



ADAM MAZEK

Diaries

11.2019 - p. 11



LOGO



- *Post „Logo“*

LOGO

I will start the second part of the November 2019 "Diaries" with a text about my logo. The photo above is the logo of my website and my creative activities. The first issues of "Diaries" and sets of images (such as "Negation of the End") contain the mentioned mark. The symbol of my work also appeared on a brochure available at my second art exhibition entitled "The Wall." You will find the logo of www.adammazek.com on the homepage and every other subpage of my blog. This has been happening since the very beginning of my website. It was then, after launching the site, that I decided that this photo was good enough to present as my logo. Why this particular photograph and not another?

LOGO

I remember "discovering" this photo while playing with my photos in Lightroom. When I saw it, I started to enjoy it like a child. I laughed at myself and at how I had captured this frame. The photo just appealed to me. It is very minimalistic. Moreover, this photo is the essence of my artistic activity. Why?

On the one hand, it depicts mundane reality. On the other hand, however, it is ambiguous. The photograph has an anthropomorphic quality. One can see a human face in it. Therefore, the image provided me with a lot of joy. It is a pleasure to look for such characteristic ambivalent shots amid mundane Warsaw reality. Walking, contemplating, and taking peculiar pictures on the streets is the core of my passion. Is a logo something I really need? Honestly, I don't know much about marketing in the broadest sense. However, my intuition tells me a photo is as suitable as possible to mark my artistic activity. Nevertheless, the fact is that it became a symbol of my creativity somewhat accidentally, spontaneously.



- Cover: post "Deadlines"; above: post "Maggie Reilly"

MAGGIE REILLY

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How come I know almost nothing about Maggie Reilly? At the same time, throughout my life, I have often heard her beautiful voice in songs played on radio programs. Three fantastic tunes of the title artist have accompanied me since the beginning of my conscious life. What musical pieces do I have in mind? "To France," "Moonlight Shadow," and "Every Time We Touch." All of them are sung by the Scottish singer.

Nevertheless, the author of the first two works is Mike Oldfield, whose name usually appears in these songs. This is probably why Maggie Reilly is not as well-known to me as other vocalists, such as Kate Bush (not to mention Madonna). The truth is that practically, it was Mike Oldfield who always appeared as a performer under two of the three mentioned songs, and Maggie Reilly's voice was the voice of Mike Oldfield's band. As of today, I don't know too many details about the history of their collaboration. The only thing I can say is that they performed extraordinary work together. The history of their cooperation is undoubtedly something worth delving into.

Nevertheless, the solo works performed by Maggie Reilly are also worth listening to. "Every Time We Touch" is one of the most magical songs I've ever heard. I recently saw a music video for this tune. The idea of depicting childhood in a symbolic, otherworldly way is excellent. The child's imagination and curiosity show a carefree, enchanting childhood full of puzzles and places to discover. Indeed, watching the child in Maggie Reilly's video, I probably saw myself at seven. I remember that I found the whole environment uniquely fascinating and exciting. Now that I am thirty-four years old, once again, I have the same childlike feelings and curiosity about my surroundings. Thanks to street photography, I can capture that curiosity for posterity. Thanks to Maggie Reilly, I remembered and realized that a child still lives in my heart, soul, and imagination. I intend to nurture this wonderful child in my mind, heart, and soul for the rest of my days.

Thank you, Maggie!

