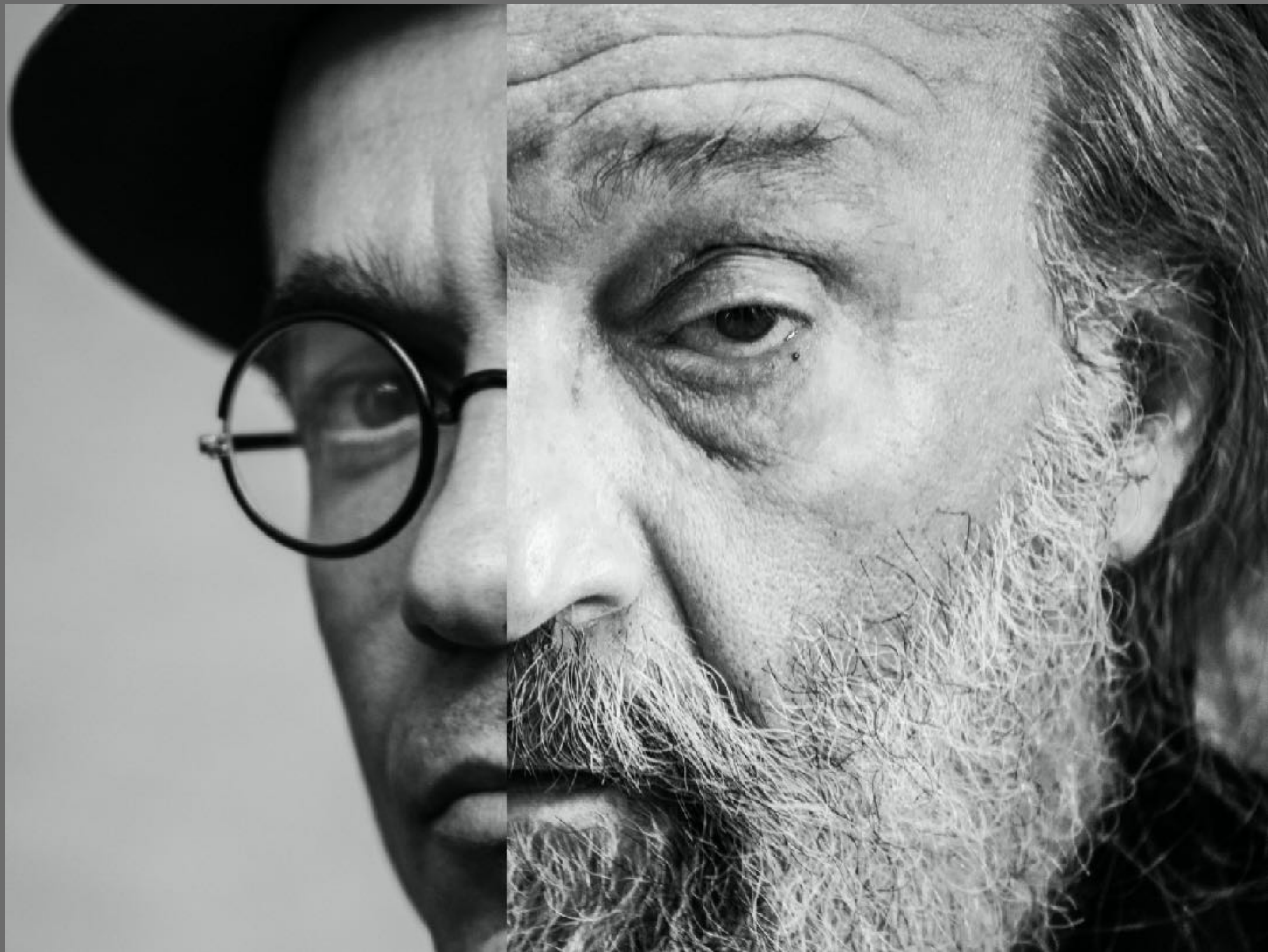


Valya Korabelnikova

Backstage and portrait photographer





Romeo Castellucci
theatre director

Anatoly Vasiliev
theatre director

Backstage photography

DAU release

Paris, January — March 2019

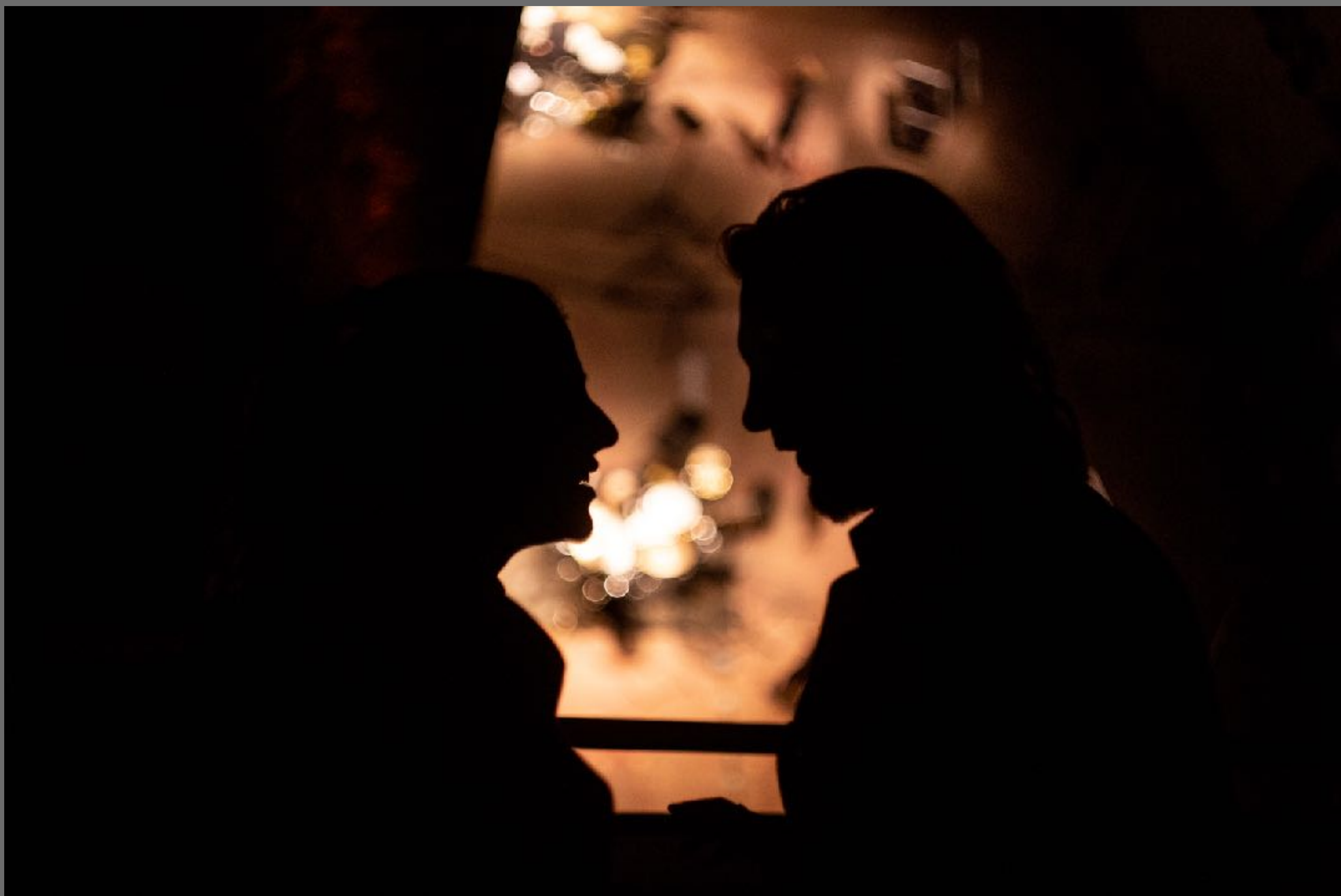
From the beginning of the installation to the end, Valya worked as a backstage photographer in Théâtre de la Ville and Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris for the release of the *DAU* project by film director Ilya Khrzhanovsky. The event was covered by the New York Times, Guardian and media across the globe.

The DAU Paris world premiere was a round-the-clock “immersive experience” lasting a whole month that featured 14 cinematic films, 4 series, and 1.5 million photographs, as well as visual and audio installations, performances, live concerts, academic conferences, shamanic rituals and more. Such artists as Marina Abramovich, Romeo Castellucci, Peter Sellars, Brian Eno, Teodor Currentzis appeared in the films and at the event, where they produced unique artworks and performances which Valya captured on film.

