

TAMED **DISSONANCE**

Grasping our tumultuous nature

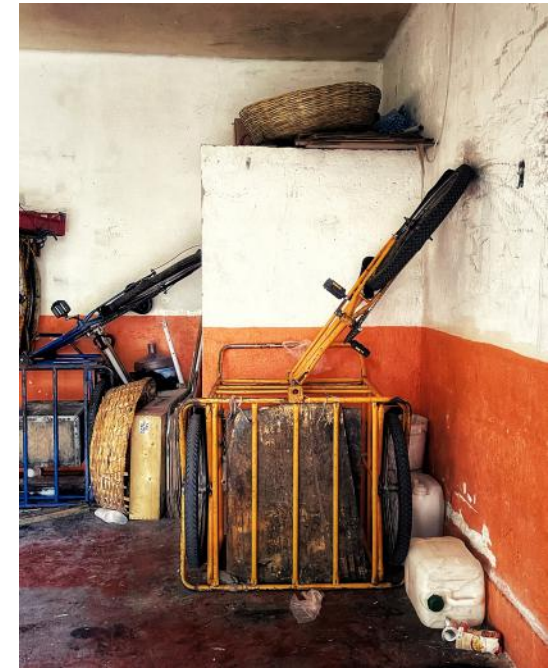
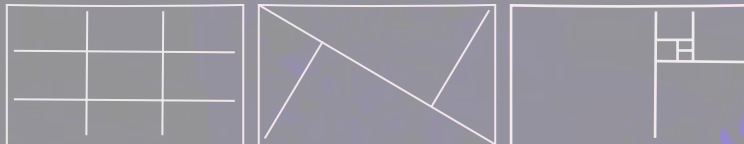


Marcelo **Guajardo** Davila

Background

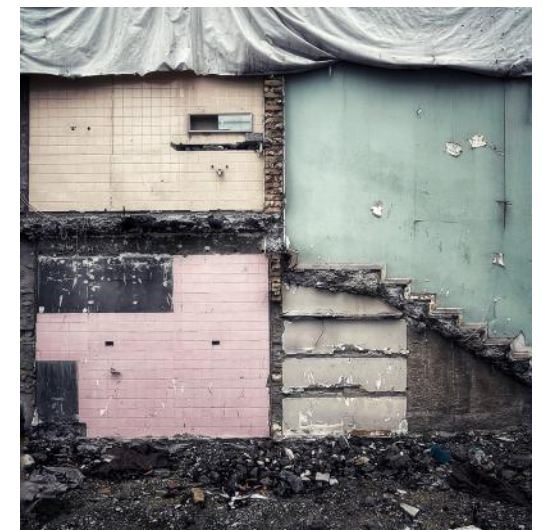
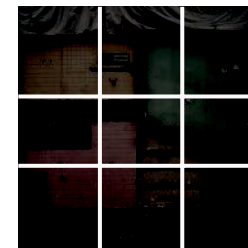
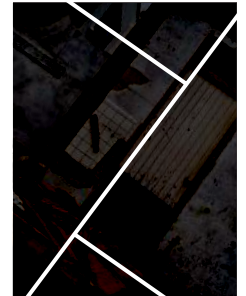
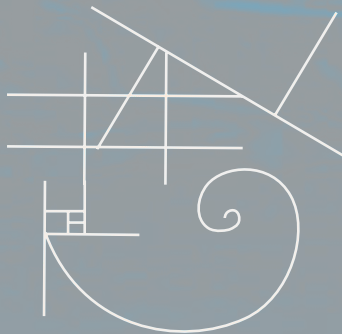
I've always been a curious person. I want to know how everything works, how people think, and how to do the things that others do. Of course, it's an impossible task, but that drive to learn and feel enriched is a sensation unlike any other, and I never want to stop chasing it. I've realized more and more that I'm deeply connected to my senses. I create, visualize, and observe the world around me, finding beauty in the small details that many overlook.

I've always been drawn to the stories that broken-down, neglected buildings or objects tell. They hold history, culture, and a depth of meaning that polished, renovated spaces often lack. In a way, I've come to see the beauty in the mess. Maybe that's what I'm meant to explore, the beauty that comes from chaos and imperfection.