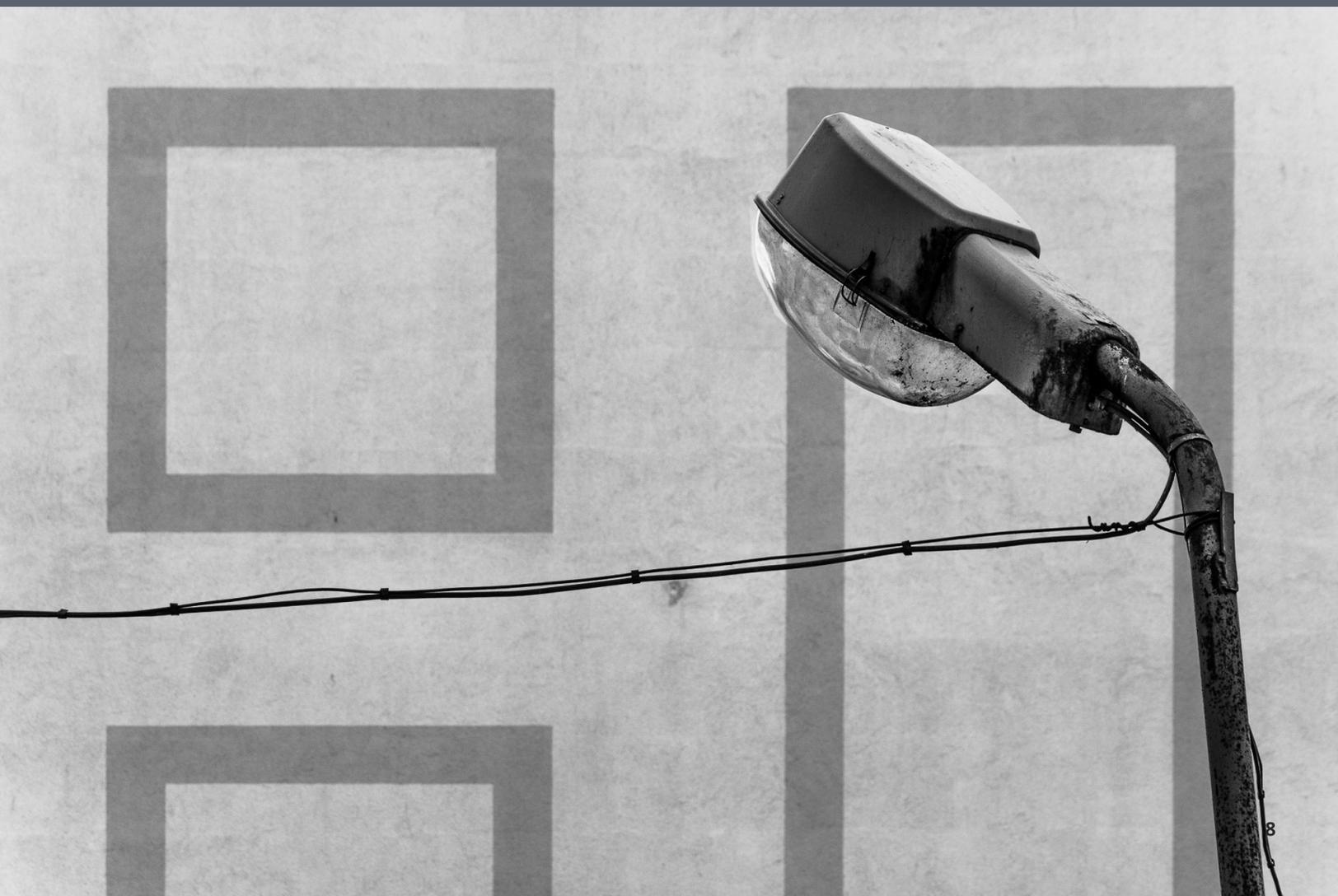


MAGGIE REILLY

TIME OF PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC CRISIS

From my photographic, artistic point of view, I consider both times of prosperity and economic crisis to be an appropriate period for taking photos. Why? Let's start with wealth. We have lived in good economic times in Poland for many years. The unemployment rate is at a record low. Many people have jobs and live at a decent level. There is no visible poverty in Poland as in the 1990s (the sight of beggars did not surprise anyone then). Today, the streets are safer. In my case, this is an essential factor. It makes it possible for practically anyone to play with street photography. Does this mean that if the streets were more dangerous, I wouldn't take pictures on the streets? I think I would still try to do it, but it would be more risky. Moreover, many new buildings are being built in times of prosperity. Many objects can be photographed (such as construction sites).

- Below and p. 9: Post „Time of prosperity and economic crisis”





TIME OF PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC CRISIS

In this way, we can play with documentary photography. Nevertheless, I think that the time of economic crisis can also be suitable for taking photos on the streets. Why? Buildings at this time deteriorate and become empty. Neglected and unoccupied buildings are excellent and graceful places to take pictures. I love exploring such areas. Does this mean that I am anticipating an economic crisis in Poland? No. I wish all people to have as few crises as possible in their lives.

Nevertheless, sooner or later, an economic crisis will occur in this world. Also, in my country. History proves that it is only a matter of time. However, I will not dwell on it today and worry about it. I prefer to focus on the here and now, being thankful that I was also allowed to live in times of prosperity.