The set design inside Théâtre de la Ville and Théâtre du Châtelet was both contemporary and Soviet. Experiences ranged from psychological and intellectual to physiological and spiritual. At Centre Pompidou, a Soviet apartment was recreated, where scientists from the secret Soviet “Institute” — the set of the *DAU* films that began shooting in 2011 — would live 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Théâtre de Ville, main stage



Théâtre de Ville, main stage auditorium





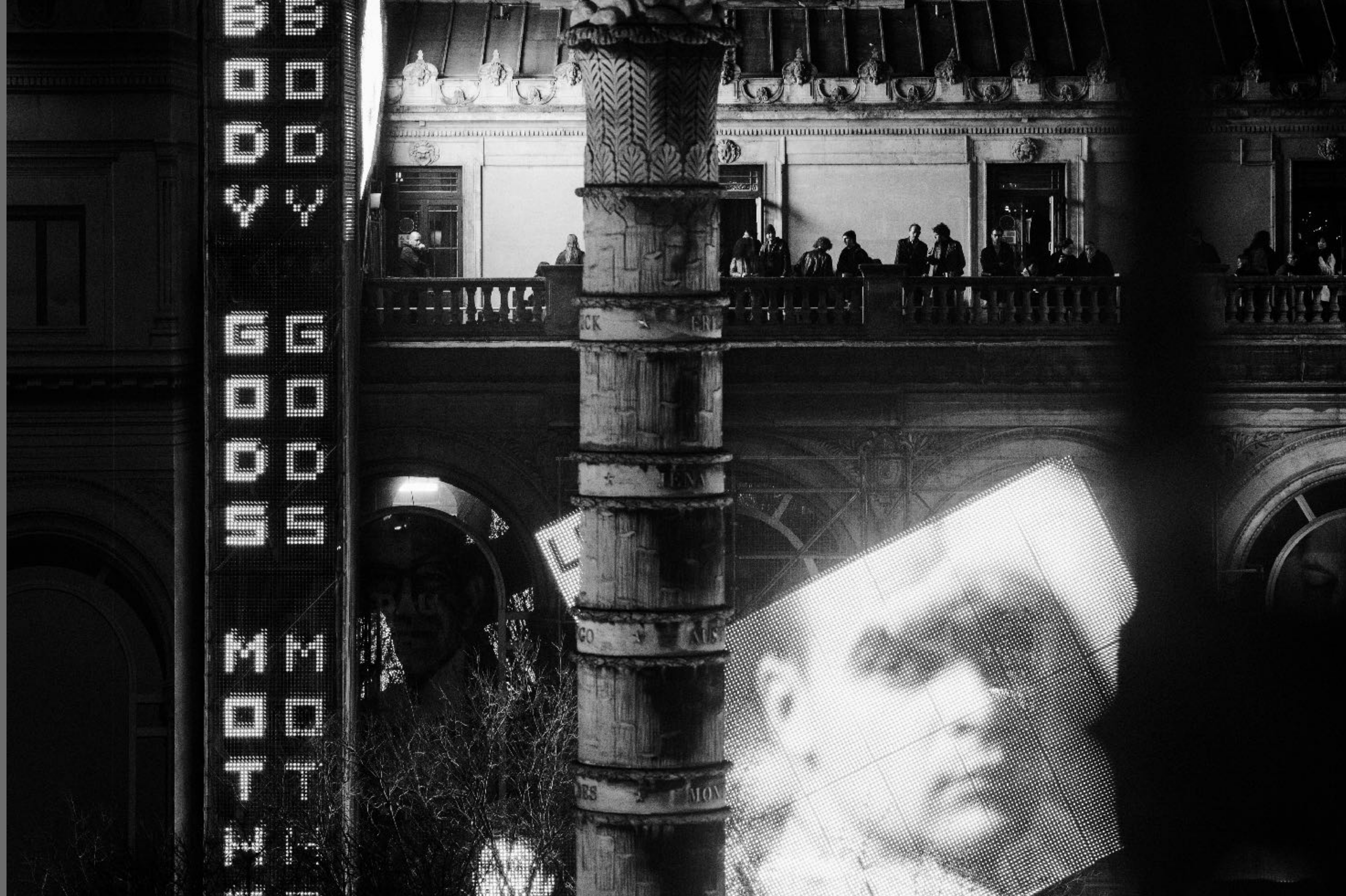
Théâtre de Ville, main stage auditorium





Francois Marie Banier

French novelist, playwright, artist, actor and photographer



Video installation on the facade of Théâtre du Châtelet



Gennady Burbulis
Russian politician. Drafter and signer of
the agreement of the USSR dissolution



German artist **Carsten Höller**
taking part in a shamanic ritual



Yann Toma
French contemporary artist, researcher and artist-observer within the UN



Member of audience



Ilya Khrzhanovsky
film director

Alex Poots
CBE, artistic director of The Shed in New York City



DAU

London

Valya worked from 2014 till 2019 as a backstage photographer, taking pictures of everyday life and work process in Dau Studio in Mayfair, London.

