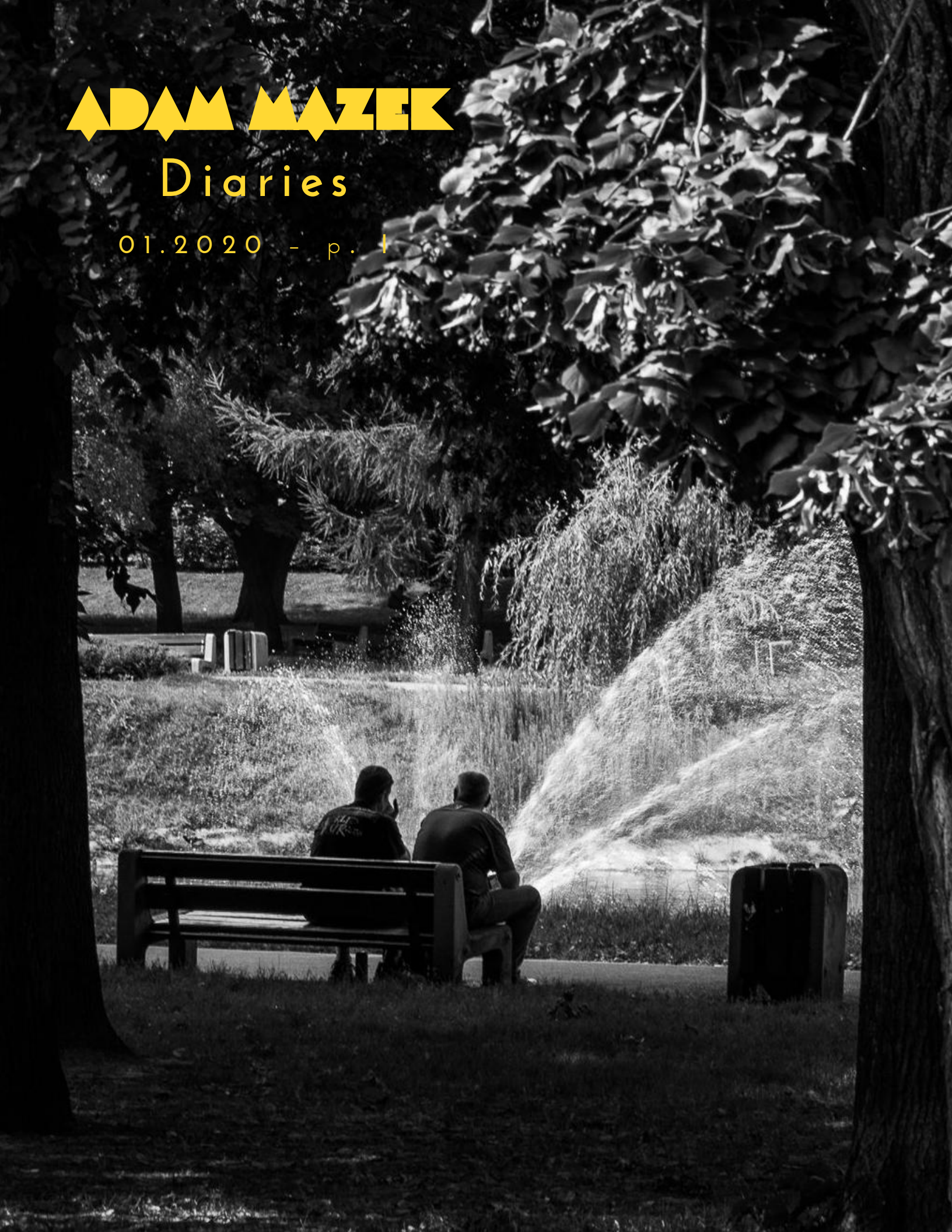


ADAM MAZEK

Diaries

01.2020 - p. 1





SELF-PUBLISHING

SELF-PUBLISHING

The first post in 2020 on www.adammazek.com was "Self-publishing." In it, I wrote that if you don't write and publish your thoughts yourself, my Dear Friend, no one will do it for you (assuming your name isn't Michael Jackson or Cristiano Ronaldo.). Undoubtedly, self-publishing is one of the critical elements to success in the broader arts. Have I already achieved my goals in photography? Yes and no. Yes, because I know people who admire and appreciate my photos and whom I have inspired. In addition, I have had two photography exhibitions. Another success is that I have sold several of my photographs.

