



WEEK OF  
LIFE

WWW.WEEKOFLIFE.COM

2ND ISSUE



LIFE ON **EARTH** THROUGH THE EYES OF ITS INHABITANTS

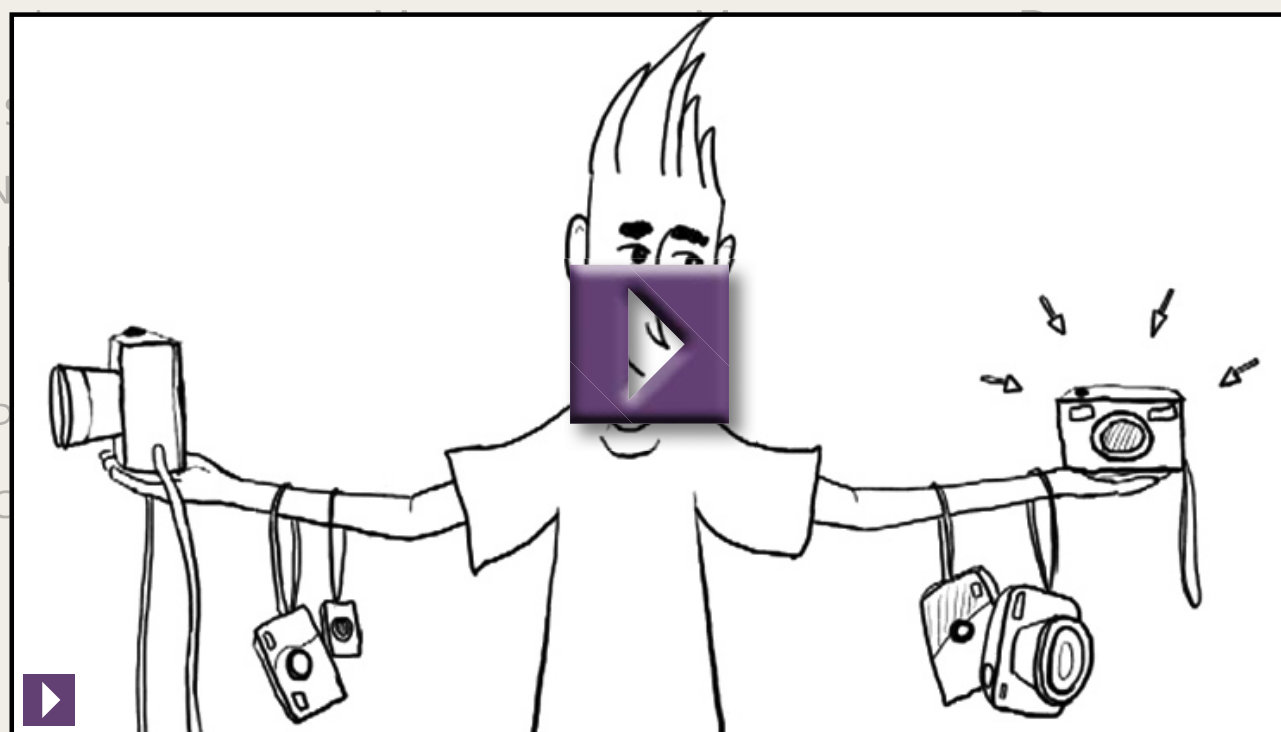


TOMAS LOEWY'S  
**BURNING MAN**

*Jan Sander*  
**INTERVIEW**

ACCOUNT MANAGER ACTRESS ANALYST  
 ARCHITECT ARTIST ASTRONAUT BAKER  
 BANK CLERK BARTENDER BUILDER BUSINESSPERSON  
 CAMERAMAN CIRCUS DIRECTOR COIFFEUR ENTERTAINER  
 COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST COMPUTER PROGRAMMER  
 CONSULTANT COOK CRAFTSMAN CUNYAN  
 DESIGN ENGINEER DESIGNER DRIVER  
 DTP OPERATOR ECONOMIST EDITOR ENGINEER  
 ELECTRICIAN ENGINEER ENTREPRENEUR  
 FARM DIRECTOR FLEET DRIVER FOUNDRY WORKER  
 DIRECTOR FREELANCE ARTIST GARBAGE MAN GRAPHIC  
 DESIGNER GUIDE HAIRDRESSER JOURNALIST  
 ILLUSTRATOR IT IT EXPERT JOURNALIST  
 LAB TECHNICIAN LANDLORD OF A PUB LAWYER

**JOIN US AND SHARE  
 THE STORY OF YOUR LIFE  
 AMONGST A THOUSAND  
 OTHERS. LET'S CREATE  
 AN INCREDIBLE PIECE  
 OF ART TOGETHER.**



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Yes, you're reading right, I spent a lot of time thinking about how to address you and I couldn't think of anything else except: globetrotters! Week of Life, whether it be in the form of an internet documentary project or an electronic magazine, is nothing more than a place where people meet to share insights into the significance and unique quality of their own lives. They share much in common, despite living in all corners of the planet. Every one of us has an address, whether it be in Mexico, Germany, Russia or America; and some even have numerous addresses and citizenships at once. Yet, we are all connected by one thing – an understanding of the reality that we are all citizens of this still-beautiful and wondrous planet Earth! I welcome you once more. It was about four years ago that the very first ideas for Week of Life began to emerge. It was during a time when I had decided to document my life using not exactly the most traditional of methods. Nine photographs a day, every day for an entire year. It was a crazy idea, I know that now, but I also know how much the experience gave to me. There are very few things that can show you as much about your life as the optics of a camera in the documentary project [www.weekoflife.com](http://www.weekoflife.com). When I look through the four-year-old documentary that was captured in the book *One Year of My Life* in 3,285 Pictures, I'm grateful to the photographs for allowing me the opportunity to travel to the past. Taking nine photographs a day in regular time intervals allows for the preservation of distinct moments, anchors in time that can instantly recall a range of emotions, a recollection of ineffable sensations. It's easy for me to remember the weather on that day, the perfume of someone I'd just met, whether I was tired or excited, whether I felt good or bad. Our brain is capable of taking these nine photographs and connecting them into a whole, providing us with information about the given day. It doesn't matter how long ago it was. It's so simple that it's revolutionary. We've been adding photos to our albums for decades, but only systematic documentation allows us to return to the past. As I write this editorial, I sit in an airplane on my way to broaden the

horizons of the Week of Life. And as I watch the countryside beneath me flow past, I realize how proud I am to be a citizen of this planet. You're probably thinking that I've lost it, but I haven't. I simply wanted to express not only my pride, but also my gratitude and exhilaration for being alive, to be alive at the point in time where we find ourselves. You might argue that these times are hard, and yes they are, but someone once said that life is hard, one of the hardest; and I would like to add, life is beautiful, one of the most beautiful. Today, virtually, you hold in your hands the second issue of Week of Life Magazine, which has come to you as a result of the internet portal Week of Life. What's fascinating about this whole story is how quickly technology progresses. Four years ago, when I was planning this project, I imagined a printed version would be released someday. And as the years have passed, what do you know, print is no longer needed. Those thousands of trees. I was always one who wanted to hold a physical magazine in my hands; I wanted to keep away from the complexity of modern times. I wanted to stay close to nature. And that is exactly why, in the end, we decided not to go ahead with a printed magazine. Whether we like it or not, there's only one beautiful planet upon which we live. Let's protect it, it is ours, the planet and its nature; and let us protect our interest in ourselves, our interest in what is around us, interest in our co-inhabitants, their way of life, customs, habits, and culture. Protect these values in ourselves, if you have them, and take care of them. Together, we can create something that may remain as a cultural inheritance of this Earth. Help us spread this humble idea onward, to your country, where it may become an official part of the cultural inheritance of your home, just as it has in the Czech Republic, one of the two main headquarters of Week of Life. I look forward to meeting you all on [www.weekoflife.com](http://www.weekoflife.com) or on the pages of Week of Life Magazine, which proudly represents the entire company and ideal of Week of Life, as well as the best of your work from around the globe. I rejoice in learning about the lives of all of you.

**Adolf Zika** Editor in Chief

# ABOUT

Photographs can evoke much stronger emotions than optical memory alone. When you take a glance at an old photo, you may be able to recall specific smells, colors, events, and surroundings. Adolf Zika came to an intriguing realization after completing his book *One Year of My Life*. The publication required him to photograph nine pictures a day for an entire year. The memories embedded during this creative process and then subsequently brought about by looking at these nine photos were so significant that he was inspired to organize the current project, Week of Life. Without exaggeration, this may be one of the quickest and most effective ways to return to the past.

The basic building block of the project is the period of one week in the life of an individual, living anywhere on the globe. Every single one of the seven days in a week has a different meaning, smell, sight, a different sense with varying intensity and energy. The time span of one week can be characterized as a perfect display of human diversity and behavior. Human activity, be it willed or unwilling, is organized around this span of time, which is why a photo report can tell us so much about ourselves and others.

Every contributor becomes an indivisible piece, an unforgettable co-creator of the entire documentary cycle, an ever expanding mosaic of human originality, a gigantic photo archive of humanity in the 21st century.

A crucial factor is the personal creativity of the individual and the ability to express in nine photos the experiences and sensations of a given day. To enable another person to feel and read from these photographs whether the day was happy, sad, tragic or absolutely ordinary.

For a given week, a user, while uploading, has the option of providing a text below each of the seven days. This way he or she can emphasize the importance of the captured moment or simply describe what occurred that day. Text below a photo adds a completely new dimension and it may often be a communication of great significance. This way an individual may send a message to the entire world.

## HISTORY OF THE PROJECT

The mind behind Week of Life is the art photographer, director and producer Adolf Zika, who has completed several large photography projects and feature length films in the past. Despite his career beginning with an award for documentary photograph in a contest amongst professional photographers, as an art photographer he did not like taking his camera with him and photographing every day life and the people around him. The reason was simple, he was too shy. He was embarrassed to disrupt the world around him and constantly wave his camera in front of people's faces.

The roots of this project reach back to 2006, when Adolf Zika received from Leica a D-Lux 3 compact camera. The gift did not come without a price and on the 6th of November Adolf Zika launched the most demanding project of his career. The decision was made. He would carry the camera on his person for an entire year. The compact camera followed him 24 hours a day, into all of his daily activities. After which, he posted the entire photo gallery on a secret address online. He watched and waited to see how his friends, family and acquaintances would react. Nothing short of a landslide could describe the interest of the site's visitors and Adolf Zika's own intrigue with the psychological aspect of the project.

Almost three years passed, when a discussion with his long-time friend and brilliant programmer, the Slovak-born Rado Korpa, inspired the two to create and mold an entirely new plan. Born from this discussion is the project known as Week of Life. After spending several months on development, hours of long discussions, debates and passionate arguments, the two meet a third person to join them. A Czech with an Argentinean passport, living long-term in the USA, Tomas Loewy would be the third part, completing the symbol of the project, a project that has the ambition of changing our opinions about the world and humanity. We'll get a realistic dose of how we live, who we are, and what direction our lives will take, all of this without veneer or façade.

# week of life

## THE PHILOSOPHY OF SUPPORTING AN IDEA THROUGH CONTRIBUTION

The founding idea behind Week of Life is to contribute to a "world photo archive of humanity". Visitors have realized that by becoming a contributor to this project, they have become an indispensable piece of a larger collective treasure, which will remain for years to come, as a reference for other generations. Some have taken advantage of this medium, as citizens of the world, by contributing photos with a humanitarian concept and have thus helped spread a message across the globe, facilitating another person's change of heart, change of perspective, or possibly even change in worldview. It is not the goal of this project to take up someone's valuable time, personal freedom, or in any way step into his or her private life. The opposite is true, as we value the personal rights of our users more than anyone else on the web. Every contributor has the choice to set their level of disclosure which we will respect. As our varied level of comfort is too an indication of the many different perspectives we have.

That is why a user who is absolutely opposed to the idea of having someone else peer into his or her personal life can contribute his or her nine photos per day without capturing specific things, people, or surroundings. We encourage the submission of abstract pieces such as simple colors that capture feelings. Photography today provides us with a vast creative landscape with conceptual boundaries that are meant to be explored. In contrast, another individual may use Week of Life to display to the world a brutally honest and realistic photographic expression. For such a person this project is a means of self-reflection and self-understanding. Both of these are valued ways to contributing to this large documentary project of humanity.



**Week of Life Magazine**  
is a **digital version**  
of the **Week of Life**  
**Project website**

[www.weekoflife.com](http://www.weekoflife.com)

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## I DON'T HAVE A HIGH QUALITY CAMERA. WILL THIS BE A PROBLEM?

The quality of the camera does not play a role in this project at all. Every digital camera of today features the minimal resolution we require.

## MAY I TAKE PHOTOS USING MY MOBILE PHONE?

Yes, if you would like and don't have any other option, you can take photos using a mobile phone.

## WHAT IF THE PHOTO IS BLURRY?

If it enhances the atmosphere or feeling it doesn't matter if its blurry. What's most important is what you're trying to express.

## WHAT IS THE MINIMUM SIZE FOR EACH PHOTO?

The size in KB is not important, but it should have at least 1280 pixels on one side.

## HOW CAN I SET MY CAMERA TO THE MINIMAL PIXELS YOU MENTIONED?

If you're not an expert at setting up a digital camera then don't worry about it! Just take the photos however you like. Your contribution to the project is more important than the quality and size of the photos.

## DO I UNDERSTAND CORRECTLY THAT THIS SHOULD BE A TYPICAL WEEK OF MY LIFE? SUCH AS MY BREAKFAST, MY TRIP TO WORK, MY OCCUPATION, HOBBIES, DINNER, ETC?

Yes, that's correct; we're looking for a typical week of your life. Your everyday life may include both the expected and the unexpected.