The entire building in 100 Piccadilly was converted into a secret post production studio, where, in addition to daily work, installations and performances took place. The studio has become an attractive location for underground culture in the center of London.



Jürgen Jürges
german cameramen



Ex-presidents of Ukraine **Leonid Kravchuk** and Belorussia **Stanislav Shushkevich** are watching films in the cinema at DAU studio at 100 Piccadilly



Linda Cook
professor at Brown University,
and associate of the Davis Center at Harvard University

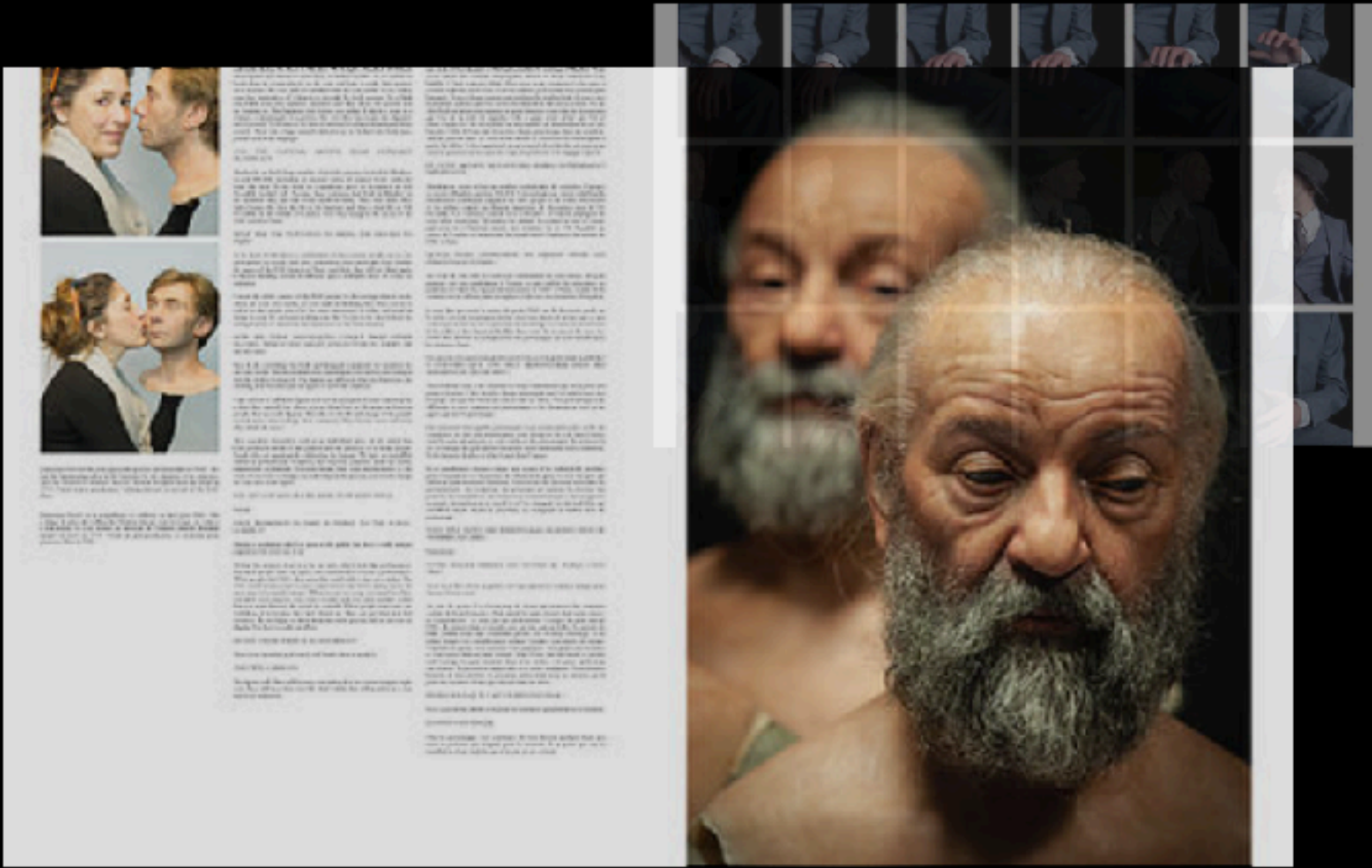
Neuroscientist **James Fallon**
professor of psychiatry and human behavior.
He has categorized himself as a "pro-social psychopath"