On the other hand, however, I am aware that I still have a lot to do and that this is just the beginning of my creative adventure. For example, I am not yet recognized both in Poland and internationally. Is fame my goal? The answer is simple: no. The main goal is to inspire others and have fun. Self-publishing is one of the critical elements in this process. My blog and "Diaries" are great examples of how to self-publish your writings and photographs. If you write, take photos, or just want to share your passion, start publishing all of these things on your own and independently of everything going on around you, my Dear Friend. I cannot guarantee you that you will be financially successful. However, I am sure your family and friends will start looking at you from a different perspective. I hope they will support you in your passion. My beloved Kamilka, wonderful parents, family, and friends have always helped me. This is a great time to say to them: "Thank you!". Sooner or later, your loved ones will start talking about your passion with other people. This is how one of the most effective marketing tools works. We call it whisper marketing. Is sharing your content on Instagram or Facebook also self-publishing? I think it is. Nevertheless, I pay little attention to social media.



SELF-PUBLISHING

This kind of "self-publishing" standardizes virtually all works and necessarily limits the creators. I believe the key to broad success is being sincere in what you do and standing out from the crowd. Getting likes on Facebook or Instagram is an unsustainable, weak, mealy-mouthed success. Social networks are built on human vanity. In short, my Dear Friend, invest in your hobby and your website and start self-publishing on your terms. Don't waste your precious time.

PS

I recommend using Bluehost and WordPress if you don't know what services to choose to set up a website.



GOOGLE MAPS

GOOGLE MAPS

The second post I published in 2020 was called "Google Maps." The eponymous app will one day help me create a personal, visual map of Warsaw. The fact is that since December 2017, the Google Maps app has been recording my photo walks in history. As a result, I know that I will be able to match the images I took with the location of my beloved city. Do I already know precisely what such a map would look like? No. For today, I only have a general concept. However, I will immediately write any ideas on my smartphone if they pop into my head. I will send my thoughts written down on virtual paper as an email to myself with the title "b blog inspiracje." Through this process, I know that no idea will escape my attention in the future. I can return to my ideas from the past in a week, a month, or even years later. A similar thing happened with an idea about Google Maps. The idea to create a personal map of Warsaw using the eponymous application came to me during one of my photo walks. I immediately wrote it down. I returned to it a few weeks later and wrote the current text. This way, I know the idea will be preserved, even in the initial stage. The truth is that the global corporation Google gave me the idea not for the first time. My second photo exhibition, "The Wall," was inspired, among other things, thanks to Google. Google search results showed me how I could present some of my photos. Thanks to the Google Maps application, I am convinced that it is a matter of time before I will create a new work.

Another work published in early January 2020 was the January 2018 bilingual edition of "Diaries." The covers of these editions are at the very end of the current issue of "Diaries" (pp. 25-26).

The following two posts were sets of photos (in Polish and English versions) called "Earth Wars." The English version is on pages 18-24 of the current issue.



GOOGLE MAPS



WRIST PAIN

WRIST PAIN

I wrote about how practicing photography can bring a photographer a minor injury in a post called "Wrist Pain." I wrote this text on July 17, 2019. At the beginning of July, as I was walking and taking pictures on the streets of Warsaw, I noticed that my right hand's wrist hurt. This pain did not occur because of clicking the mouse from the laptop. Evidently, it intensified after each photo walk. You could ask me, my Dear Friend:

How is it possible that you walk a lot on the streets of Warsaw, and it is your wrist that hurts the most?

I would answer that since October 2015, that is, since I have been regularly practicing street photography, I have been constantly wrapping my camera strap around my right wrist. What kind of camera do I use? A reasonably heavy one that is a Nikon D90. Is this my first injury ever? Of course not. I mentioned in a previous post that I had an Achilles tendon injury in 2011. I acquired it while playing soccer. The injury was renewed in 2015. I have had chronic back pain since that year. Am I getting older, and is my body slowly getting weaker? Yes. The only thing I can do is go to the doctor. I can also do sports to make the whole process slower. What are the other conclusions of this text? Such that I certainly could not be a cowboy in the 19th-century Wild West. If my wrist hurt, I couldn't hold a heavy weapon in my hand. Secondly, ergonomics is essential not only in the office (properly sitting in front of a monitor) or on a construction site (properly carrying heavy objects) but also in passion. Take care of yourself, my Dear Friend. Pay attention to how you hold the camera in your hand. Pain can occur in almost any unexpected part of our body, even in the wrist, after frequent shooting.