Coexistence

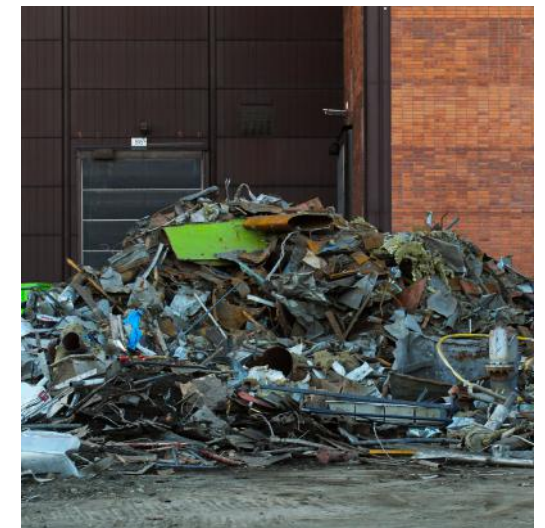
Could disorder be turned into an aesthetic and balanced composition? Humanity is inherently chaotic, where order and disorder constantly intertwine, one cannot exist without the other. Through photographic experimentation and overlapping images, I capture everyday chaos from our “new nature”, the human-made ecosystem of the city. Highlighting displaced objects and the rejection of what we deem “not beautiful.” This exploration is not just about self-acceptance of a disorganized mind but invites the viewer to observe, question, and embrace the internal or external beauty within disorder. Subtleties speak volumes, the displacement of objects, the segregation of what we collectively deem “not beautiful” ultimately mirrors a rejection of ourselves. What we are is not always what we show, and what we show is merely what is “acceptable”, turning us into fragments of who we truly are.



Coming to terms with disorder

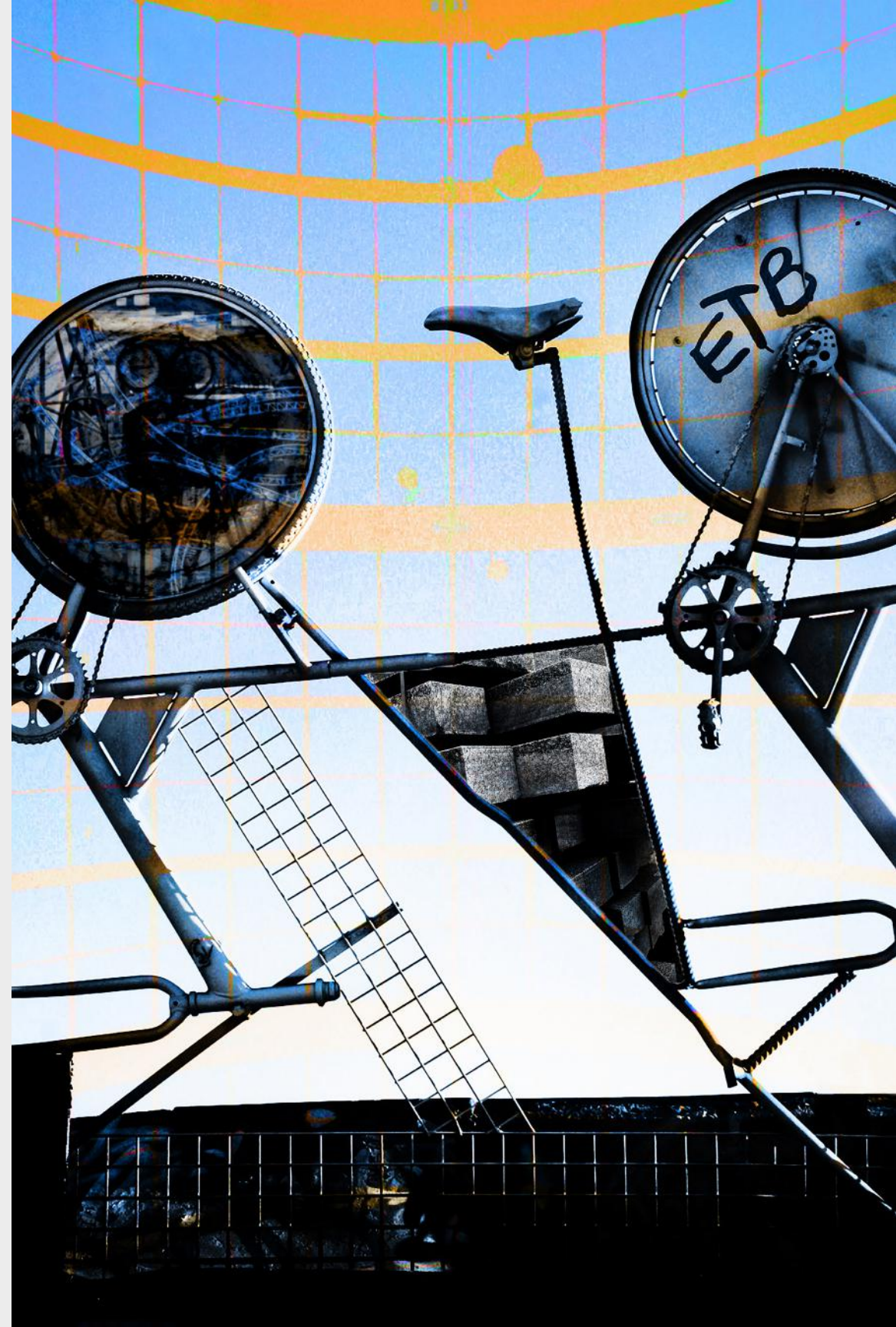
Is it that chaos, the random, and imperfection tell us more than we give them credit for? Is coming to terms with our own human chaos a better and deeper way of understanding ourselves and our species as a whole? Embracing uncertainty and the unknown is what makes us human. It's that very uncertainty that fuels curiosity and drives us to explore the world around us, embracing the mess.