## DO THE PHOTOS HAVE TO BE TAKEN STARTING MONDAY AND ENDING SUNDAY?

No, you can begin the project at any time. But remember, they should be seven consecutive days.

## DO I HAVE TO MENTION WHO AND WHAT IS CAPTURED IN THE PHOTOS?

If you don't want to, you don't have to include any information about the people, events, or activities captured in your photography. But if you would like to provide a description, it would aid in giving visitors a better idea about what your life is like.

## CAN SOMEONE ELSE PHOTOGRAPH ME?

The rules of the project state that you must be the author of the photo. And so you must always be the author. If you would like to capture yourself then you can use a tripod and timer. If you don't have a tripod, you can simply put the camera on a desk or tape it to something, but you should always be the one taking the photo.

## SHOULD I INCLUDE THE RELEVANT DATE THE PHOTO WAS TAKEN?

This is not required, but if you choose to and your camera has this option enabled, it could be an interesting way to support the authenticity of your work.

## DO I RETAIN THE RIGHTS TO THE PHOTOS AFTER I UPLOAD THEM?

You will always be the only rightful owner of your photos.

## WHAT HAS TO BE ON THE PHOTOS?

There isn't a single thing that has to be there. Rather, you should ask yourself what you would like to include. This is your perspective on life. The photos you choose will then represent you, your occupation, city, village, surroundings, your world and your life. It's only up to you what colors and moods you wish to express.

## WHAT CANNOT BE ON THE PHOTOS?

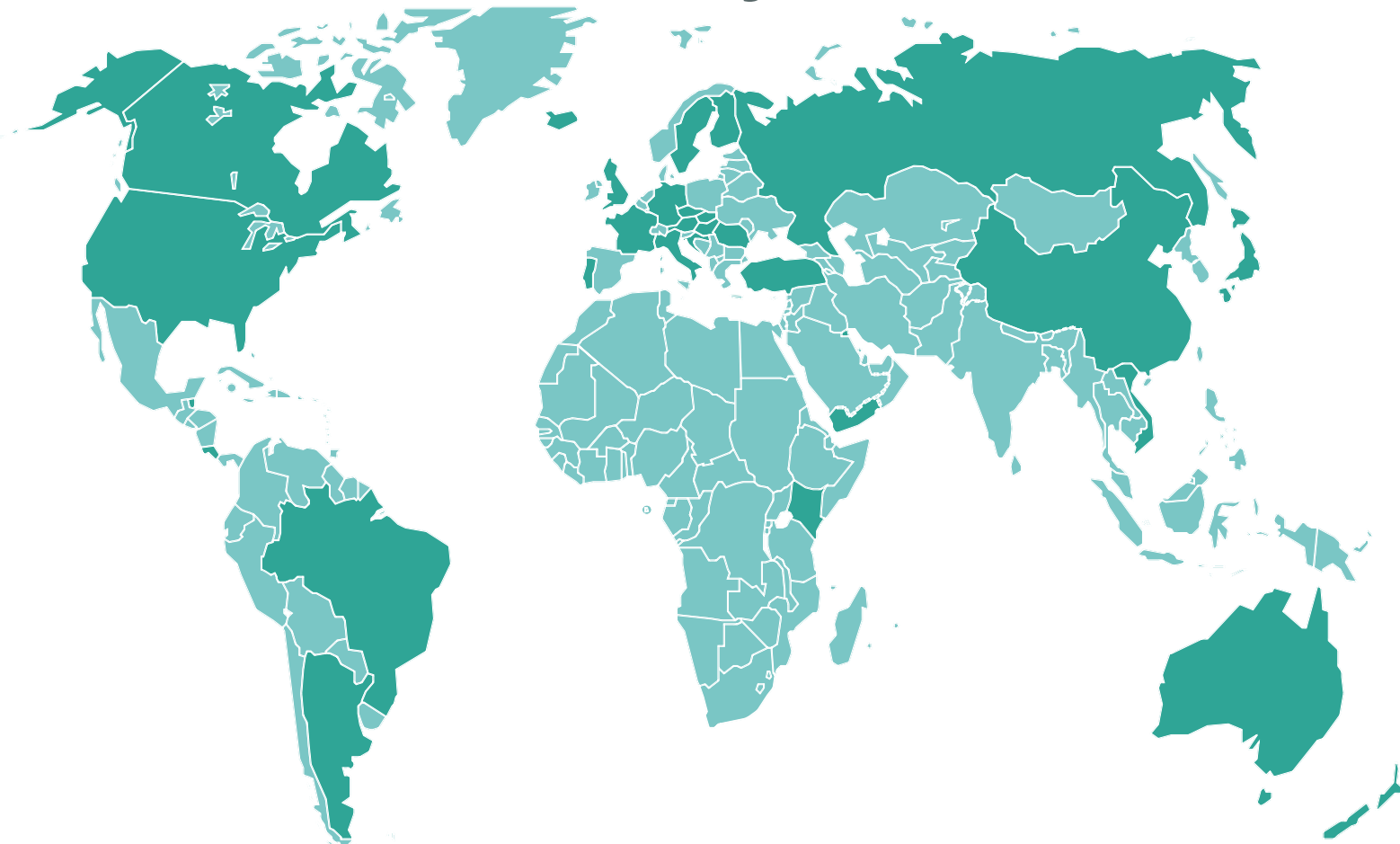
Anything that is related to your life can be on the photos. There is a clear and serious ban of child pornography, gratuitous violence and the promotion of illegal activities.

# 10 RULES TO CAPTURING ONE WEEK OF YOUR LIFE

- 1 You must always and under all conditions **take the photographs yourself!**
- 2 If possible, **use a wide angle** lens, so that the photographs include as much of the scene as possible. **Avoid zooming**, go closer instead. Never take photographs with portrait (vertical) orientation, **always landscape (horizontal) orientation.**
- 3 **Never** include **two photographs** that were taken at the same time, same place and with the same motive. Remember that the nine photographs should **describe** your **whole day**. Divide the day into three time periods – morning, day, evening – and make another three subsections in these periods. One day is always from midnight 00:00:01 to 23:59:59. You don't need to start the project on Monday and complete it on Sunday, the important thing is to **document seven consecutive days.**
- 4 Don't forget that you can also take photographs of yourself, either in a mirror, with one arm stretched out or using self-exposure. But under no circumstance should a third person hold the camera! The project represents **your view of** ordinary and extraordinary **life!**
- 5 Take **more** photographs rather **than less**, so that you can choose at the end of the day.
- 6 Don't forget that the most important aspect is the people around you, the **people** you meet, the **situations** you get into, the **environment**, which relates to you somehow, and also animals, objects that pass through your hands or impact you in some way.
- 7 If you want to say something about yourself, show where you live, who is your family, who are your friends, where you work, where you go in your free time, what interests you and what worries you, or **what you fight** against, **how and why.**
- 8 Under **each day you can write a short description** what happened that day, where it is or what occurred. But you don't have to write anything at all!
- 9 Remember that the whole set should as much as possible **express how you felt**, what was going on inside you that day. Brightness, colors, composition and choice of themes can all help to express this.
- 10 The photographs must be a **minimum of 1280 pixels on the longest side.** An absolute majority of digital cameras and even most mobile phones satisfy this requirement. The photographs **should not** be **digitally modified** if it is not a direct intention of the author to emphasize the meaning of the day. They should not include frames, watermarks or signatures.

**The magazine's content is put together solely from the photographs of the Week of Life members.**

Since the last issue, **2 more countries** – Austria and Japan – have joined the cause of the Week of Life Project

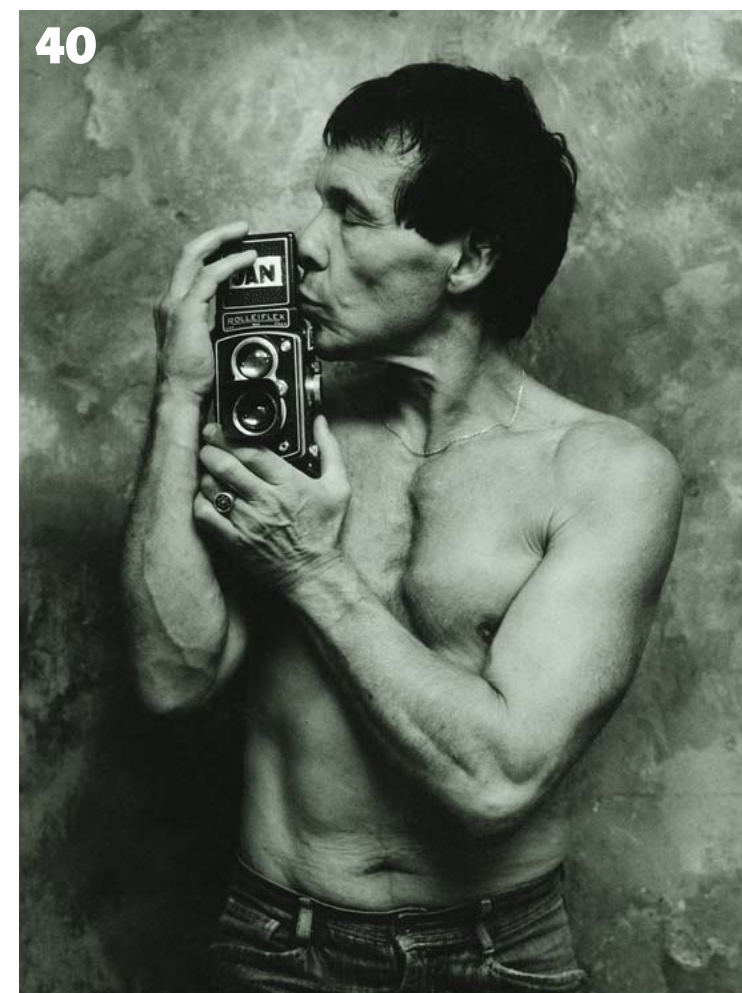


Number of countries: **33**



**In the next issue, you could find the flag of your country here!**

- 10 WEEK OF LIFE MASTERS**  
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*Engineer, Russia*
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OLYMPUS PEN E-P2



On the cover: Photo by Tomas Loewy

## SERGEY POTERYAEV ENGINEER RUSSIA

Russian speaking members of WoL have been a boon to the to the project recently. We have witnessed amazing sets and taken on several great authors, among whom one clearly stood out – the young Sergey Poteryaev. His first week showed us what kind of photographic talent we are dealing with and proved it further with three additional sets. His talents left us no choice but to interview him, go beneath the surface and discover more details not only about him as a person, but about the places that have influenced his photographic journey.



## WEEK OF LIFE MASTERS

This section brings you interviews with individuals who excelled in the task of the Week of Life documentary project and whose reports can be considered masterpieces.

**1 THE WoL PROJECT CONTINUES TO GROW AT A FAST PACE. SO DOES THE NUMBER OF WoL MASTERS. WHEN THIS SECTION WAS LAUNCHED, FUTURE MASTERS HAD ONLY ONE OR TWO PHOTOGRAPHED SETS. THEN, AS THE PROJECT EXPANDED, THE EDITOR'S OFFICE TURNED ITS FOCUS TO PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO GREW ALONGSIDE THE PROJECT AND ADVANCED IN THEIR PHOTOGRAPHIC ABILITIES. NOW THE FOCUS IS UPON YOU, SINCE YOU HAVE BEEN CHOSEN. YOU'VE DOCUMENTED TWO WEEKS SO FAR, STUNNING THE ENTIRE EDITOR'S OFFICE WITH THE 14 DAYS. YOU COME FROM RUSSIA FROM THE CITY OF EKATERINBURG, EXPERIENCING A HUGE BOOM IN THE PROJECT. CAN YOU TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF AND THE PLACE WHERE YOU LIVE?**

My name is Sergey Poteryaev and I am 22 years old. I've been in photography for 2 years. The documentary genre is my favorite and I am trying to make it more lively and interesting. Russia is a huge country, there are so many fascinating things that even 3 weeks of life would not be enough to see and learn all of them. As I can guess, people who keep up with Week of Life wonder what life looks like in my country. From now on, I hope to satisfy your curiosity.

**2 MOST OF THE WORLD KNOWS RUSSIA AS A LARGE AND BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY, WITH FAMOUS CITIES LIKE MOSCOW AND ST. PETERSBURG. YOUR CITY IS SLIGHTLY MORE TO THE EAST. HOW ARE EKATERINBURG AND ITS SURROUNDINGS EXCEPTIONAL AND WHAT COULD TOURISTS LOOK FORWARD TO?**

Actually, that is the question that I've been asking myself recently – What distinguishes Ekaterinburg from the other cities of the world? Unfortunately, I can't find the answer yet, but I want to hope that the reason I don't perceive the exceptional features of my city simply because I am used to them. Ekaterinburg can be called a business city. A tourist won't find it difficult to get to any streets he or she needs or to any place of interest. One thing I can tell

for sure is if a tourist decides to see the city he will be welcomed everywhere with Russian traditional hospitality.

**3 YOU HAVE SHOWN CITY LIFE AS WELL AS THE COUNTRYSIDE IN YOUR WEEKS. THESE TWO WORLDS ARE VERY DISTINCT, NOT ONLY IN PHOTOGRAPHY. WHAT LIES CLOSER TO YOUR HEART – LIFE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE OR IN THE CITY?**

Life in the countryside is spiritually closer to me. Every summer I used to stay in that village with my granny, I can say I spent my childhood there. As for the city, it is crowded and rich in events, which is good in terms of photography, but harmony can be attained only in the countryside. A photographer tends to be influenced by the environment like nobody else; I hope you can see it in my village photographs.