PS

I published the above text on www.adammazek.com on January 4, 2020. Has anything changed about wrist pain since July 2019? Yes. I started holding the camera in my left hand more often. The pain disappeared over time.

PET SHOP BOYS



PET SHOP BOYS

Once again in, my life, YouTube algorithms have rediscovered another band for me, named Pet Shop Boys. More precisely, YouTube suggested three songs I had forgotten, performed by the Brits above. What are the names of these songs? They are "West End Girls," "What Have I Done to Deserve This?" and "Domino Dancing." After a hiatus of many years, listening to the works above was an exciting experience. I had heard these songs mostly on various radio stations throughout my life. Still, I had managed to forget that such excellent musical pieces existed.

What's more, all three songs have their own unique Pet Shop Boys-specific music videos. I also realized that the above works, like the Depeche Mode song "People Are People," are perfect for my photo walks. I love walking through the streets of Warsaw and humming the melodies of the abovementioned songs.

• Below: post „Pet Shop Boys“





PET SHOP BOYS

As for "West End Girls," one of the most interesting facts for me is that it was the masterful song by the American band "Grandmaster Flash," titled "The Message." "The Message" was the inspiration for the title band. The melancholy overtones of the British artists' work remind me of my photos. Even though it is a somewhat nostalgic song, its melody often brings an unimaginable amount of hope to my heart and soul. I can say the same about my photographs. Even though they can often be considered "sad," for me, they symbolize the pure joy of creating something out of nothing. On the other hand, the song "What Have I Done to Deserve This?" was performed by singer Dusty Springfield. Her voice is the perfect complement to the award-winning British synth-pop duo.

PET SHOP BOYS

An energetic song about love genuinely motivates me not to let go of my artistic passion and go through life with it. "Domino Dancing," on the other hand, is a song about frivolous teenage love. The melody is authentically catchy. In conclusion, if you are looking for melodies that will give you plenty of energy, Pet Shop Boys songs may be the perfect solution for you, my Dear Friend.



• Above: post "Google Maps"

SITTING



SITTING

I wrote about the fact that I don't like sitting and that sitting makes my spine hurt in a post titled "Sitting." Nowadays, many people have a similar problem. The fact is that many people work in an office. More and more people must sit forty hours (or even more) at work every week. I am no exception. Working in accounting makes me simply sit for a large part of the day. Since 2015, I've had regular back pain due to non-ergonomic sitting. I'm trying to get used to this pain because, as far as I know, most office workers have the same problem.

Nevertheless, I find that walking or swimming is an excellent escape from a sedentary lifestyle. I used to swim regularly for many years (2011-2018). This activity helped me in the fight against back pain. Swimming is much healthier and more relaxing than sitting. On the other hand, walking, contemplating, jotting down ideas and inspiration for future texts, and taking pictures on the streets of Warsaw have even more advantages than swimming. While walking, many concepts come to my mind. I can stop and write them quickly on my smartphone. Visual play, looking for peculiar sights and frames, and photographing them are other things I can do while walking. In this way, I capture my mundane reality for future generations. While swimming, I didn't have this opportunity. That's why I don't swim now. Walking and photography won out. While walking, the artistic joy and excitement in my blood are so intense that when I return, I have to lie down, preferably for a mini nap. Taking a break from everything for about twenty minutes gives a kick for the rest of the day. During this time, I avoid sitting as much as possible. I leave this passive activity to work in the office or sit in the car.

