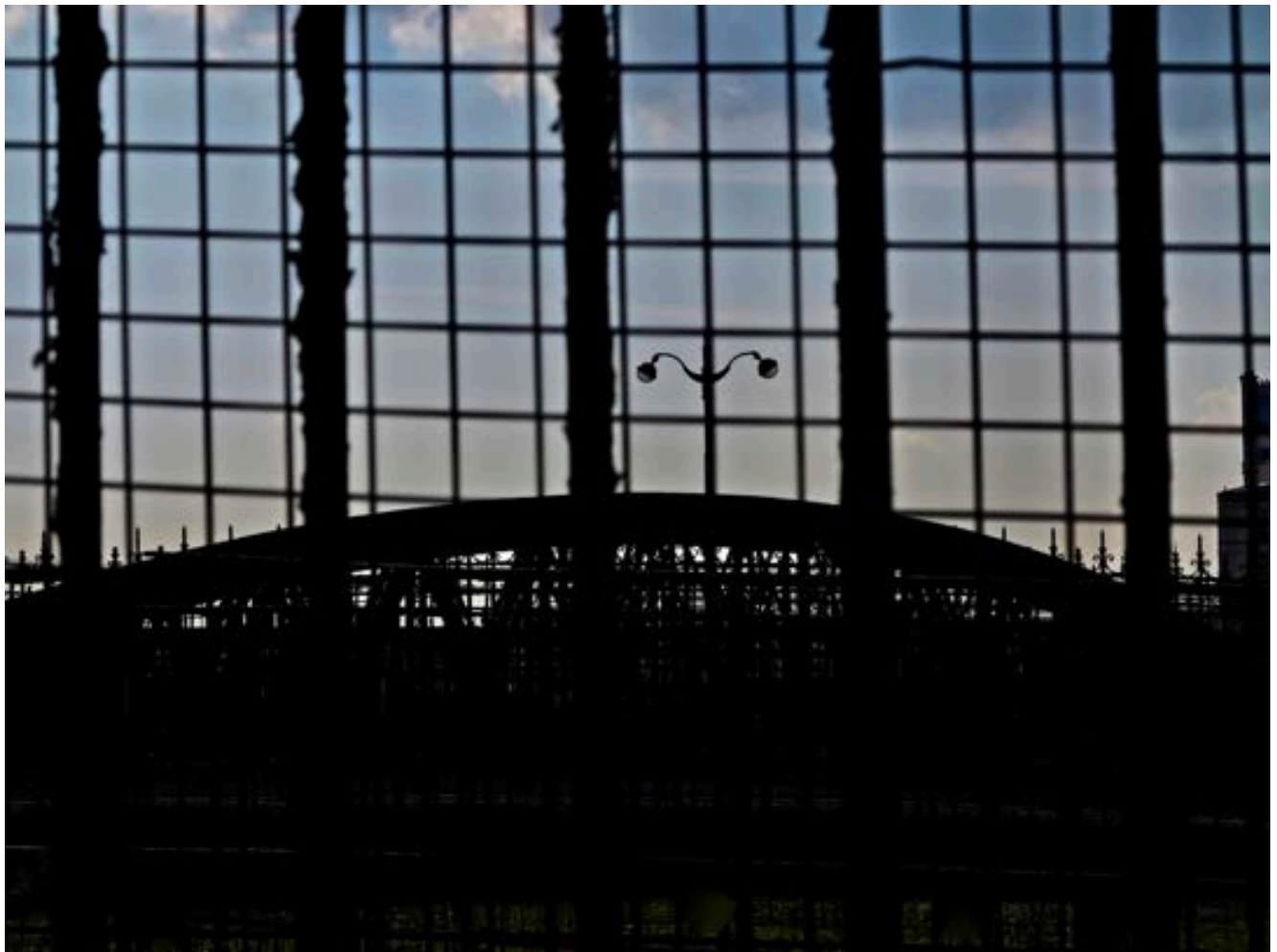








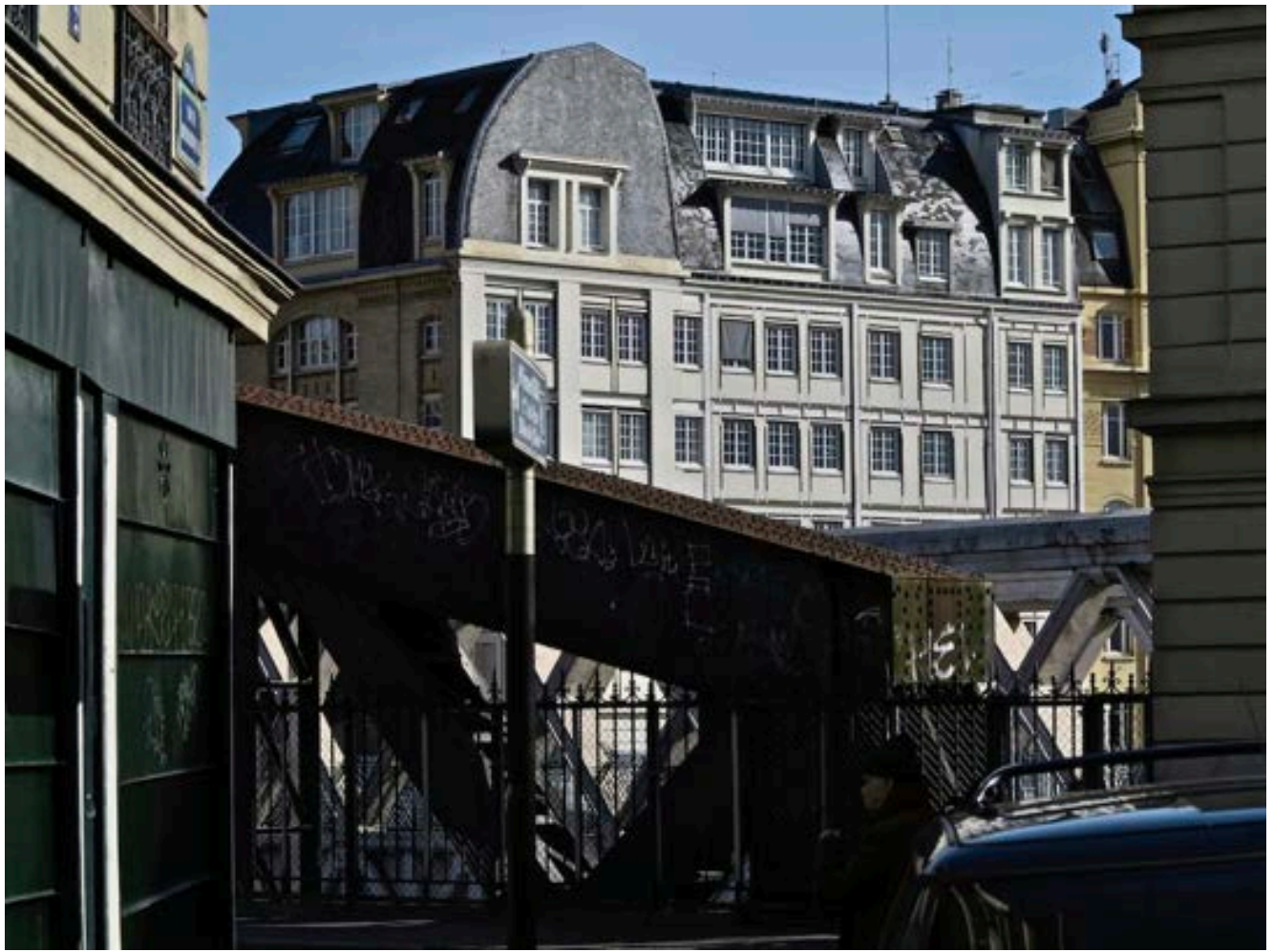


















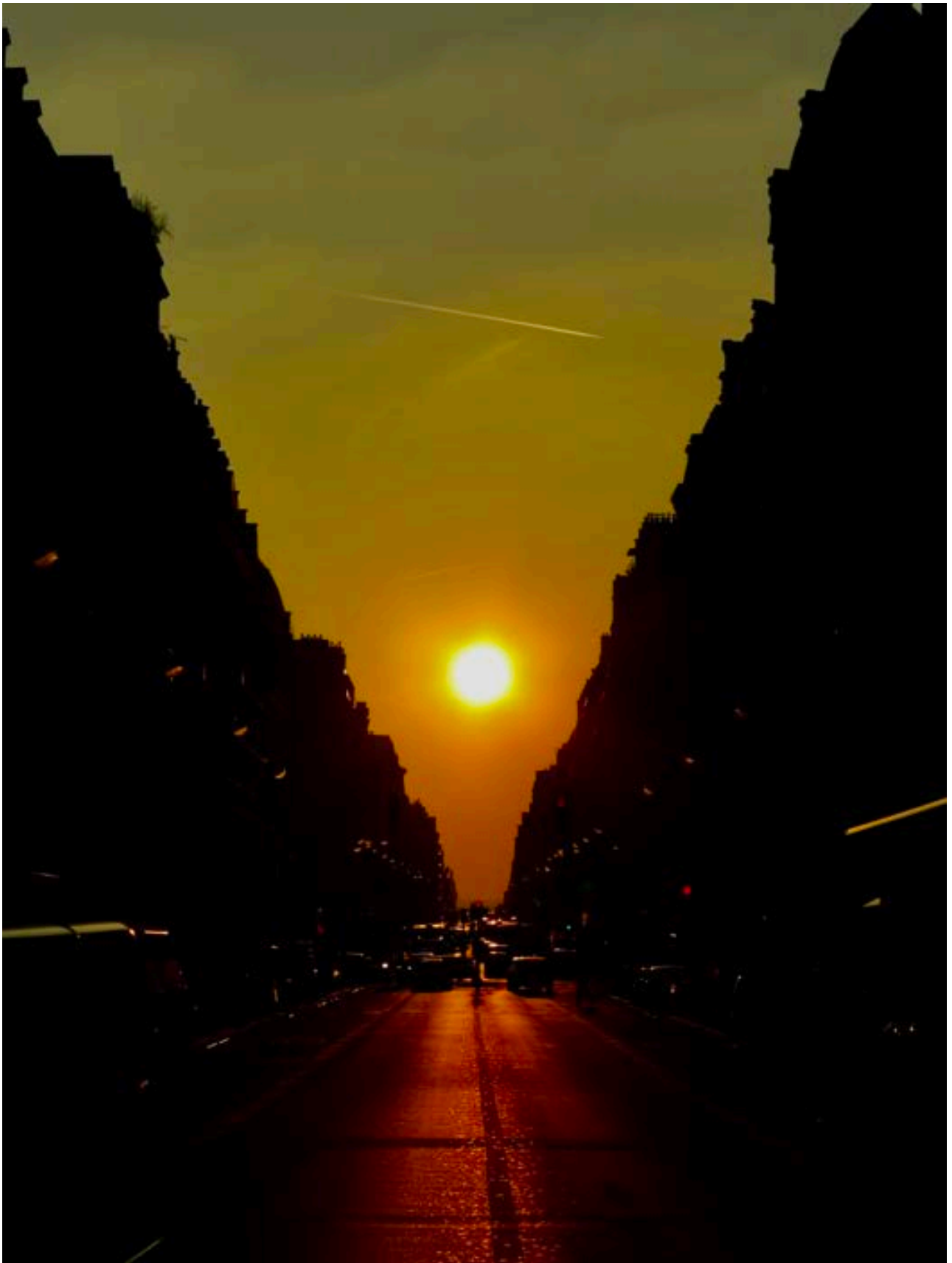




