SCIENCE AND ART



SCIENCE AND ART

In the subsequent text, I wrote about the relationship between science and art. The fact is that both disciplines over the centuries have walked and continue to walk inextricably and proudly toward the future. Science and art often share the same goal: to answer the question, "Why?" They also try to see the common points that connect humans and the Earth with the cosmos. There are many connections between science and art. Let me give you, my Dear Friend, just a few examples:

a) the Hubble Telescope

This magnificent device has taken many beautiful, breathtaking pictures for us. These seemingly fantastic images to this day appear like abstractions painted at the highest level. However, these photos are not fiction. They show us spectacular astronomical events through which we learn about the Universe.

b) Camera obscura

It is widely believed (among others, English painter David Hockney is one of the greatest believers in this theory) that all the paintings of Venice and Warsaw by Canaletto were created thanks to an invention called camera obscura. This invention is a natural optical phenomenon and the prototype of the camera. What is its essence? The image of a scene located on one side of a wall is projected through a small hole located in that wall as an inverted image on the surface opposite the hole. The room where the image appears on the wall "upside down" must be dark for the phenomenon to be visible. All such experiments had to be performed in darkrooms.

(c) Eadweard Muybridge's photographic work.

His photographs of horses captured movement dynamism in a way unknown to anyone in the 19th century. Muybridge pioneered the visual study of the physical movement of animals and humans.



SCIENCE AND ART

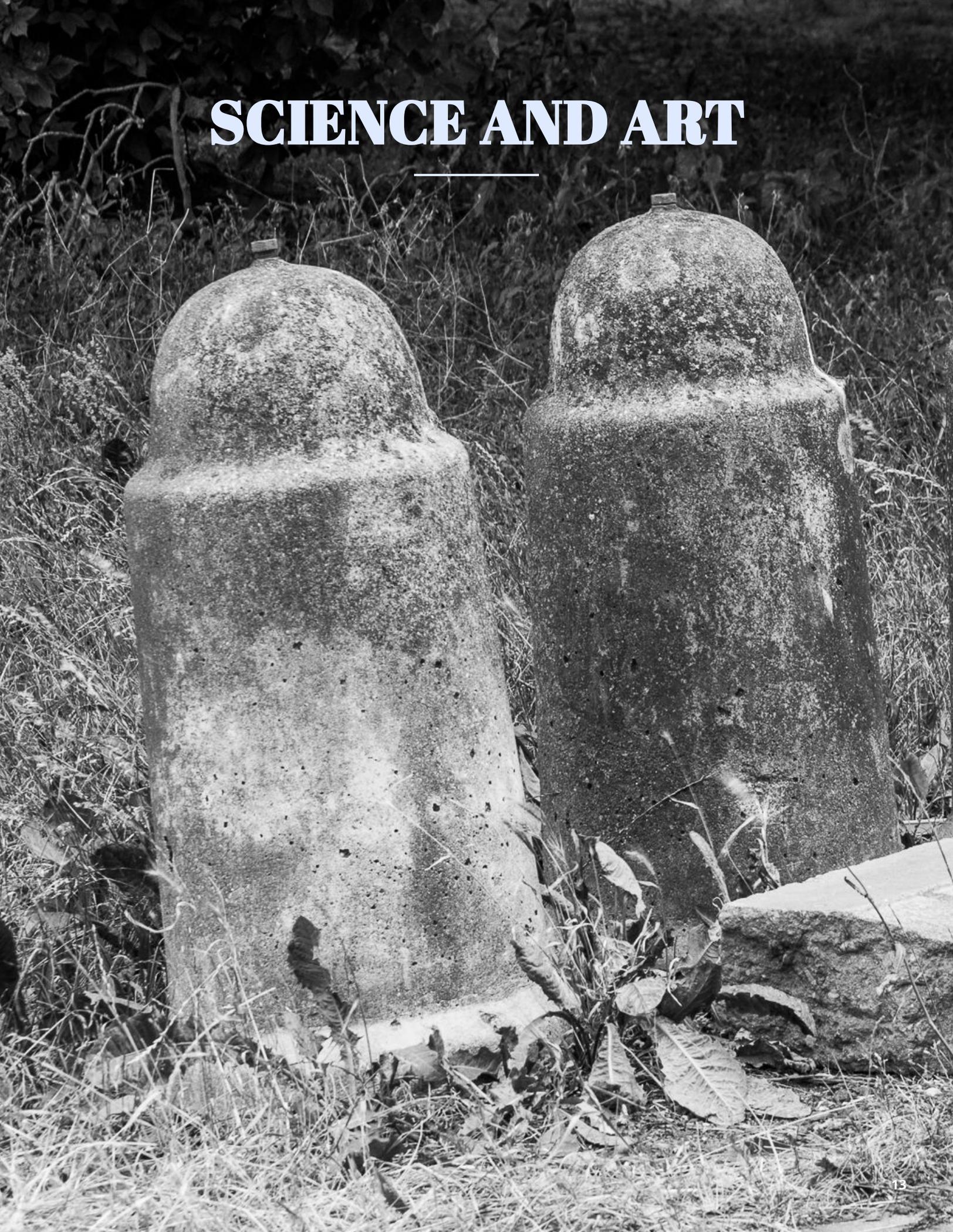
d) Leonardo da Vinci's artistic activities.