Mannequin workshop

Sculptors and artists from Madame Tussauds made sculptures of *DAU* characters and transformed them into mannequins.





Valya's photographs were an integral part of *DAU* newspapers, published for the release in Paris



Denis Shibarov's studio

Moscow, 2021

Valya was invited as backstage photographer to document studio life and document art objects in the making.

Denis Shibarov is an artist, painter, sculptor and illustrator.

Shibarov has worked as Production Designer on a wide range of films, including *977* by Nikolay Khomeriki; *Everybody Dies but Me* by Valeriya Gai Germanika; *Bulgarian Lullaby* in the *World Lullabies* project by Elizaveta Skvorcova; amongst others. In 2013-2014, Shibarov created the visual concept for the *Stone Nest Theatre*, London.

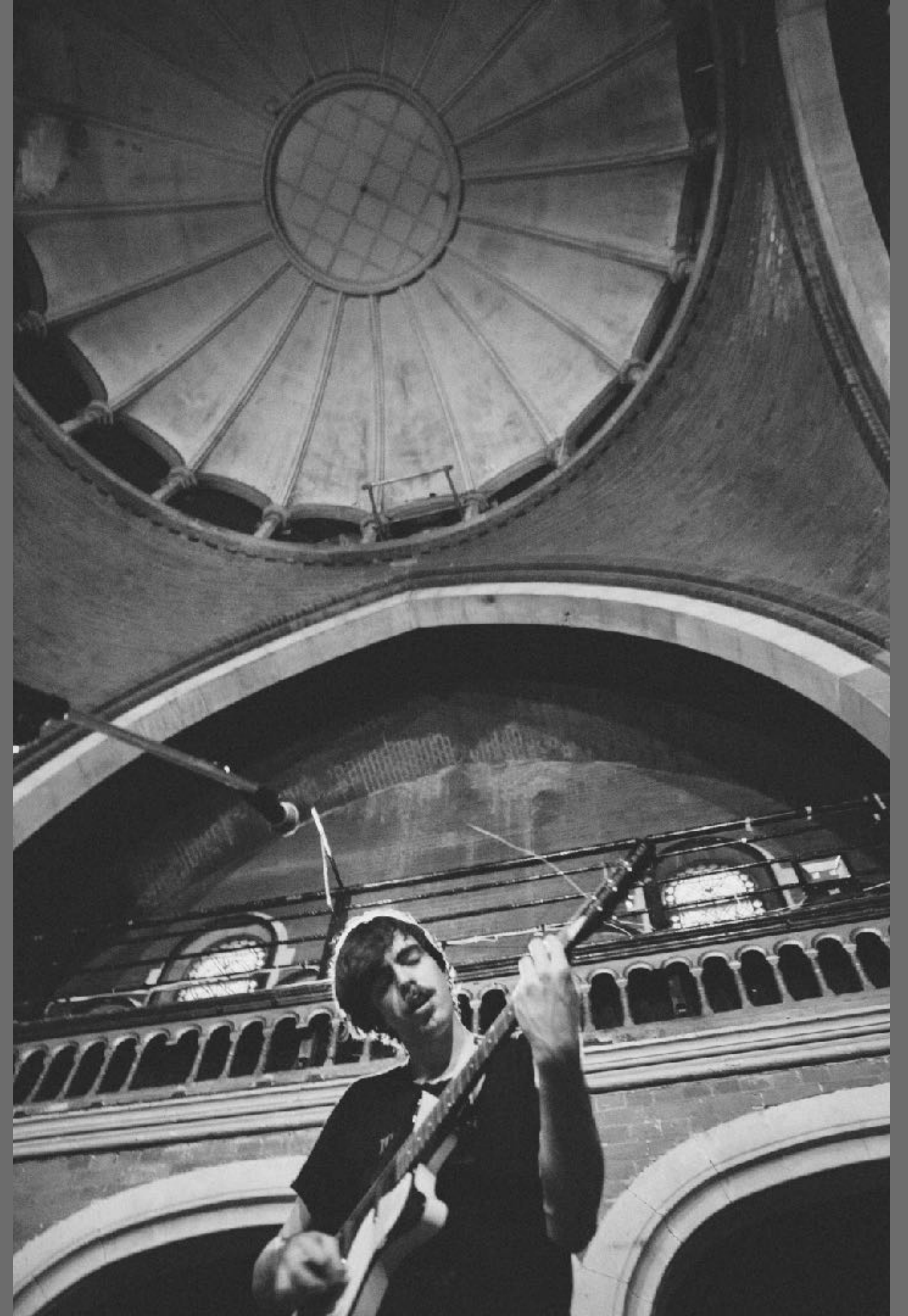






The Children of the Pope
London, 2020

Valya was invited to take pictures of a young London rock band during their rehearsals in an extraordinary rehearsal space in Soho.



Iguana Studios
London, 2021

Valya took backstage photos during musicians'
recording sessions.





Art school Sambation

Moscow, 2021

Sambation is non-formal education teen art camp where Valya was a backstage photographer for a week.







Morbid Books

London, Margate, 2021

Valya was invited to make a visual interpretation of one of the publications.

"If Burroughs was alive today, he would be publishing with Morbid Books." — Jeremy Reed.

Morbid Books is an independent publisher founded on the principles of Surrealism in the 21st Century. They print editions of books by underground legends as well as satirical pamphlets, clothing and the annual *A Void* magazine.