**4 THE FIRST WEEK YOU HAVE SHOWN US WAS IN COLOR. THE SECOND SET WAS BLACK AND WHITE. WAS THIS SOME KIND OF A TRIAL OR WAS IT ON PURPOSE? DO YOU PREFER EXPRESSIVE AND COLORFUL PHOTOGRAPHY OR LEAN TOWARDS TONES OF GREY WITH A FOCUS ON THE ACTION IN THE IMAGES?**

I would say I am for the integrity of the whole picture. I decided from the start that just life as it is doesn't match my interests, so I made my mind to set myself some certain goals which could draw the week together into a single chain. A black and white week was one of the trials. Judging by my sets on WoL, one could come to a conclusion that I prefer photography in colour, but it is actually not like that. On the contrary, I believe black and white photography is closer to me due to its expressiveness and laconism. It is easier to show the gist of the process depicted.

**5 YOU HAVE ALREADY SHARED WITH US THE REASONS WHY PEOPLE SHOULD VISIT EKATERINBURG. NOW WE'D LIKE TO KNOW WHAT COUNTRY AND CULTURE YOU WOULD MOST LIKE TO VISIT AND PHOTOGRAPHICALLY DOCUMENT?**





Black and White  
**photography**  
 is **closer to my**  
**heart**, admits  
 Sergey Poteryaev





Not long ago, I came back from Istanbul, that is the place I had been really eager to visit. Hope that WoL members will like the pictures I shot there. I would love to continue getting to know the rich Turkish culture; I think this country, like Russia, hasn't been captured to the full extent. The next destination I want to see very much is Odessa (Ukraine). I am planning to visit in the winter and to shoot this resort town without tourists.

**6** YOU ARE STILL YOUNG, PERCEIVING THE WORLD IN A DIFFERENT WAY THAN OLDER GENERATIONS. RUSSIA HAS CHANGED A LOT AS A COUNTRY OVER THE PAST 20 YEARS. IT IS CLEARLY EVIDENT IN NUMEROUS SETS FROM YOUR COLLEAGUES. PEOPLE CAN FREELY BECOME ENTREPRENEURS AND I AM SURE THERE ARE A LOT OF FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHERS ON THE MARKET. TELL US ABOUT THE OPTIONS AND POSSIBILITIES A BEGINNING PHOTOGRAPHER HAS IN RUSSIA - EDUCATION IN PHOTOGRAPHY, STARTING A PHOTOGRAPHY BUSINESS OR JUST AN OPEN WORLD OF DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE MASSES?

Unfortunately, in Russia we don't have much higher education in photography. There are 2-3 places where a young person, who is serious about photography, can go to study. A Russian photographer advances not owing to education, but despite its absence. Mainly, you study by the process of communication and

the exchange of experience with photographers who are like you. The market for photo services is large the advertising businesses, wedding photography, the fashion industry. Documentary photography isn't the way to earn a living in my country. Yet there are a lot of people interested in how Russia is. They want to see good shots about Russian life. Anyway, it is not all that bad, every year we can observe some very interesting documentary photographers.

**7** ONLY RARELY DOES A PERSON EARN A LIVING WITH DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY, NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE IN THE WORLD. NEVERTHELESS, PEOPLE ENJOY IT AND TRY TO DOCUMENT LIFE FROM THEIR INDIVIDUAL ANGLE. IS THERE ANYONE, EITHER FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE OR IN YOUR LOCAL SURROUNDINGS, YOU SPECIFICALLY LOOK UP TO IN THE FIELD OF DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY?

It is more appropriate to speak about photography itself here, because I don't know much about the lives of photographers I like. My preferences in photography have changed over the course of time. The first one I was impressed by was undoubtedly Henri Cartier-Bresson, and it doesn't need to be explained why it was him. At the same time I loved works by Lee Friedlander, with his creating order out of chaos. Also I can recommend having a look at one Russian photographer, Vladimir Vyatkin. His works are really worth seeing. Lately, I have been more and more appealed



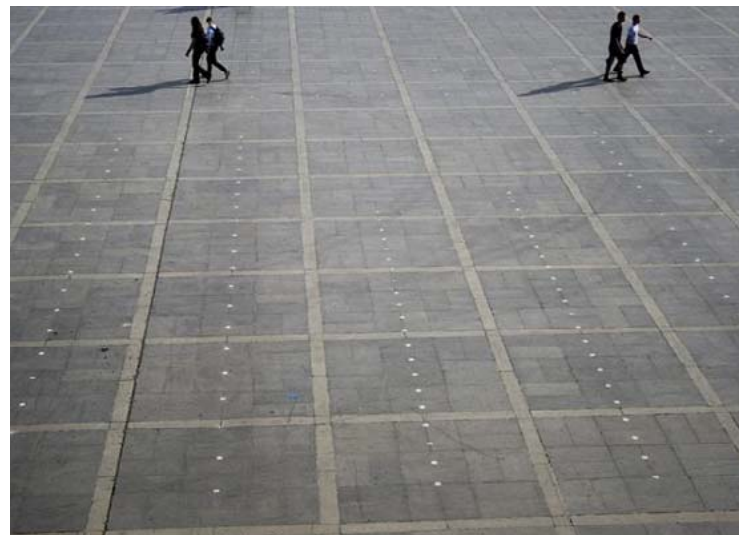


by photographers like Martin Parr and Jacob Aue Sobol. I like their own, authentic world view and ability to depict some insignificant elements so inspiredly. My own development I see in combining of Henri Cartier-Bresson's succinctness of expression and the visual culture of contemporary photographers.

**8** A FEW DAYS BACK, THE WEEK OF LIFE EDITOR'S OFFICE HAS EXPANDED INTO RUSSIA, EKATERINBURG SPECIFICALLY. YOU COME FROM A LARGE COUNTRY WITH MANY CONTRASTS IN SO MANY WAYS. HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THE PROJECT AND WHAT HAS ATTRACTED YOU THE MOST WHILE GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH IT?

I learned about the project from Sergei Rogozhkin and Oleg Tyagni-Ryadno. They suggested participating and I decided to shoot a week and after that one more, which eventually constituted a whole month of my life. I liked having a chance to see different countries through the eyes of photographers. When you travel you are only a tourist, but WoL gives an opportunity to see other countries from within.

**9** IN A FEW YEARS TIME, YOU WILL HAVE DOCUMENTED VARIOUS PARTS OF YOUR LIFE, ONE PIECE IN A HUGE MOSAIC CREATED BY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE FROM ACROSS THE PLANET. DO YOU EVER WONDER WHAT PEOPLE OF FUTURE GENERATIONS MIGHT THINK ABOUT YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS IN THIS PROJECT?



To my mind, a photographer must aim to show life in such a way that people of the future looking at his picture photographs can see what life was like, what people were fond of, how they spent their leisure. That is, a photographer sends a letter through his works to tell descendants about the time when he lived. WoL makes it possible to send this letter.



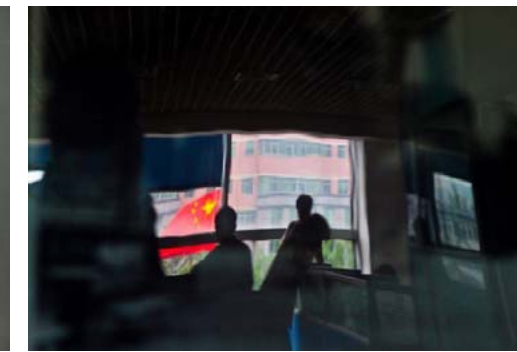
# LIFE IN BEIJING

**LUKAS HLAVAC** ENGINEER  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Life in Beijing. Lukas Hlavac couldn't have chosen a better name for his week of life. He managed to document a variety of things. Crowds, smog, nightlife, life on the street, but most importantly, his own life. When viewing these photographs, we were overwhelmed by a bulk of information immediately on day one and, after going through all 63 photos, we can easily say that we have learned quite a lot about Beijing, as well as about Lukas. And if he keeps his promise that this will not be his last act on WoL, we can eagerly wait to see where he will take us next.

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

As the title suggests, the Editor's Choice is set aside for the most interesting weeks ever to occur in the project. The editorial staff rates outstanding work based on the level of interpretation, content and distinction. The selection of a week for the Editor's Choice is an acknowledgment of the effort and creativity shown by its authors in skillfully documenting ordinary life according to the rules of the project, the most important criterion of them all.

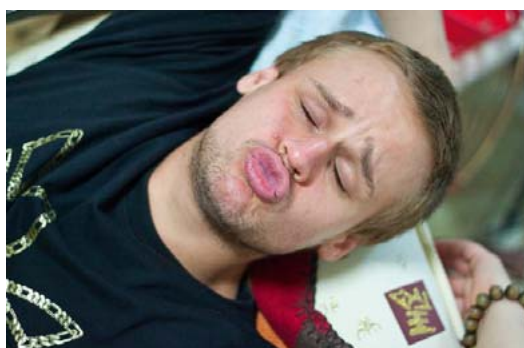
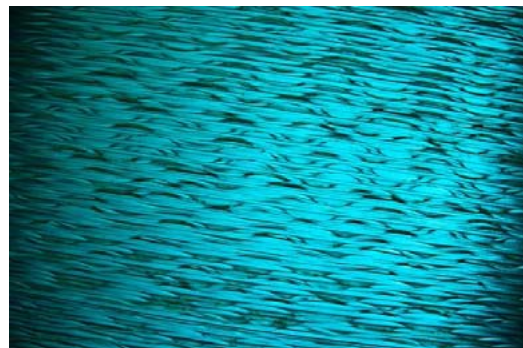


TUESDAY 6. 29. 2010

WEDNESDAY 6. 30. 2010

THURSDAY 7. 1. 2010



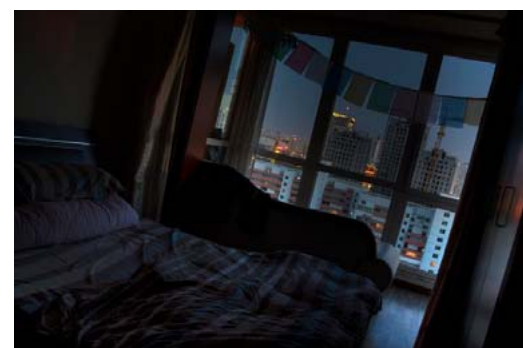
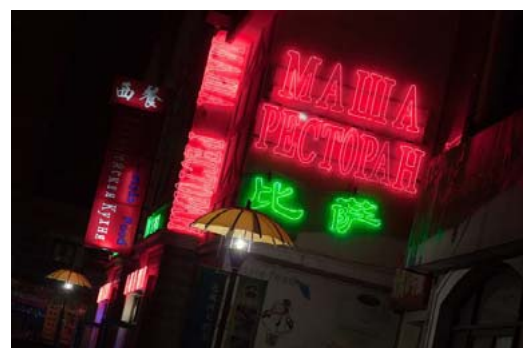


FRIDAY 7. 2. 2010 ^

^ SATURDAY 7. 3. 2010

^ SUNDAY 7. 4. 2010 ^

^ MONDAY 7. 5. 2010



# AN ORDINARY WEEK

**JAROSLAV BENDA**  
OFFICE WORKER YEMEN

Experiencing the lives of people from different corners of the world, getting acquainted with diverse cultures, exploring the hidden/mysterious background of various professions, tasting exotic cuisine – each is an equal part of the project's mission, slowly but surely fulfilling its purpose. Through Jaroslav Benda's week, we were able to travel to the Arabian Peninsula, specifically to Yemen. It is evident that even a single, honestly-documented set discloses so much about a given country and its inhabitants. So, take a walk around Yemen markets alongside Mr. Benda and savor the local atmosphere.

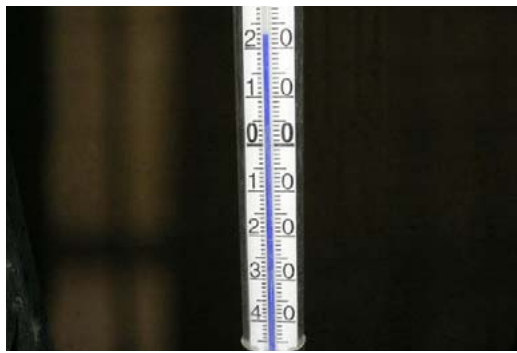
## EDITOR'S CHOICE

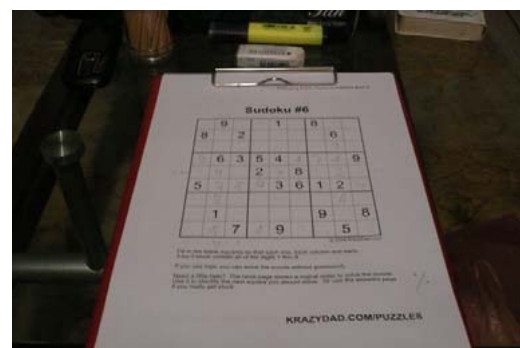
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SATURDAY 6. 26. 2010

SUNDAY 6. 27. 2010

MONDAY 6. 28. 2010





TUESDAY 6. 29. 2010

WEDNESDAY 6. 30. 2010

THURSDAY 7. 1. 2010

FRIDAY 7. 2. 2010



Shooting great pictures has never been so easy.

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**"I love the mixture of  
creativity and control."**

Tarjei Krogh, photographer, Norway

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**OLYMPUS PEN**  
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# AN ORDINARY NATIVE AMERICAN

**ADOLF ZIKA** PHOTOGRAPHER CZECH REPUBLIC

**A question comes to mind: how many of us men, when we were still little boys, played Indians? We would be hard-pressed to find someone who didn't. Naturally, I played an Indian, too, and I have to admit that I always wanted to be the chief. That never changed, incidentally. I still have that today. At the time I would never have suspected that one day I would meet a real Native American in person and even become friends with a capital F.** The man of red skin is called Willford Pariente and he currently lives in New York. I met him when I first traveled to New York nearly thirteen years ago. For many years he has been friends with my "New York mom" and for many years he has been her good, albeit very quiet companion. My memories of that time could be summarized in the following simple lines: Will, who sits in front of the television and doesn't care which channel he's watching. Will, who showers for two hours in the morning and evening because he considers a shower to be one of the greatest inventions of the age. Will, who never gets angry because there is no longer any reason, because no one can take from him more than what we, the white folk, have already taken from him. Will, who always wants seconds on his plate, regardless of what is being served. Will, who doesn't know where the North, West, East and South are because he always knew where he went and thus never even needed them. Or Will, who gets absolutely lost with a road map because he does not even have the papers for that devil machine, and all he needs is to find his way in the subway. I could continue on and on!