Da Vinci is one of those who combined science and art at an unprecedented level, practically inaccessible to any of us. Da Vinci worked for science and art, so he de facto inspired humanity, with scientists and artists at the forefront.

e) Photography is closely related to science.

That's it for today, my Dear Friend. What connections between art and science could you suggest to me?

SCIENCE AND ART



DEADLINES



DEADLINES

In the subsequent text, I wrote that deadlines are practically everywhere. We can find them in almost all aspects of our lives. I work as an accountant. I know the consequences of failing to meet deadlines for delivering relevant management reports, filing tax returns, paying taxes and salaries, or submitting financial statements. Meeting payment deadlines in the broader financial world is fundamental. Nevertheless, in running my blog, I wanted to avoid imposing any deadlines on myself. Why? I already had too many such issues in my office job. Running a website is supposed to be a springboard for me, a pure joy in which there will be no pressure. Has anything changed since I started blogging in September 2017? Yes. I decided to have deadlines for publishing "Diaries." I wrote the first edition of "Diaries" (published in September 2019, but it was about September 2017) in May 2019. Why? Because I was afraid I wouldn't meet the deadlines.

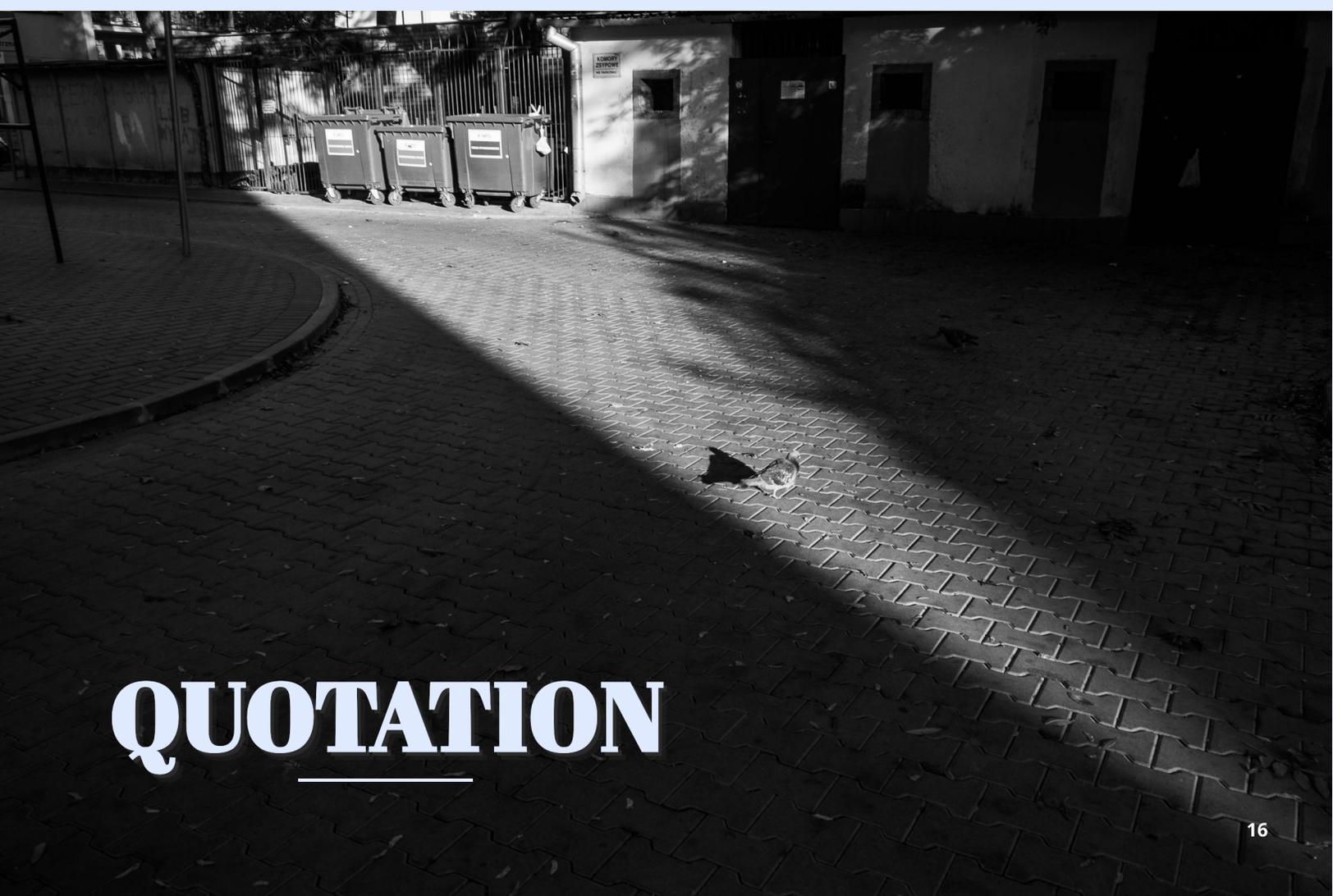
Why did you add more work to your daily routine when you didn't want extra pressure?