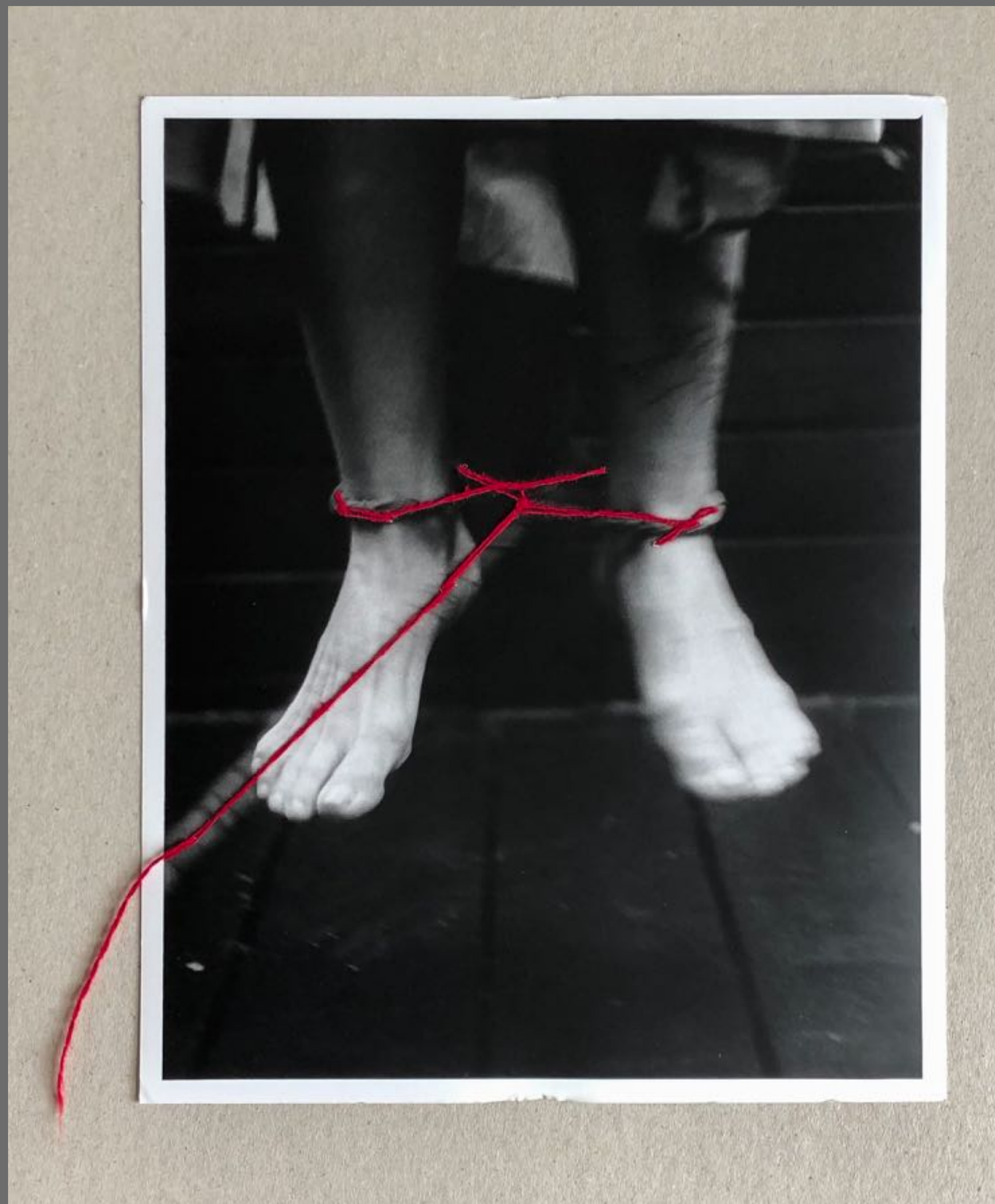
Dissolution, artist and her painting

London, 2021

Indian artist Anna Sebastian makes large-scale Surrealist paintings that contain complex allegory and symbols.

Valya used her camera to explore the relationship between the artist and her works. The painting becomes the background, and Anna, dissolving in her painting, becomes the main part of it.





In conversation with Spirits

London, work in progress

Valya has been working on this project from autumn 2020, examining spiritual beliefs and her relationship to them through photography.

Valya came to believe that the death of another person should have a ritual. Nowadays this ritual has been lost for non-religious people's lives and it has not been replaced by anything, for example unlike confession or birth.

Does the body just dissolve forever and only memory remains? Why am I doing, whatever I do, if I die forever? The question of death is always directly related to the question of life. Through the relationship of different cultures to the afterlife and death, Valya builds her own, using photography as a tool.

Cave painting in prehistorical time has many drawings of different things, but human hand prints are very common for different regions. Likewise, the burial posture as an embryo.





Churinga is a sacred stone among the aborigines of Central Australia. They are considered so sacred that only a few can see them. This stone is placed in the grave of the person to whom it belongs. More than 50 churings were made for the project.