Few of us could imagine a person who's lived in the cheapest hotel – a booze joint in China Town – for no less than a quarter of a century (true, he has moved to Staten Island now, but he is no better off by any measure), he has barely ten dollars for a day, yet he is happy all the same. Happy because, after all that happened to Native Americans in the big land, he can at least live in that god-forsaken hotel or dorm. He really is content and takes life as it comes and goes every day. Both his parents were murdered by modern inhabitants and the last time he saw his two daughters was twenty years ago. They are more than thirty years old today! It is not easy to get close to such a person, but not as difficult as it is to photograph one. And unfortunately, that's what I wanted to do. It all started in 1997 when, before my departure, I gave him a gift—a T-shirt with Jimi Hendrix. It was not so much about the famous guitar player as about the gift itself. I meant it quite casually and I didn't want to make a big deal out of it. Will is not

and has never been used to receiving gifts and it could be said that this bold act made him lose his straight face. He fell silent and did not say anything for a whole day! But the following day he swept me off my feet in return, when he gave me a coin he had received when leaving alcohol rehab as the only proof of shaking his alcohol addiction. The only gift that that this Indigenous American had received from the White Man. I didn't expect that he would respond to my giving him the T-shirt with something as significant as this coin! It was probably the only valuable thing this ordinary Native American owned. I realized then that it was a real friendship between a white and a red man! I left, only to return half a year later.

This time I properly photographed Will for the first time and very closely. It was very strange and full of tension but one could tell that he wanted to give me his face as an expression of trust. It was then up to me not to take advantage of this trust. When I returned to Prague, I had the photographs developed and let them ripen for a few weeks. When I went back to them, I found out that there was something weird about them, it was that tension I mentioned. I had stage fright in front of him. But I really liked the images, and it greatly troubled me that I was not sure whether I could use them in my catalogue. In the end I did not use them. They simply didn't have what I yearned for. For a long time nothing happened, I didn't ask Will for anything but I secretly hoped that one day we would do it all over again. A year later I came back to New York and asked him again. After his traditional morning shower, I dragged him out to the backyard in front of the garage under sharp sunlight and started shooting. All of a sudden I felt that it was going well, that we were both relaxed and were creating something that could in the last phase show the whole Native American truth. Or more accurately the truth about Native Americans. I waited for this photograph for three whole years and it was worth it. Then I lost sight of Will. I haven't been to the US for a long time, so I missed him. After a very long time indeed I was able to see him through WEEK OF LIFE, where I finally saw him in the set of images of my NY mom, Olina. During my recent visit to New York we met again. It was a beautiful meeting and I think a little emotional as well. I will probably never shoot Will again, not that he wouldn't be a suitable object, but because he already gave me the most he could and he couldn't have given his portrait any more. Perhaps only his Native soul, but unlike ours, that one is not for sale.



# 1ST WEEK

## SERGEI ROGOZKIN PROFESSOR RUSSIA

While browsing through Sergei Rogozkin's week, we immediately thought of the superb street photographer, Elliott Erwitt. Both of these men share a similar sentiment regarding photography. So, on behalf of the project, we were delighted to welcome Sergei, who is a distinguished figure of street photography in the region beyond the Urals, and feast our eyes upon his artistic ability to capture an important part of his everyday life: the atmosphere in the streets of Ekaterinburg.

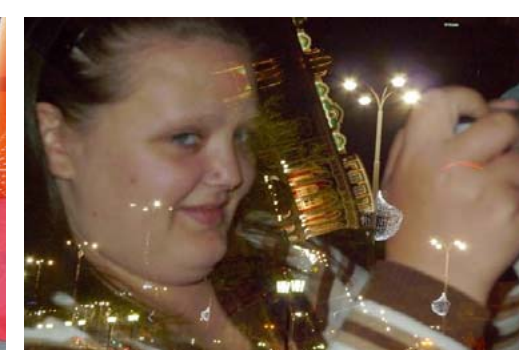
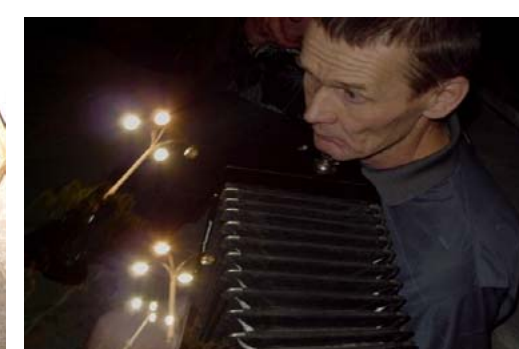
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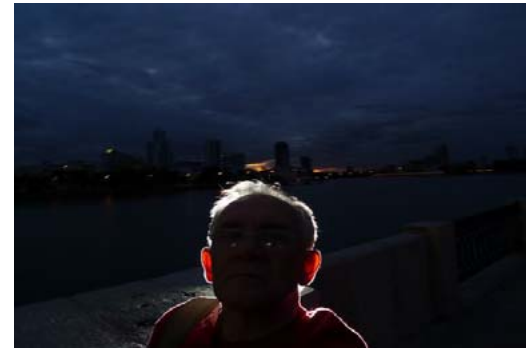
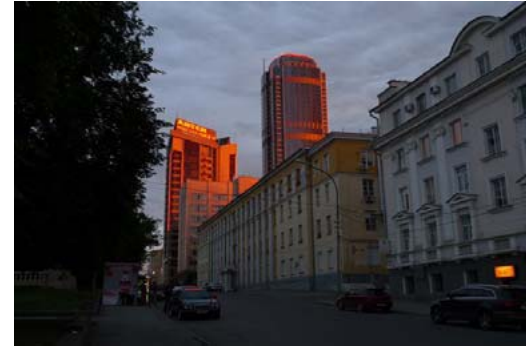
THURSDAY 7. 1. 2010

FRIDAY 7. 2. 2010

SATURDAY 7. 3. 2010





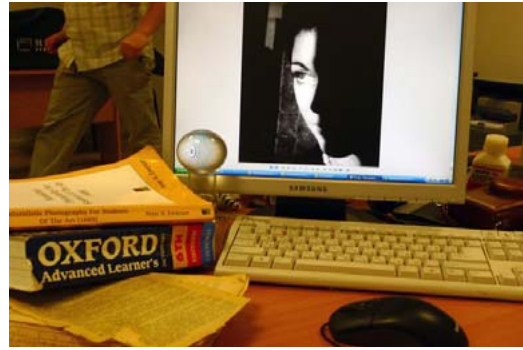
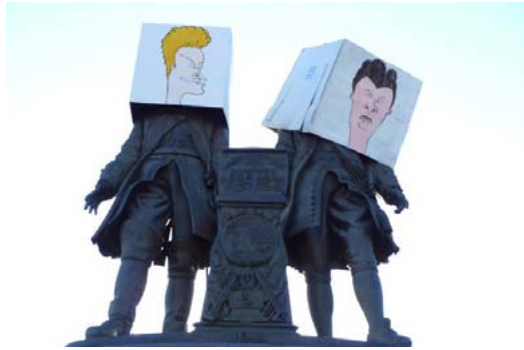


SUNDAY 7. 4. 2010 ^

MONDAY 7. 5. 2010 ^

TUESDAY 7. 6. 2010 ^

WEDNESDAY 7. 7. 2010 ^



# Jiri Krenek Photographer Czech Republic

Sunday 7. 12. 2009



“How your life mingled with a celebrity’s”



# Mark Webber

leading Australian Formula 1 driver, member of the Red Bull Racing team and director of the Grand Prix Drivers' Association

# GOING HOME

**KAREL KURAN**  
MANAGER BELIZE

Today's Editor's Choice is not just the celebration of a successfully documented week of Karel Kuran's life, describing the journey from his native Czech Republic to his new home in Belize. Not only is it a record of the transition from a small state in Central Europe to an even smaller state in the eastern part of Central America, but a milestone for us in the form of the satisfyingly round number 30. That is the running total of countries where we have at least one photographic record of 168 hours of local life through the eyes of a resident. Every 'sneak peek' into a new country is an immense contribution to the project.

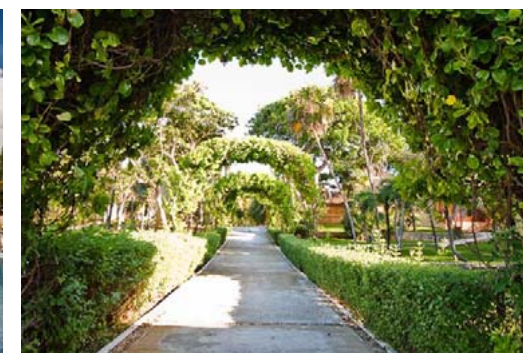
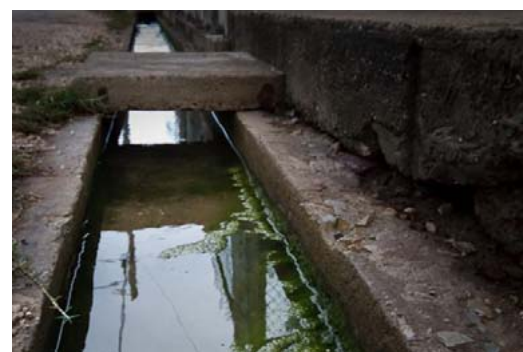
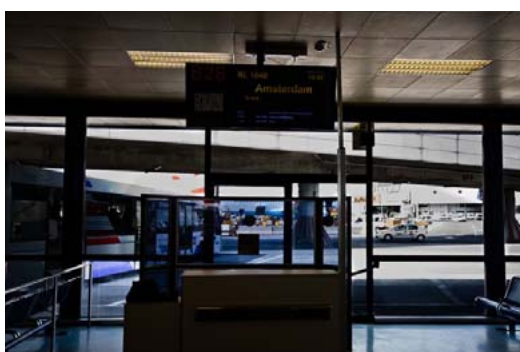
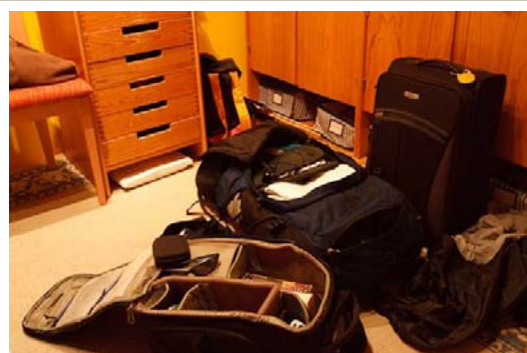
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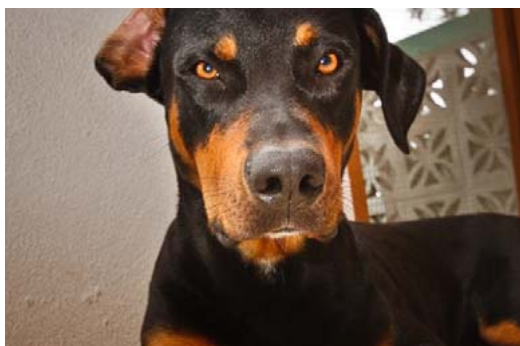
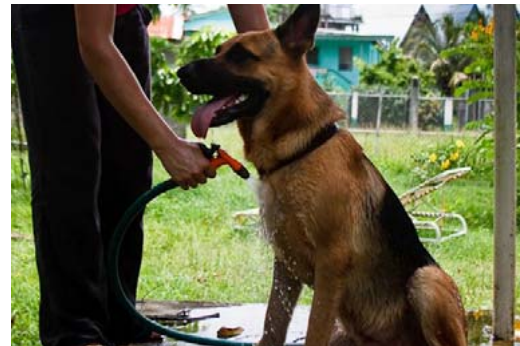
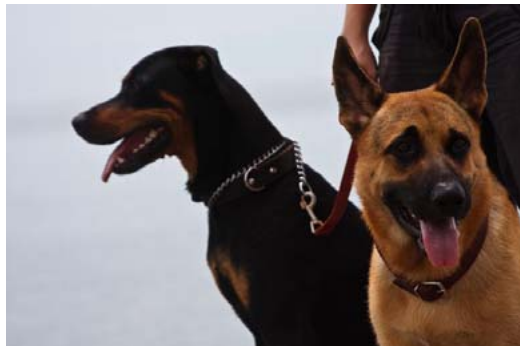
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TUESDAY 6. 22. 2010

WEDNESDAY 6. 23. 2010

THURSDAY 6. 24. 2010





FRIDAY 6. 25. 2010 ^

^ SATURDAY 6. 26. 2010

^ SUNDAY 6. 27. 2010 ^

^ MONDAY 6. 28. 2010



**CZECH PHOTOGRAPHER****MARITAL STATUS****SINGLE, MARRIED, DIVORCED,  
WIDOWER, GIRLFRIEND PAVLA**

- 1935 – born in Prague on 13th of May
- 1950 – he gets his first camera KODAK BABY Brownie – first photographic attempts
- 1952 – apprentice to a photographer, he works at a printing shop until 1983
- 1959 – he gets hold of his first real camera, a Flexaret 6x6; he starts drawing and painting
- 1963 – forever influenced by the catalogue of the magnificent photographic exhibition 'Family of Man' (Edward Steichen)
- 1972 – he creates his typical WALL composition, which became a projection screen for his figural scenes
- 1981 – his first monography 'Il teatro de la vita' appears in Milano
- 1983 – becomes a free-lance photographer and devotes himself fully to his own work
- 1990 – becomes the first Czech national to receive the French title 'Chevalier de L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres' (Knight of Art and Literature), French film director Jerome de Missolz makes a film about him – 'Jan Saudek – Czech photographer'
- 2005 – his biggest monography, 14th overall, is published with the name 'SAUDEK' accompanied by a wide retrospective exhibition in Prague
- 2007 – Adolf Zika makes a full-length documentary film about Jan Saudek called 'Trapped by his passions, no hope for rescue', which received the Glass Eye Award at EuroFest 2008 in Montreal for best documentary film

Jan Saudek is regarded as the most renowned Czech photographer worldwide and has had over 400 individual exhibitions. His photographs are portrayed in most of the prestigious and significant museums and art galleries all over the world.