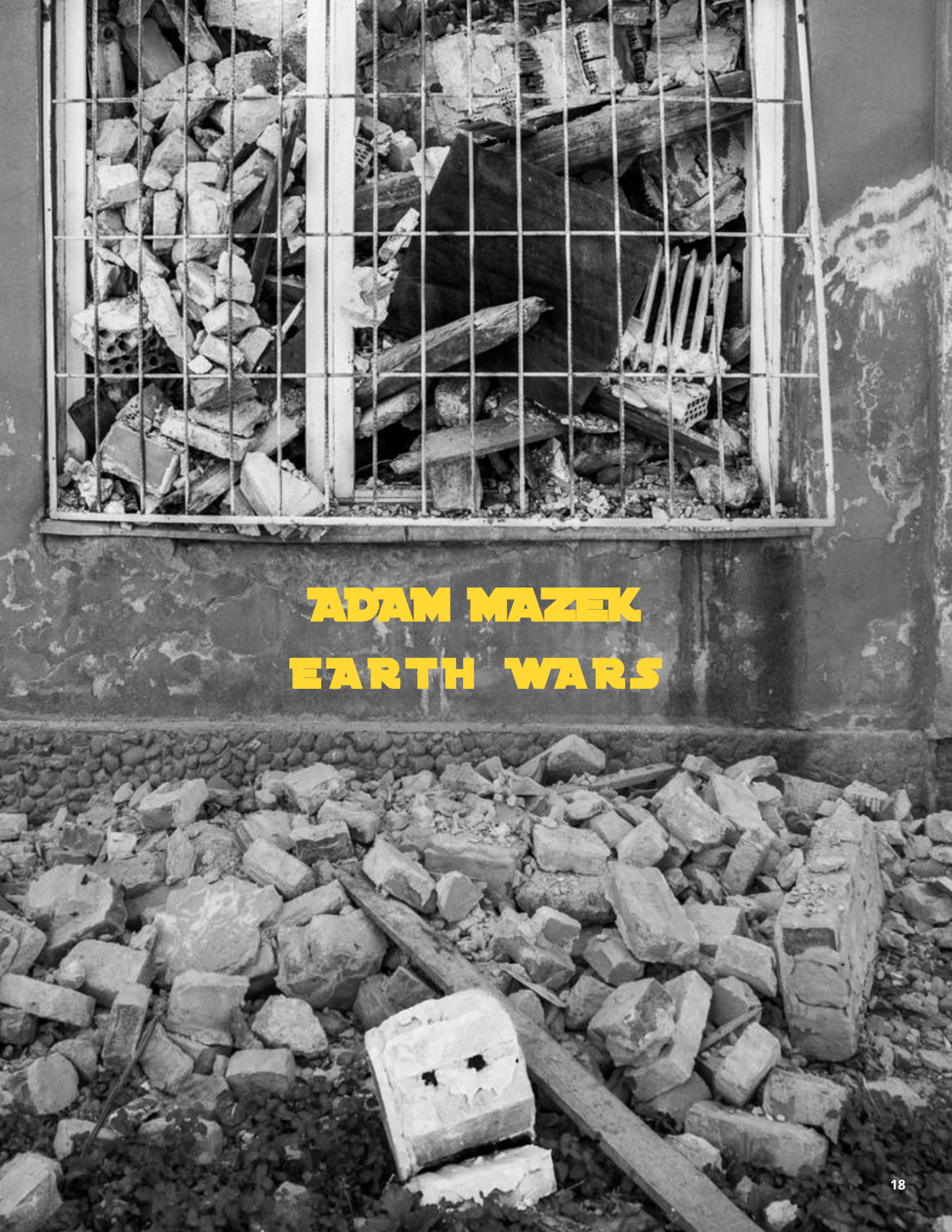


RUSH

RUSH

Sometimes, I don't know what world I live in. How is it possible that for the first 34 years of my life, I have not heard a single song by the Canadian band Rush? This is a band founded in 1968 that plays progressive rock. Songs like "Tom Sawyer," "Subdivisions," "Spirit of the Radio," and "Limelight" are fantastic rock songs that I listen to with great pleasure. They were released between 1980 and 1982. As I write this, I wonder why Polish radio stations do not play all these tracks on their stations. They were undoubtedly played in some broadcasts, but I don't know why I haven't heard anything about this band. Many legendary groups are playing progressive rock. To give a few examples: The Doors, Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, The Who, Deep Purple, Uriah Heep, and Jethro Tull. Ever since I can remember (I was born in 1985), the works of the bands above have often been played on Polish radio stations. Of course, I want to thank Polish radio stations for that!