In between of the lockdowns

London, 2020

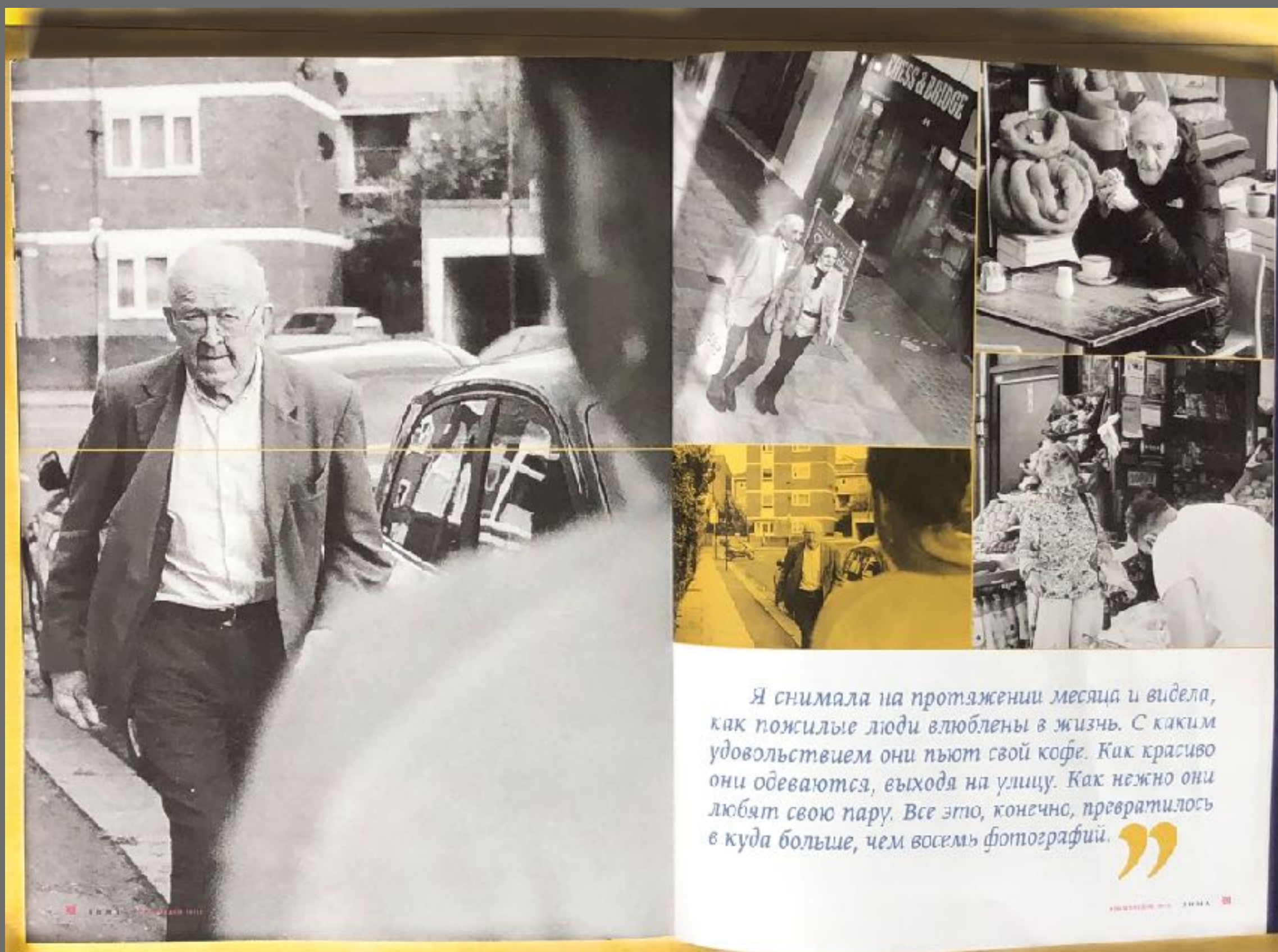
The first thing Valya noticed about “lockdown” that began in 2020 were the older people. She decided to explore their lives through her Russian film camera Zenit, the image of which is technically familiar to us and unconsciously sends back to the time when these people were young. The camera of their youth. At the same time, this is a kind of “Russian view” of in-between-quarantine London.

She filmed for several months and saw in older people the human spirit’s innate desire to survive, and its love of everyday rituals and habits. With how much pleasure they drink coffee in a cafe. How they dress when they go out. How dearly they love their partner and friends.

These observations turned into a series of photographs which won 1st place in the Zima photo competition.







The series was printed in **ZIMA Magazine Special Issue**
A guide to life in the British capital "OUR LONDON", 2020

Valya Korabelnikova

Backstage and portrait photographer, filmmaker.

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Biography

Valya Korabelnikova has documentary and experimental filmmaking background. In her works she concentrates on seeing the spiritual in the ordinary. She explores how our daily life is connected with our subconscious and dreams, how reality and fiction are inseparable from each other.