- The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago (USA)
- Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (USA)
- Centre Georges Pompidou, MNAM, Paris (F)
- International Museum of Photography at George Eastman House, Rochester (USA)
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (USA)
- Moravská galerie, Brno (CZ)
- Musée d'Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris (F)
- Musée Paul Getty, Los Angeles (USA)
- Museum Ludwig, Köln (D)
- National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, (AUS)

# JAN SAUDEK

**To people who live for photography, especially artistic photography, there is no need to introduce living legend of world photography, Jan Saudek. We strove for this interview while still putting together the first issue of the Week of Life magazine. But with Jan, it is like with a king. You need to wait patiently for his servants to let you know he is expecting you at a given time and place.**

Be five minutes late and the door is already closed. None other than Adolf Zika – the founder of Week of Life, who has filmed a successful feature length documentary film about Jan Saudek (awarded the Glass Eye Award in Montreal) did this interview. The 75-year old charismatic and well-respected artist was in a good mood, enjoying life to the fullest.



Rightfully so, since only a few days earlier, he found out that his incurable illness, feared by the doctors, had somehow disappeared. Perhaps it was frightened of Jan's athletic and well-built body, letting him enjoy life for some time to come.

**Jan Saudek is among the most significant Czech individuals whom the United States helped get to the top. Come and hear his thoughts and ideas regarding today's information age.**

**1 JAN, DO YOU THINK THAT IN TODAY'S ERA OF TECHNOLOGY IT IS RIGHT FOR PEOPLE TO DISCLOSE THEIR PRIVACY AND LET OTHERS FROM ACROSS THE WORLD SEE HOW THEY LIVE, WHAT THEY DO AND WHAT THEY ENJOY?**

The privacy of one is the privacy of all. In today's fast paced world, there is no time for hiding, withholding or being silent. That would be the worst scenario. It's good to open yourself to the world and show that we are all equal, which is, I think, inscribed in the American Constitution. True, we live in a different environment and are used to different customs, beliefs and faces, but we were simply all created equal.

**2 DO YOU TAKE NOTE OF THE WORLD OF THE INTERNET AND ALL THE COMMUNITY NETWORKS AROUND YOU?**

You know, I ignore it. Electronic mail itself has disappointed me, along with all the media around. I really think that the internet is for people that are too shy to say the truth and hide behind some identity – I have had a negative experience with this and I am sure you know what I mean. But, it would be nonsense not to use it. It would be like riding the mule here in the middle of the city, or using classic photographic film and rinsing it in the developing dish. You cannot stop progress and I don't mean to, since I find it backwards to ignore such devices as the mobile phone or all these community networks. People shouldn't over do it, but if there is a purpose behind it, like your project to help people realize that we are all the same and equal, then I say yes.

**3 DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY OUSTED OUR BELOVED ANALOG SOME TIME AGO. DOES IT FEEL RIGHT THAT IT ENABLES ANYONE ON THIS PLANET WHO KNOWS HOW TO PRESS THE SHUTTER BUTTON TO BECOME A PHOTOGRAPHER, EVEN FOR JUST A WEEK OR SO?**

The problem is that today almost everyone uses a camera and it is inevitable that among the billions of images made there will be some that are brilliant, sadly, only due to pure chance or coincidence. That is, however, the way it is and I will not try to change anything. Personally, I was against digital photography and now I am the proud owner of a digital camera because, if nothing else, you can acquire amazing images with it. But, at the same time, people use it to deceive and that frightens me. You can create images with a different face, different head, you can get to the bottom of the ocean. But I will not be the one to dispute the technology, since that would be reactionary. So, I just see it as the masquerade that is celebrating human life.

**4 WOULD YOU AGREE WITH ME THAT EVERY PERSON IS A VOYEUR IN ONE SENSE OR THE OTHER?**

Sure! Besides that, everyone is slightly perverse and has killing tendencies, as well as the need to invade the privacy of others while staying invisible to them. That is natural. It is only about how much we can suppress these tendencies or use them for the good, never for delinquency.

**5 COULD YOU IMAGINE YOURSELF DOCUMENTING YOUR OWN LIFE IN THIS WAY OR SIMILARLY TO THE WAYS OF OTHER PHOTOGRAPHERS?**

I do that constantly and I've done it since the 1950s. Arranged or not, that is how life goes. It is the essence of human kind to be unable to accept reality, eventually making its way to the top, leaving the lies and the imaginary gold-foil only to be swept away. At least, to the eye of the observant spectator.

**6 ONCE AGAIN, COULD YOU IMAGINE LOOKING THROUGH A BOOK OR A MAGAZINE ONLY TO FIND ONE HUMAN LIFE AFTER THE OTHER?**

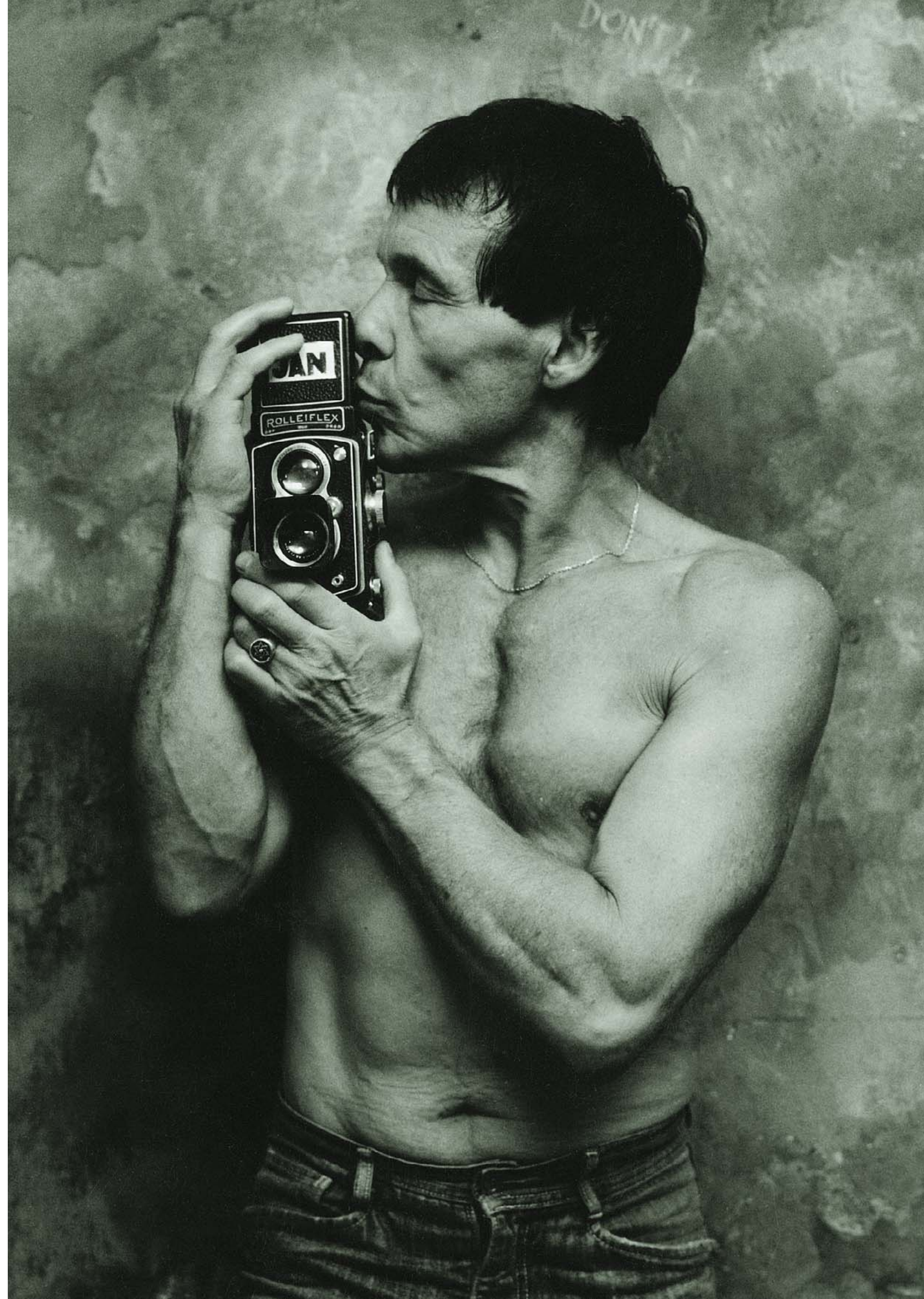
My beloved, I am overloaded with information and so I have to defend myself against it, otherwise I would be stuck to the PC unable to do anything else, since the information flow is too powerful. No, I wouldn't be able to do it, I need to live my own life, document it and then give a message. That I am able to do, just like it happens on WoL. However, we need to realize that this life of ours is the only life we have, and I am no exception. I am very suspicious of the fact that this life is the last, that there is nothing after it, nothing that continues on. No one has been able to come back and tell us what lies ahead. If that is the case, it would be wise for everyone to document their life in one way or the other and inform others. Even if it means documenting a week for the project Week of Life! (Long pause)... I like the project!


**7 THANK YOU, WELL SAID. WHAT DO THE UNITED STATES MEAN TO YOU?**

Yes, America, I mean the United States, but let us include Canada just for Cohen. It has played a fundamental role in my life. Already before the war I was able to see Snow White from Disney, an amazing tale, invincible to this day. After the war, I familiarized myself with Pollock and other class acts who were also painters in those days. Regarding music, I got acquainted with Boogie Boogie and then with Rock and Roll. I was deeply influenced, since I believed they have the best musicians in the world. In the late 60s, I found myself traveling to the Midwest, where I met a person who influenced my life in a decisively. He was the curator of prints and drawings at the Art Institute in Chicago who told me to go on, to continue and never stop! It was Hugh Edwards. A person who changed my life, this gentleman from Chicago.

**8 DO YOU FEEL THE UNITED STATES WAS A DIFFERENT COUNTRY THEN THAN IT IS NOW?**

As a matter of fact, I have visited the United States several times and I was deeply touched each time. Truman Capote, Bobby Dick, Herman Melville, Proulx, the lady. I am still amazed, even today. Naturally, there is a lot of junk even in the United States, but it is up to us to carefully select and I have always selected correctly. The American culture is the combination of various cultures from around the world, involving Russian, German, Dutch, Native American and so on. It leaves a good impression. Oh, and I don't like terrorists. That would be all.





YOU KNOW  
I IGNORE IT.  
THE ELECTRONIC  
MAIL ITSELF  
HAS DISAPPOINTED  
ME, ALONG WITH  
ALL THE MEDIA  
AROUND.



# BACK & FORTH

## MILA STAFEK WORKER CZECH REPUBLIC

Mila Stafek does not rank among the regular users of WoL, but when he does contribute it is definitely worth it. The same goes for his latest week called 'Back and Forth.' The name already suggests that you will keep looking at it over and over. Mila has his own style and shows us that besides riding the skateboard, he is proficient in the field of photography. There is not a single boring photograph and after going through the whole set you will realize that you've been injected with a dose of energy and optimism. And if, for instance, you wish to know what the word 'bowl' means, all the more reason to visit this week.

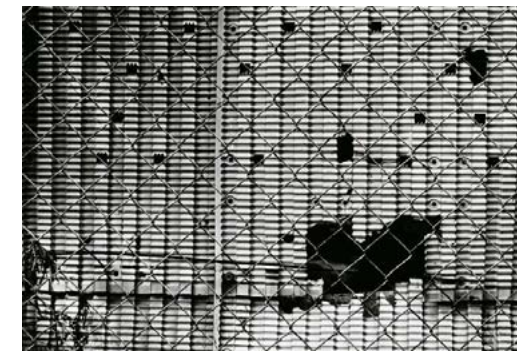
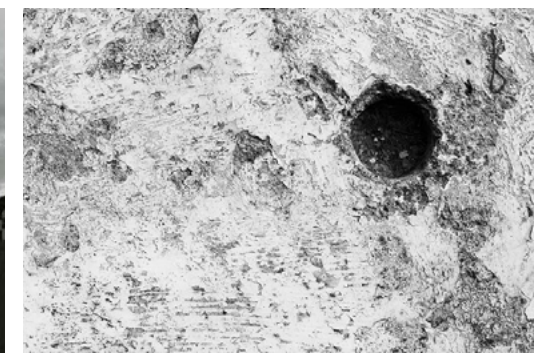
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WEDNESDAY 8. 11. 2010

THURSDAY 8. 12. 2010

FRIDAY 8. 13. 2010



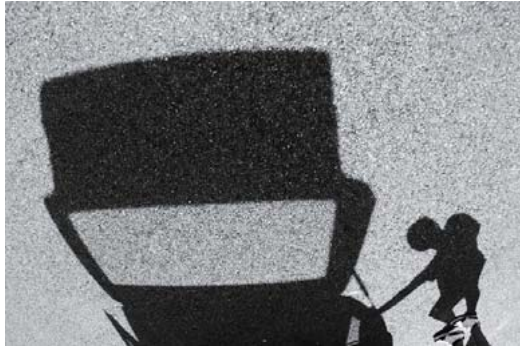


SATURDAY 8. 14. 2010 ^

^ SUNDAY 8. 15. 2010

^ MONDAY 8. 16. 2010

^ TUESDAY 8. 17. 2010

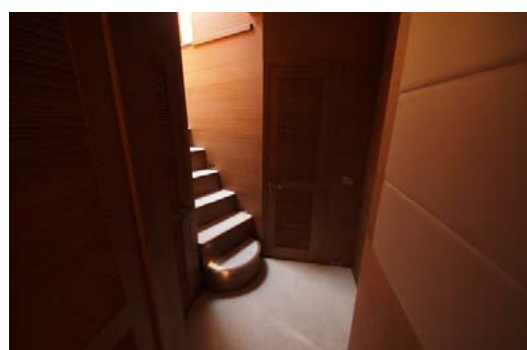


# Arnaud Chretien

## Business person

### France

Saturday 6. 20. 2010



“We are all inhabitants of the same planet”



# Nile Rodgers

American musician, composer, arranger, guitarist and one of the most influential music producers in the history of popular music. His signature is marked across an amazing array of music, as he produced such blockbuster albums as *Like a Virgin* from Madonna and *Let's Dance* from David Bowie amongst many others.