The following project depicts 5 compositions from Helsinki in Finland, made through photographic experimentation and overlapping images, the everyday chaos from our “new nature”, the human-made ecosystem of the city. Featuring double-exposure photography and superposition, with one layer following composition rules while the other is raw and improvised, forming a complex yet cohesive narrative.



01. Arbitrary Tanglement

Why is the arbitrary and random so intriguing? Is it our most honest expression as a species? Why do we cling to the idea that everything must have a reason to be? Perhaps it is in our improvisation, in unexpected cleverness, that our true humanity reveals itself. Then, the arbitrary becomes irresistible.



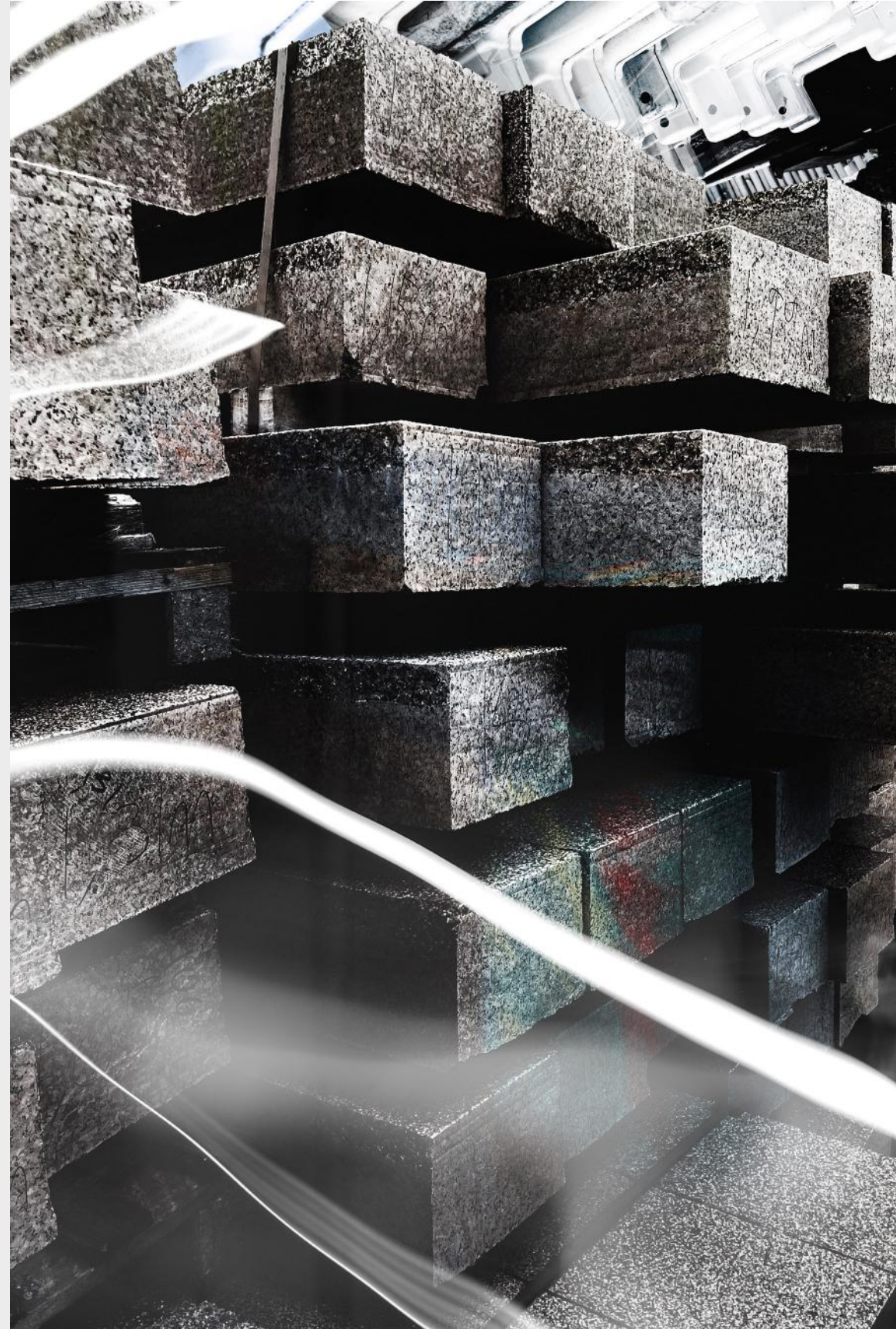
02. Dire Uniformity

Can a city as organized and advanced as Helsinki still have disorder? Is it as visible as in other places, or does it hide beneath the surface, something unspoken yet ever present? There is a certain pleasure in disrupting order, and even then, even turning the organized city upside down, disorder finds a way to form its own beautiful composition.



03. Traces of Light and Destruction

We don't just destroy earth's nature but also our own urban nature. Things stop having meaning after such a short time, so we destroy it to make new things, just to repeat an endless cycle again. Is this also a reflection of how we treat ourselves as humans?



04. Mundane Circles

What is mundane to us? The random, the taken for granted, what we look at every day but do not see. Could the randomness of our city's ecosystem become a portal to wonder and novel ways of seeing?



05. Ironic Blends

A merge of irony through an emblem of modernity, the Olympic Stadium tower, a symbol of order and progress, offset by an irregular tilt of Itakeskus' Maamerkki tower. A dialogue between polar opposites, exposing biased perceptions and stark contrasts between the neighborhoods, both framed against the oddly structured disorder of a nearby construction site.



Our nature...

Why am I drawn to the unplanned, the decayed, the “non-beautiful” because it is honest. This exploration is not just about self-acceptance but an invitation for the viewer to do the same. Embrace the beautiful mess, a mess that not only represents me but reflects all of us.

Why do we resist what is inherently natural? Overthinking, contradiction, uncertainty, mistakes, imperfection, why do we struggle to embrace what makes us human? Isn't it more significant to gain the wisdom to understand and accept the chaotic or difficult parts of our nature or life, rather than fighting against them? It's about embracing the ups and downs with insight and peace. To accept the chaos within us and in life itself, finding peace in that acceptance.