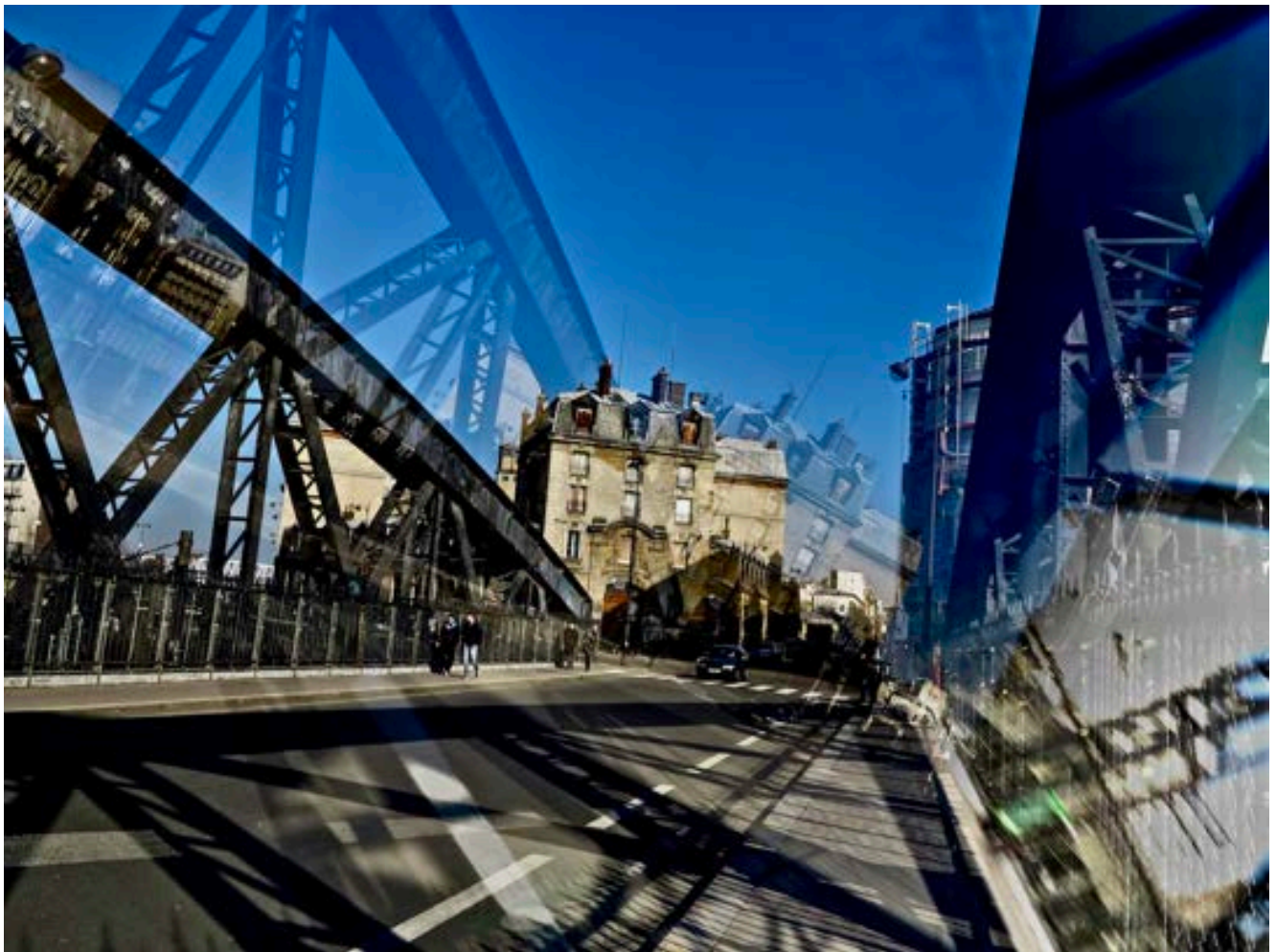
















Done.

Book One.

On The Bridge.

And some Paris.

Coming and going.

More on The Bridge  
and Paris coming this  
summer into fall and more  
new images will be taken later  
in fall this year, with a good chance  
that Paris will see me in spring 2025.

Hans Fleischner, May 2024, Vienna.