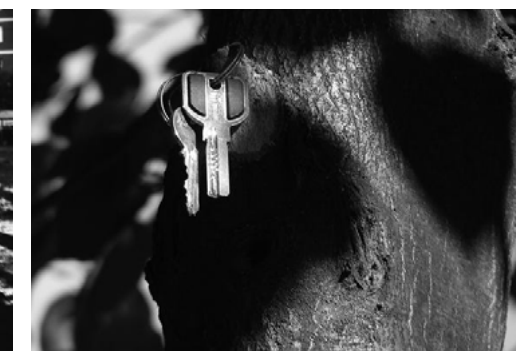
# 01

**YURI ZAK**  
DESIGNER RUSSIA

Only a few individuals would recognize one of the largest cities in the world, the capital city of Russia, seen as a week in the life of Yuri Zak. Yuri has served his life in such raw form that even a city like Moscow, known for its lavish style, acquires a totally new look. Additionally, it's exciting to compare different days; ones that are black and white and ones that show elements of color. 01, as Yuri's premier week is named, proves that WoL is becoming a hit with the Russian population. We can only be glad to be witnesses of a valuable, quality confession from a nation which certainly has a lot to share.

## EDITOR'S CHOICE

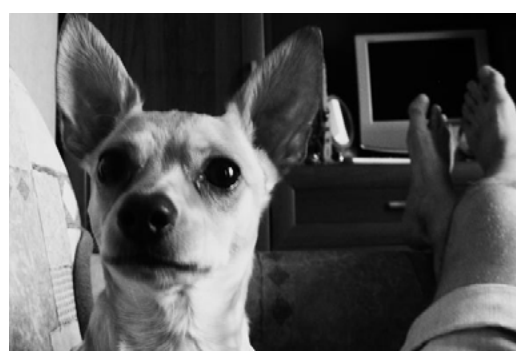
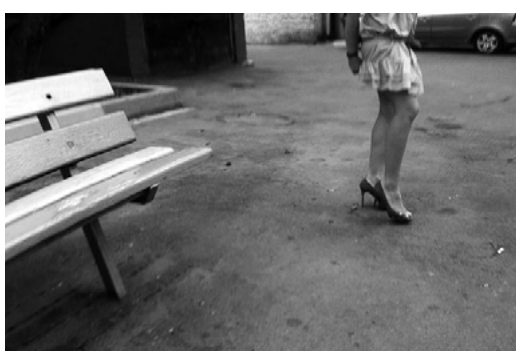
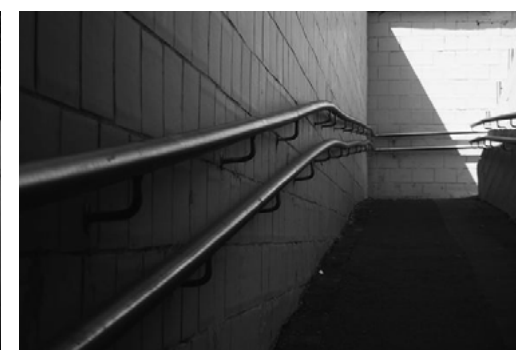
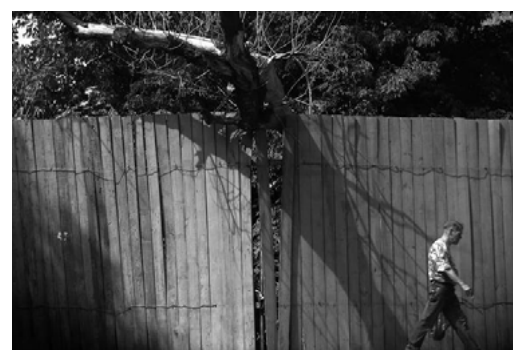
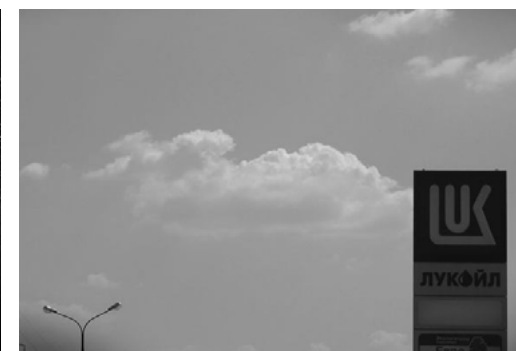
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TUESDAY 7.13. 2010

WEDNESDAY 7.14. 2010

THURSDAY 7.15. 2010





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опливо в кассе  
Администрация АЭС ответственности не несет

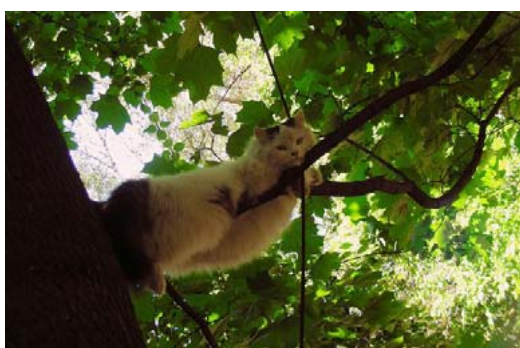


FRIDAY 7. 16. 2010 ^

^ SATURDAY 7. 17. 2010

SUNDAY 7. 18. 2010 ^

^ MONDAY 7. 19. 2010



# THE BENCH



## ZDENEK DVORAK

SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS TEACHER CZECH REPUBLIC [WWW.ZDENEKDVORAK.XF.CZ](http://WWW.ZDENEKDVORAK.XF.CZ)

**My life's path has led me away from my original profession as a pastry cook in the Institute of Social Care in Brezany, where I fulfilled my mandatory civil service duties.** This experience opened my eyes and I came back to work as a tutor even after my civil service had ended. At that time, there were 170 people living in this village chateau. The tutors made a continuous effort to sweeten their lives with all sorts of events and activities. This time, it was a bonfire. On that given day, I arrived for my afternoon shift and without any real reason, I took my DSLR out of the car with only a tele-lens designed for photographing portraits and details. A moment later, I realized that I would need my wide-angle lens as well, so I had to go back to the car to pick it up. On the way back to my car I passed the one-hundred year old lime tree under which lay an ordinary bench; a bench where Bohuska used to sit regularly. I don't know her real name, but no one ever called her any thing else. However, this time, an elderly nun was sitting next to her, one who lived in the local monastery, which is a part of the chateau. She was the one that used to take care of Bohuska in the past, but on that day, they were simply enjoying the autumnal sunshine together. I immediately made use of my tele-lens and took a single picture. An instant later, the nun stood up and left. I continued to the car, took the other lens and returned to the bonfire to take pictures. For the next two years, I kept passing this lime tree but a similar situation never again presented itself. Bohuska kept sitting on the bench regularly, but all alone. I am not sure how long the nun sat next to Bohuska with her face hidden in her hands before I came along, but nevertheless my unpreparedness concerning my photo equipment and pure coincidence helped me capture this unique and very emotional moment.



# THE SEWER DRAIN

ROBERT THIELE PHOTOGRAPHER GERMANY

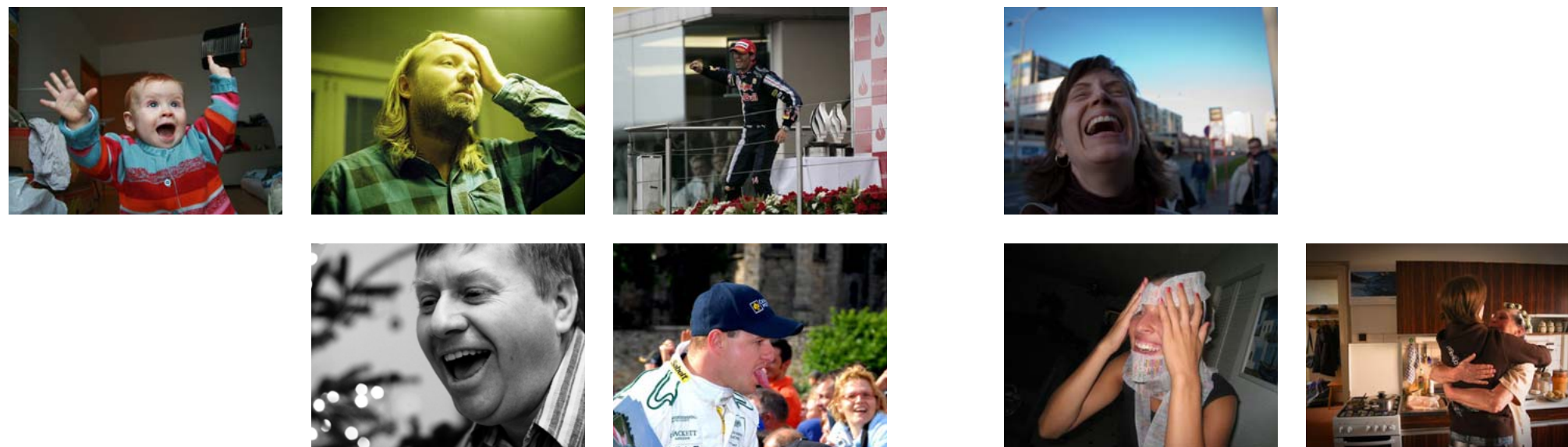
[WWW.FOTOTHIELE.DE](http://WWW.FOTOTHIELE.DE)

**Not far from my house, there is a larger street that plays a fundamental role in my daily commute.** One day, while waiting for the traffic light to turn green, I was on my bike and suddenly realized that there was something different that day. I glanced at the sewer drain ahead of me, or rather below me. The city workers were cleaning the area and, in the course of a long chain of events, probably neglected a very important part of the job – putting the lid back on properly. I immediately grasped the opportunity. I have a personal connection to this photograph for several reasons. It is one of the three photographs for which I have had to sacrifice my sleep and wake up very early – and surely, nobody likes that. The road is very busy during the day, making any kind of documentation impossible. The only possibility that remained was to go Sunday at dawn. I enjoy this photo in particular, since it shows how little suffices, in graphic terms, for a picture to tell a variety of stories. One might ask if the workers were so careless and foolish that they failed to notice that the lid was not placed correctly, if they noticed their unintended joke but left it as it was, or if they did it 'just for fun'. No one but them will ever know. What I like about this photo the most is the fact that it proves how traveling to different parts of the world is not the only way to discover new things. The sewer drain is situated 150 meters away from the entrance to our house. I remind myself of that every time I see this photograph. A few months later, the street was reconstructed and the white lines were gone. The only thing that remained was my photographic documentation of how ridiculous the world can be.



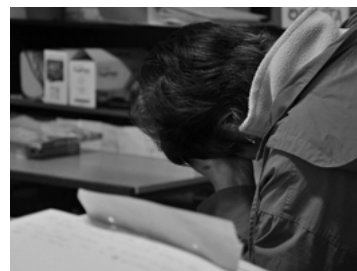
# EMOTIONS

**A human being's entire life is accompanied by emotions.**



# Distress is the first emotion a child expresses when it howls after being born and its first smile is something we strive to document in our family albums.

We perceive emotions through a form of non-verbal communication. Without saying a word, another person can immediately understand how we feel or what we are going through inside.



The same applies to the WoL project, as it is important to catch weeping and laughter, as well as joy or disappointment, since feelings and emotions are such a regular part of our lives. While selecting relevant photographs, we realized that capturing sincere emotions is not an easy task. Many smiles were deliberate for the camera and finding real laughter, as well as genuine tears, was really difficult. While looking through the viewfinder at a person weeping, hardly anybody is strong enough to stand by and not feel the urge to comfort them in any way.



## Here is a chance to compare the moments of joy and misfortune which you succeeded in capturing while documenting your own lives.