You could undoubtedly ask me, my Dear Friend. I did it because of the second anniversary of my blog. I decided that I would post "Diaries" on a regular, monthly basis. In short, I have added deadlines that I want to stick to monthly. Moreover, I have decided to publish "Diaries" in two language versions (Polish and English). In writing all this, I have given myself a lot of extra work. Sometimes, I'm afraid that I won't meet the deadlines. Will something terrible happen if this happens? Of course not. There will be no financial consequences. My beloved Kamilka and I will continue to live the same way as before. Therefore, I plan to publish "Diaries" every month without any pressure. If I do not meet the deadlines, the world will not collapse.

In conclusion, I want to emphasize that I will do my best to publish "Diaries" regularly. However, if I don't, I won't cry about it. The fact is that my inspirer, Fyodor Dostoevsky, did not publish his "Writer's Diaries" regularly.

It was an impulse. Nonetheless, I decided to add a quotation to one of the pages in the first issue of "Diaries" concerning September 2017. Who is the author of this quote? It's Iron Maiden, an English heavy metal band formed in the UK in 1975. Why did I decide to make such a move? It occurred spontaneously. In general, I try to avoid such things and write straight from my head. Nevertheless, I will present the content of the quote in free translation:

*When you know that your time is close at hand
Maybe then you'll begin to understand
Life down here is just a strange illusion*



QUOTATION

QUOTATION

This excerpts from a song entitled "Hallowed Be Thy Name." When I was preparing the cover, the words of the Iron Maiden song echoed so loudly in my head that I decided to add them to the e-book. Indeed, I often think of life as a strange, inexplicable illusion. Have I ever been close to death? No. I've never had trouble with illnesses or accidents. Nor have I ever wanted to commit suicide.

Nevertheless, I sometimes feel that being a young man, death was close to me because of the untimely end of my brother Marcinek's life. When my brother died at 13, I was 9 years old. I remember that my young imagination was enormously developed at the time. Undoubtedly, this event left a mark on my mind, soul, and heart. Now I know that the death of a Brother can't leave a trace in a person's psyche. Therefore, I feel that the song by the band Iron Maiden somehow accurately describes my feelings about life and death. After such a traumatic event that I experienced at the age of 9, I actually more or less consciously began to see life as an illusion. We don't know why we were born and why we all have to die. Generally speaking, human civilization has been searching for the purpose and meaning of life since ancient (or even prehistoric?) times until today. Will we ever know the answers? I doubt it. As usual, only questions remain without answers. Do we need to know the answers to all the questions? Apart from the fact that it is simply impossible, it seems to me that we don't need to know everything. The meaning of life, if we can talk about it at all, is to live in the here and now without analyzing the past or worrying about the future.

THE END