In the persistent uniformity and indifference of the modern world, Valya values reflecting what is personal and sincere in every project. Each is a result of a careful choice from a variety of different photographic techniques, rare lenses, and hand-printing techniques, that are selected to reflect the projects' unique nature and atmosphere.

Professional experience:

2011 - present - leading cinematography teacher in non-formal education teen art camp Sambation, international

2020 - 2021 - editor of documentary film *Forgotten songs* about tribes and their beliefs in Amazonia rain forest. Deepforest, London

2019 - 2020 - photographer, videographer. Zima Magazine, London

2014 - 2019 - assistant director, photographer, videographer. Project DAU, London

2013 - 2014 - Senior videographer, editor. V2B production, Moscow

2009 - 2013 - VFX artist, film editor. Mosfilm (Ego Production), Moscow

Publications/clients

Any Segment, UK

Carlos Ishikawa Gallery, London

Dau Paris réalise newspaper, Paris

Freulein Magazine, Berlin

Gift of Life charity, London

Morbid books, UK

Melscience, UK

Phillips gallery, London

Node records, UK

Rachel Portman, UK

Zima Magazine issues 9,10,11, London

Selected awards

1st place in Zima Photo Competition, London

Photo Oxford festival “Women&Photography” (nominated)

Sam Ivin Photo of the month

Berlinale Film Festivale: Silver Bear for *DAU. Natasha*