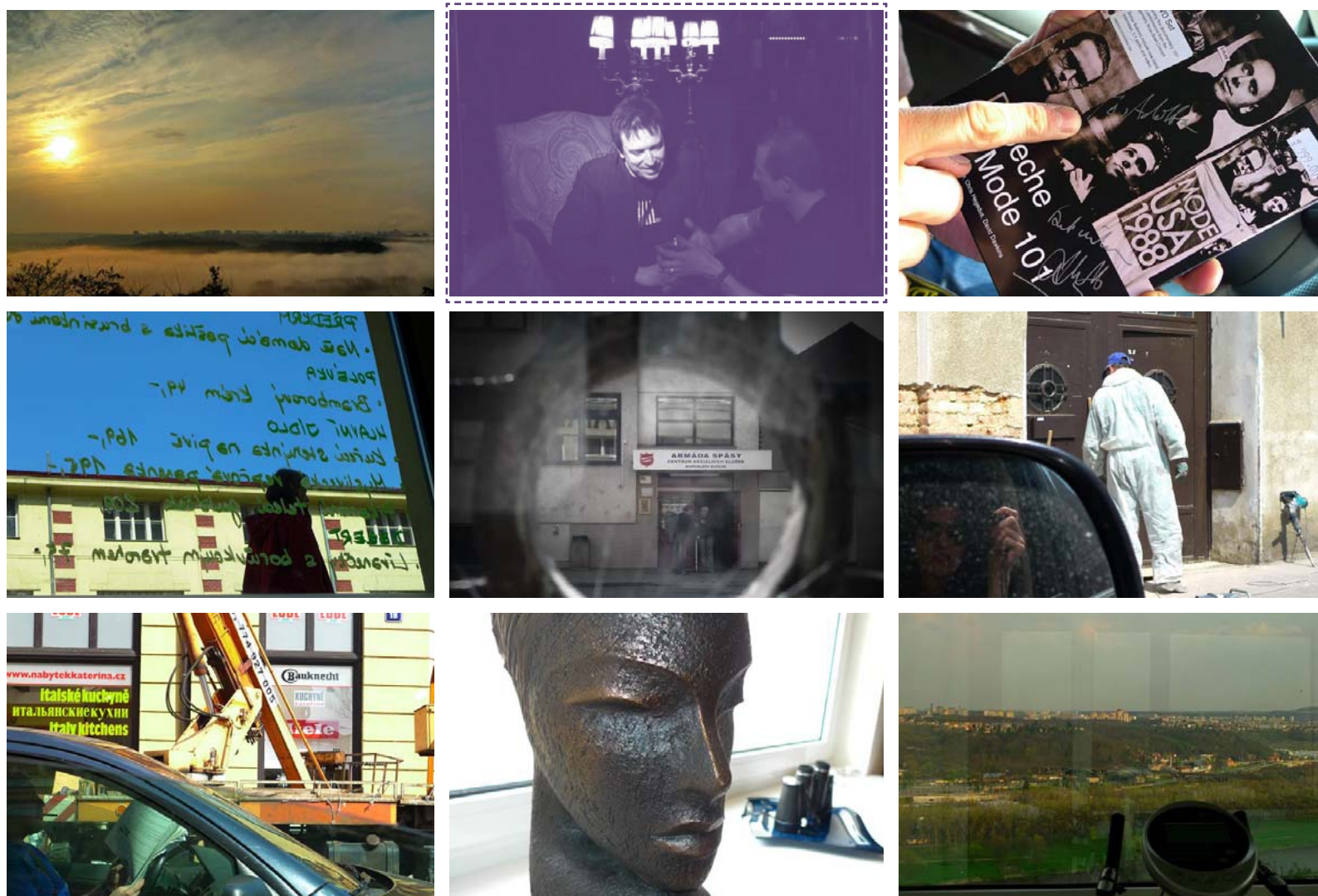


# Stanislava Zikova

## Photographer

### Czech Republic

Monday 4. 19. 2010



“We are all inhabitants of the same planet”



# Alan Wilder

British musician and renowned contemporary music producer, one of the most influential members of Depeche Mode, currently indulging in the music project, *Recoil*

## NADYA DOMASHNEVA DESIGNER SAMOA APIA



Samoa is certainly a remote country for many of us. Its very name and the beautiful way it sounds invites exploration. Nadya Domashneva is not a native Samoan, yet for this very reason you have an opportunity to discover this land through her eyes: the eyes of someone who fell in love with it while striving to keep a realistic outlook. Let yourself get carried away by the words of a woman who adopted a life in a country that is very different from her native Russia.

### REMOTE PLACE

This section is fundamental to the significance of the entire Week of Life Project. In the form of an interview, we introduce individuals who live in a place which isn't at the center of our present fast-paced lifestyle; a place that is, perhaps, not at the forefront of world interest but where the quality of life and awareness of one's own identity come long before career and financial prosperity. Perhaps these are the very places where the term "quality of life" still has its place.

#### 1 HOW DID IT HAPPEN THAT A GIRL LIKE YOU, WHO COMES FROM RUSSIA, CAME TO LIVE IN SUCH A DISTANT AND OUTLYING PLACE?

I was born and lived in Russia until my 24th birthday. Life in Moscow is very hectic and fast. Time flies there like nowhere else (apart from Tokyo, people say). I really wanted to slow down or to do something to remember, not just metro-work-metro-sleep-metro-work etc. So, I went to Australia to study Graphic Design for 1 year. During this year I met my future husband, who came to Australia from Samoa (I knew of no such country on planet Earth) to visit his relatives. So we went back together and got married about a year later.

#### 2 WAS IT DIFFICULT TO GET ACCUSTOMED TO THE LOCAL CLIMATE AND INHABITANTS OF THIS WONDERFUL COUNTRY? DID YOU ENCOUNTER ANY PROBLEMS DURING YOUR EARLY DAYS?

The climate was all right, because I had already experienced the Australian heat. The inhabitants of this country are friendly, and at first it seems that there is nothing very different. But later I discovered that there is a huge difference between us. Their family structure, their very well preserved traditions from the old days, the power of the Christian church and even their climate and location on the world's map affect their attitude towards each other, the way they see and understand things and their humor. Two things you always have to consider: traditions and Christian ways. It was a problem to get used to lizards, giant cockroaches, worms etc. Plus as it is an island in the middle of the ocean – the food supply is quite limited. The magic words "chocolate from overseas" remind me of the times in the Soviet Union, when good stuff could be found only in foreign countries. And, coming from Moscow, the lack of entertainment was quite shocking in the

beginning. Clubs here are only open until midnight, we have one cinema and there is a circus, too. Nothing is open on Sundays, because it's a church day. But now, after almost 2 years of living here, it seems normal and right?

#### 3 WHAT IS THE THING MOST PARTICULAR TO SAMOA, WHEN YOU COMPARE IT WITH THE COUNTRY OF YOUR ORIGIN?

It's the landscape and, most of all, the skies! Skies are so beautiful! It's like a dome covering the island. At night you can see stars at eye level all around you. Stars start at the horizon. You can see the Milky Way very vividly (because we are close to equator and have no pollution at all), and the moon has the shape of a smile, not of a "C" like in the Northern Hemisphere. In the daytime, clouds are incredibly tall. They pile on top of one another. I guess it's because of the evaporation from the ocean, which, by the way, you can see from almost any place on the island.

#### 4 AND ON THE OTHER HAND, CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING THAT THESE TWO COUNTRIES HAVE IN COMMON?

Surprisingly yes. I think the common thing is how we raise our children. We are quite strict to them, compared to Australian, American or even European parents. From a young age Samoan and Russian kids know the rules and don't run around disturbing people. I think Samoan methods are even more strict than Russian ones. In a traditional Samoan family the young ones are responsible for almost all of the household chores, they ought to serve adults, which seems a bit too much for me, but that's the way people have lived here for centuries.

#### 5 IS THERE ANYTHING ABOUT SAMOA THAT YOU WILL NEVER GET ACCUSTOMED TO AND ON THE CONTRARY, IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD NEVER CHANGE ABOUT IT?





Well, I guess I will never be able to live in a traditional Samoan house, which has no walls, only roof and posts. I had difficulties even to get accustomed to calling it a house. Though it's really nice to spend a couple of days on the beach sleeping in one, minimum comfort, maximum nature.

However, as I already mentioned, I believe that Samoa has the most beautiful landscape. It is hard to believe that all these colors and the variety of plants really exist. The fact that you can literally step into paradise just by opening the door (that is, if you even have one) is fascinating. As well as the fact that you can swim in the Pacific Ocean every day if you like, and it will take about 10 minutes to get to the beach. It's a crazy thought for someone coming from the Ural mountains, where my hometown is.

**6 DO YOU PLAN TO STAY IN SAMOA FOREVER OR DO YOU AND YOUR HUSBAND EVER CONSIDER MOVING TO ANY OTHER PLACES?**

I went to Russia only once, after more than a year of travelling. I can't say that I felt very good in Moscow. Everyone wears black, everyone is rushing, everyone is kind of grumpy... Though I know that is only a façade. I was so happy to see my relatives and friends, they are the best, of course. But, as for the surroundings, the city... I don't think I want to live in such a big place anymore. In fact my best time in Russia was when we went with couple of my friends to my country house, away from the noise and transport of the city (life in Samoa reminds me that place a lot with its relaxing on the edge-of-being-boring atmosphere). Though before I went to Australia I used to be fond of clubs, parties, and restaurants. I had enough, I guess.

**8 HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT THE WEEK OF LIFE PROJECT AND WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT IT?**

It's kind of funny. My husband is an IT worker. Every day he fixes people's computers and sometimes he sets nice wallpapers on their



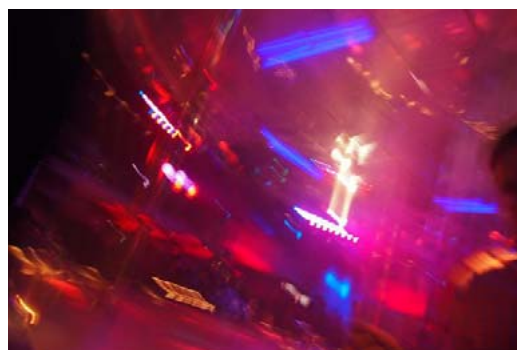
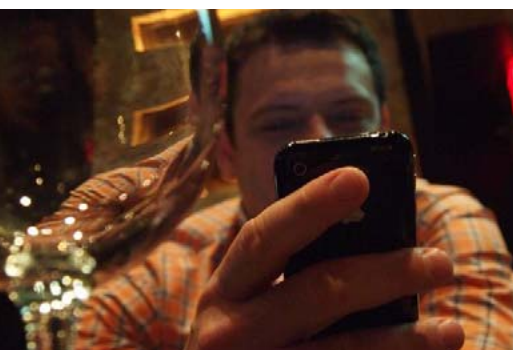
I would not mind staying here forever, it's a great place to raise kids and enjoy life as it is. People have lots of time to spend with their families and friends, time doesn't fly so fast. You can find time for everything. Work is not the most important thing in the world. To me, it looks like people appreciate true values over here much more than people from big cities. Many people from America, Australia, New Zealand and some from Europe stay here for the rest of their lives. But, we might try something else. It would be nice to have a New Zealand passport to make it easier for our kids to travel and study overseas.

**7 DO YOU EVER VISIT YOUR HOME IN RUSSIA AND WHAT DO YOU FEEL WHEN YOU'RE GOING BACK THERE?**

desktops. He searches for nice ones on the internet. So, some time ago, he found several really nice backgrounds made by someone called Vlad. We assumed that he was Russian. Later on I found Vlad's website with his beautiful works. He is Russian indeed. In the section where he tells the public about himself was a link to Week of Life website with Vlad's set. I really loved the idea and started shooting photos of my week the same very day. I truly admire those members of Week of Life project whose professions are not connected with art, design or other similar things, where being creative is a part of the job. Still they find time and energy to create those beautiful sets and don't give up on Day 3 or Day 4, when it becomes less entertaining and more obligatory. But, the feeling when everything is finished and uploaded is great! All the effort is definitely worth it!

# David Dusek Manager Czech Republic

Sunday 2. 14. 2010



“How I crossed paths with a celebrity”



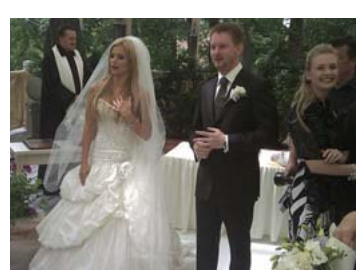
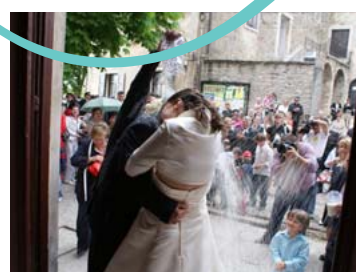
# Jan Fischer

Former Minister of the caretaker government of Czech Republic in the years 2009-2010, President of the European Council in 2009 and former President of the Czech Statistical Office from April 2003.

# Martina Sablikova

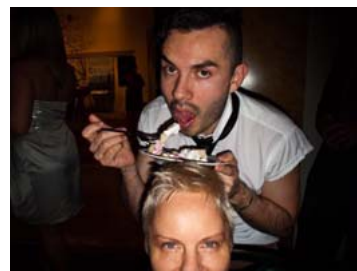
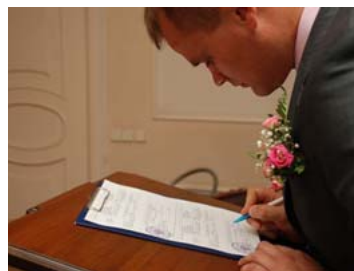
Czech professional speed skater, Olympic gold medalist in Vancouver 2010 and World champion several times over, currently regarded as the best female speed skater in the world, holding world records in the 5,000 m and 10,000 m events.

# Wedding Day



A wedding day belongs among the **greatest memories** in the life of two individuals, who decide to take **their relationship** a step further and enter into holy matrimony.

Whether they live happily ever after or eventually become separated, nothing can change the fact **that they lived through their own individual D-Day together and expressed their mutual understanding with an 'I do'.**



**Various traditions are connected with wedding days and all the exciting memories are shared by newlyweds and wedding guests alike.** Today's photo topic offers a taste of such wedding days, selected from your documented sets, letting you compare the different courses which such an extraordinary day may take.