Nevertheless, I don't understand why the works of the title band are overlooked. I was informed of the existence of Rush by an artificial intelligence called YouTube algorithms. This is not the first time this has happened. For example, one of my artworks, "The Wall," was also inspired by artificial intelligence. "The Wall" was shown at my second photography exhibition, which took place in Warsaw in May 2019. Artificial intelligence can, on the one hand, be a severe threat to humans. At the same time, it can give wonderful inspiration. Nevertheless, Rush proves that we can all receive incredible creative impulses from other people, led by musicians.



ADAM MAZEK
EARTH WARS

EARTH WARS

Before You is a January 2018 science-fiction short story inspired by the works of Stanislaw Lem, titled: "Earth Wars."

The Boxoids landed suddenly. No one expected them. They came out of their spaceship to make contact with human civilization.

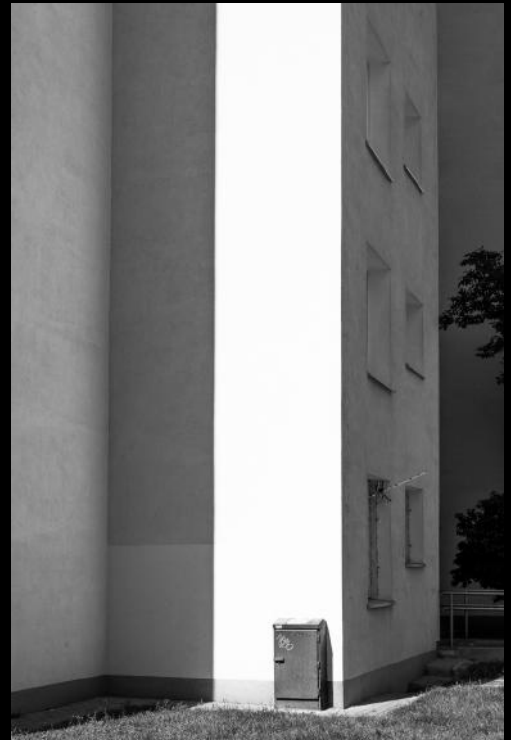


EARTH WARS

At first, they unsuccessfully wanted to make contact with material things, trying to imitate human faces.



**Suddenly, a stream of light focused on them.
No one asked anything.**



EARTH WARS

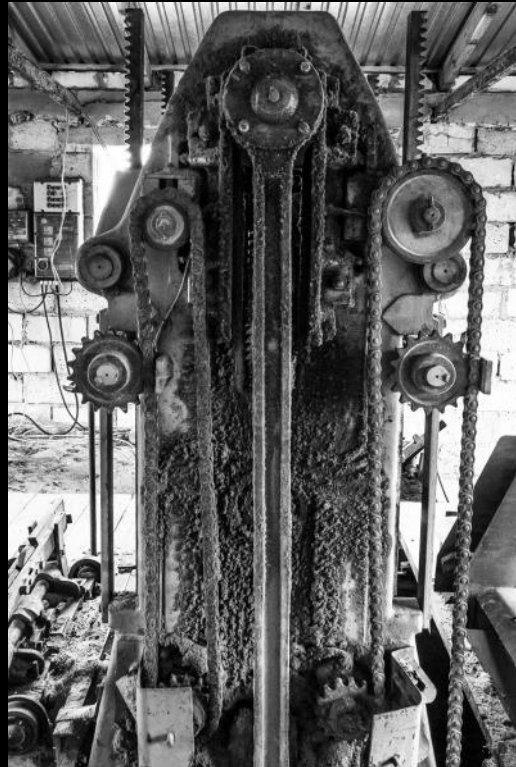
People started shooting. Some robots were damaged, others destroyed.



EARTH WARS



• Roboticon



• Xcom



• Reinforcements over the city

One of the rescued robots, named Roboticon, proved his courage. He summoned reinforcements to rescue the survivors thanks to a highly specialized device called Xcom. Roboticon succeeded in saving the mission.

The Boxoids completed their mission, destroying three human cities.



ADAM MAZEK
EARTH WARS

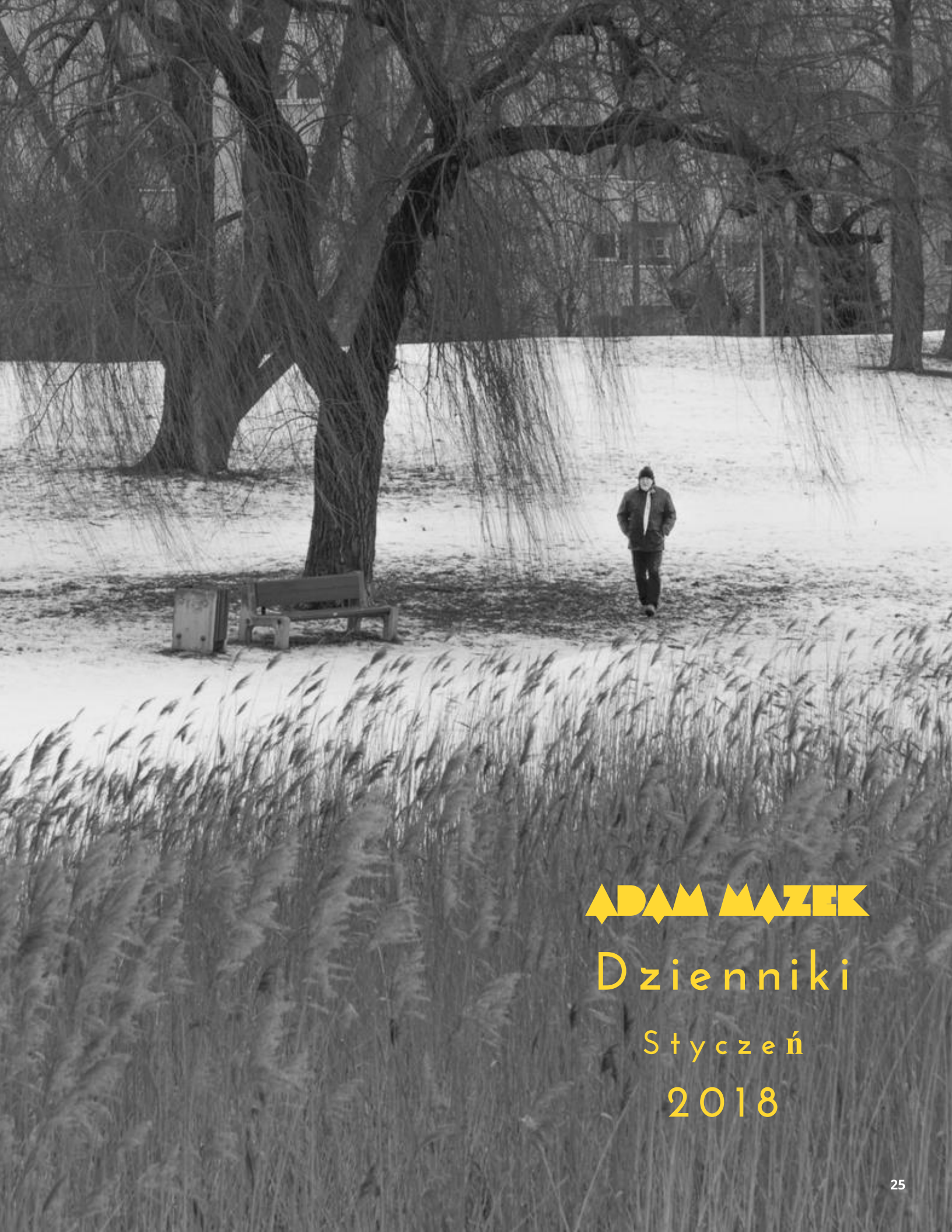
EARTH WARS

It was the only confirmed contact between humans and a space civilization. One report, prepared by Boxoids, describes the clash with humans as worthless and useless. Xerox, the commander of the spacecraft that came to help, described Earthlings as "aggressive, stupid, strange, made of water creatures." He categorized Earth as "a small piece of stone, located somewhere in a wild, unexplored corner of the Universe." A lost Boxoid spacecraft that accidentally landed on Earth wanted to ask for directions back to their galaxy. Their navigation system had malfunctioned. Commander Xerox wrote in his recommendations to other Boxoid spaceships that they should avoid this part of the Universe. It is nonsense to upset the limited and confrontational humanoids. The human race will not understand the processes that govern the Universe, and their bloodthirsty behavior is the only thing they can give to other highly developed space civilizations.

THE END

- *Kseroks on the battlefield*





ADAM MAZEK

Dzienniki

Styczeń

2018



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Diaries

January

2018