## FEDERICO CIAMEI DESIGNER ITALY

When Italian designer Federico Ciamei's week arrived a few months ago, time stood still for a while in the editor's office. Everyone, even the experts, gathered round to look at the photographs. Holding their breath, they stared at the computer monitor in silence. In the first seconds, and even minutes, it was not at all clear that it wasn't a fake set composed of color photographs from the 70s or 80s or new photographs of the lowest technical quality or an instigation targeted at top quality digital devices able to produce ultra sharp and quality images. None of this turned out to be true. This, I dare say, artist's documentary concept was absolutely exceptional. It worked with the atmosphere of the scene more than with anything else that the digital world offers today! Color de-saturated images with frequent artistic exposure error but deliberately selected and composed to directly pull us into the action were exposed on negatives and had undergone a chemical process (C41), which most likely means nothing to anyone anymore. Thus, let's go 'back to the future'.

## WEEK OF LIFE MASTERS

This section brings you interviews with individuals who excelled in the task of the Week of Life documentary project and whose reports can be considered masterpieces.

**1 YOUR WEEK IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM EVERYTHING ELSE ON WEEK OF LIFE. IN PARTICULAR, THIS IS BECAUSE OF THE SPECIFIC WAY THE PHOTOS WERE MADE. IT MAKES YOUR WEEK A MATTER OF ART. WHAT LED YOU TO DO IT THIS WAY?**

I was first attracted to photography when I was a teenager, using my dad's 35mm reflex. But then computers and the internet came out and I was immediately deeply into it: BBS, ASCII drawings, AT commands, and then the Web, graphic design, html, flash. With a friend, I started one of the first web design companies in Italy and I forgot photography until digital cameras started to become more common. I bought an Olympus Camedia that can save pictures on a floppy disk and was in love again. I created my photoblog (<http://federicociamei.it/fotodiario/>) in 2003 and went on posting photos till 2006, when flickr and other photo networks started to become more common. Now I'm exploring film cameras, 35mm and medium formats. My favorites now are the Yashica T5, that is also the camera I used for my week of life, because it is really small and sharp, and the Fuji 645ga. I'm also working with a Mamiya 7 now but it's too early to talk about it. John Szarkowski wrote in the introduction of Eggleston's Guide that photography is a system of visual editing. I think that working with film cameras forces me to narrow my editing, and this is really good for me.

**2 HOW DO YOU TREAT AND SCAN YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS? DO YOU DO ADDITIONAL EDITING AFTER SCANNING THEM?**

I started working about ten years ago as a web designer. I was in love with the work of the Designer's Republic, Mike Patterson, Yugo Nakamura and all the design superstars of those years. I've done a lot of really different things, from music videos to

interactive installations at the Valencia Biennial of Art. I like the process of design, but photography works better for me. I like some details to be left undetermined and out of my control and I'm also tired of always staying in front of the computer screen. So now I'm slowly changing my work, trying to make my old clients hire me to take photos as well.

**3 YOU STATE IN YOUR PROFILE THAT YOU'RE A DESIGNER. YOUR SENSE OF ART IS EVIDENT FROM YOUR PHOTOS. COULD YOU TELL US WHAT YOU DESIGN?**

I have my film developed normally (c-41) in a friend's lab and I scan it myself with an Epson v700. I try to keep photoshopping to a minimum when an image comes from film. In my week of life I left the contrast very low, to make the images look more like memories.





I like the process of design,  
but **photography**  
**works better** for me.



**4** DO YOU THINK THAT THE CLASSICAL METHOD OF CAPTURING RAYS OF LIGHT ON FILM STILL HAS A CHANCE IN TODAY'S WORLD?

I think that film has its own personality; when you use it every photo has something. With digital it's harder, you must add a special idea or something else.

Film is also superior in terms of dynamic range, but I think this is going to change in not too many years.

**5** HAVE YOU EVER BEEN INVOLVED IN DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY OR IS THIS YOUR FIRST CONTACT WITH A SPECIFIC DOCUMENTARY?

I kept a personal photo diary for about three years. After that Week of life is one of the first documentaries I've been in contact with, but I hope I will be able to do more. I'm currently working on a big project about the Villaggio Olimpico, a neighborhood in Rome built for the 1960 Olympic games, and I'm taking a lot of portraits of old shopkeepers.

**6** HOW DID YOU LEARN ABOUT THE WEEK OF LIFE PROJECT, AND DO YOU THINK THAT NOWADAYS, IN SUCH A HURRIED TIME, PEOPLE ARE WILLING TO DOCUMENT THEIR LIVES UNDER THE GIVEN CONDITIONS?

You wrote me an email about it. I think that since today 90% of documentary photography has been about tragedies and

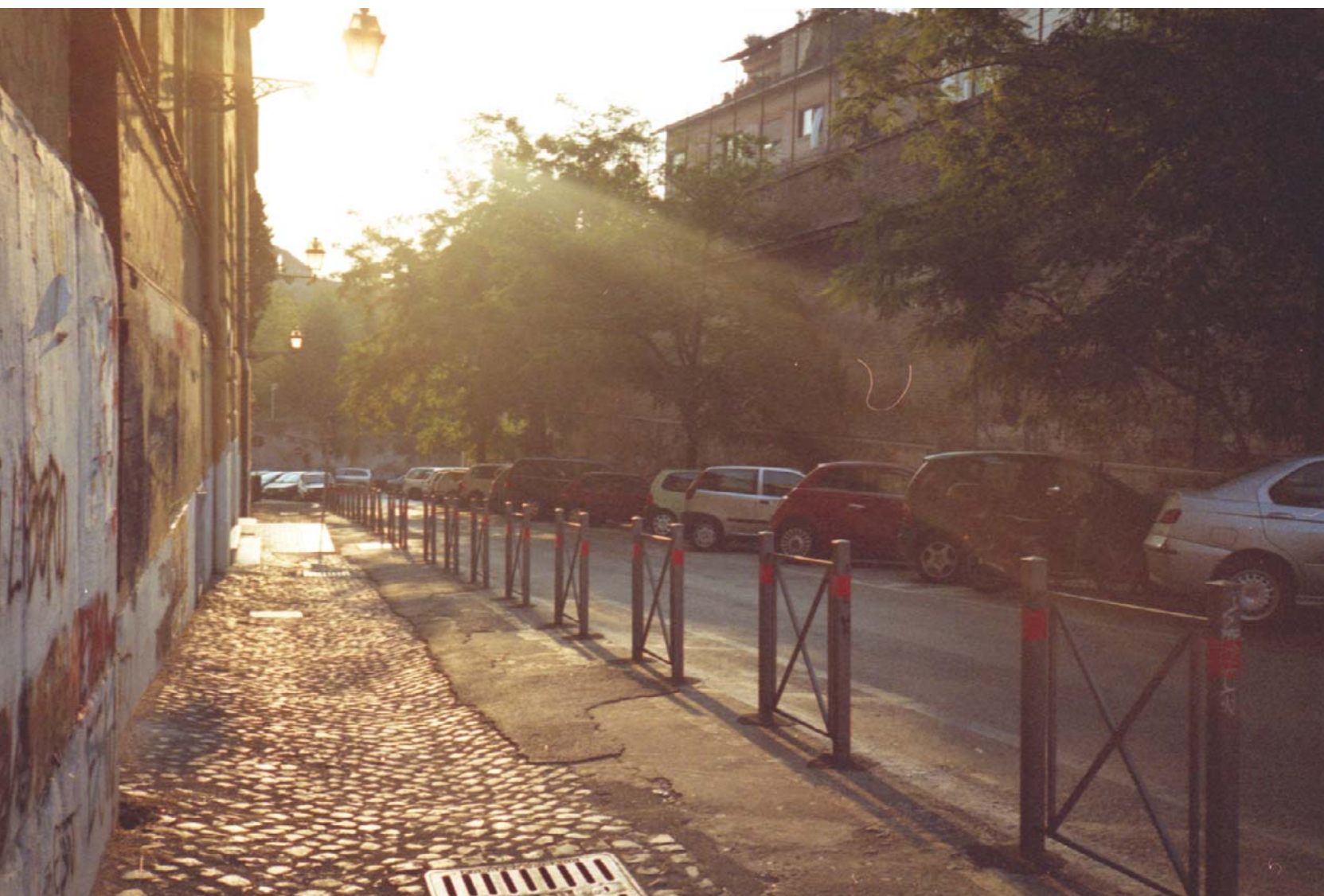
suffering people in remote countries, I hope this kind of personal documentary will become more common in the near future.

**7** HAVE YOU EVER ENLARGED YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS YOURSELF?

Not yet. I want to learn but black and white doesn't attract me very much, so it's not at the top of my "things to learn" list.

**8** WHERE DO YOU THINK DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY WILL GO AT A TIME WHEN PHOTOSHOP GIVES US A POSSIBILITY TO CREATE ALMOST ANY SCENE?

I think that Photoshop can be a really useful tool as long as its use is limited to help expressing what is already in the image. A photo creates something that is different from the reality, in between the thing and the photographer's perception of it. You can be a very absent minded photographer and yet record a meaningful photo. The more you photoshop an image the more it becomes closer to your idea and distant from the thing.





# Burning man

**TOMAS LOEWY** ENTREPRENEUR FLORIDA

**There is one thing that needs to be said about the Burning Man festival – those who haven't experienced it, will never believe. And even those that have experienced it in person will look for evidence in the form of photographs and other souvenirs long after the festival has ended, in order to be completely sure that it was not all just a dream. Perhaps you are thinking that we are merely exaggerating. But, we believe that Burning Man is not just another random festival. It's a mixture of all the things a person could imagine the word festival to mean.**

**Music, art, entertainment, unrestrained sex, new friendships, complete isolation from civilization... All of this and more awaits you in the middle of the Nevada desert for one whole week. Do not be fooled, however, even this form of entertainment has its rules, making Burning Man that much more valuable and attractive. You can find out more about the happenings at the festival and about its participants from the reportage of Tomas Loewy, who experienced it first hand. In the end, what could be more inviting than the interpretation of a man who in no way is a Burning Man rookie?**





As a European living in Miami Beach, I went to Burning Man for the first time 5 years ago. I met a (very) nice American girl from Brooklyn. She had attended the event seven times. As we were getting to know each other more closely Jill would spend hours talking to me about the unique spirit of the entire community surrounding Burners in the desert, what a magical and communal element it possesses that makes this world kind of a better place. How relaxed everything is and how the principles of a gift economy makes people better. You give gifts to others. You don't buy, don't trade. And you often receive gifts.

Contrary to popular opinion Burning Man is not an event where people exchange things, services or friendship. It is an occasion where the good nature of people rises and gifts are given to others. A small souvenir for some, big parties for others. Everyone can participate the way they want. Whether a pizza from the Pizza Sluts falls into someone's lap out of friendship, human kindness or plain, old principle, whether you attend the Jivamukti Yoga course (daily at 11am at the Duck Pond) or learn something new for living at the Greater Intimacy with Hypnosis (11am-1pm in Poly Paradise), no activities offered in the 80-page, small-print brochure What/Where/When are paid or bartered for, everything is free. The only price one has to pay is co-operation.

Bystanders are also undesirable, just like boring clothes and sometimes clothes in general (but everyone can make their

own decisions and change every hour, if the mood takes them). Co-operation is the credo under which people meet for one week starting the last Monday in August in the remote Black Rock Desert. Old-timers talk excitedly about the long gone days when everything, allegedly, was more authentic, personal and spontaneous. It could be that the world is somehow better since Larry Harvey built and set a wooden model on fire on a beach in San Francisco in 1986 and named this time-honored event, devoted to the gods of nature, Burning Man. The last years of the previous century might have been more authentic and, thanks to a much lower number of participants, (around 4,000) also more personal, just like everybody knows everybody in a small town. The dynamics that have developed at Burning Man during the five years since I was there for the first time counterbalance the distorted everything-was-better-back-then sentimentality.

It is fascinating how you can enjoy a week in this prototype of a better world, while having an intensely personal experience. Yes, there are parties, alcohol, nudity, drugs and sex in quantities that would please every hedonist. However, at the same time, it is a festival of self-aware people who are learning how to deal with themselves and others and practicing the art thereof, who often traverse the long nights on their bikes with only the Moon and the surrounding mountains as guides, who simply lay on their backs two kilometres beyond the rush, relax, watch the dark sky and meditate.



The Burning Man Motto:  
**Radical self-expression,  
 radical self-reliance.  
 Be a participant, never  
 a spectator, a tourist.  
 You are part of it, so  
 bring to it whatever you  
 believe to have to give.**



**It is fascinating** how you can enjoy a week in this prototype of a better world, while having an **intensely personal experience.**

The valley of the Black Rock Desert is so vast that the 50,000 people camping in a 3/4 circle represent only a speck in the universe. The width of the landscape, the long distances when you are visiting friends at the other side of the circle and (fortunately) the lack of cell phone signal all help you forget in 1,2,3 days, where what we call Civilization starts and ends. Mostly people move on bikes (which they brought with them), sometimes they go by foot or take the opportunity to enjoy a ride in the crazy Art Cars. Here, the following is also true: everybody is welcome, there is always a free space on the Mad Max-like vehicle moving at 8km/h. Joe, my friend and art manager (the one who does most of the work, and also has the most fun) from Camp Overkill managed to get sixty-one (yes, 61!) people on his Space Orgy, a miraculous piece, on the body of a Cadillac from the seventies.

I was brought to Overkill by my then-flatmate in Miami. Nick is a 34-year-old attorney who went to school in Reno, Nevada (where you fly if you don't want drive for more than three hours to Burning

Man) and whose father kept the Dodge Ram that becomes my home during Burning Man. As we were driving together for the first time in the direction to the small town of Gerlach, which is the nearest city to the Burning Man, through the moonscape of Northern Nevada, Nick used the long ride to prepare me for what lay ahead, including the fact that all Burning Man Virgins are whipped (very gently) on arrival. The funny thing: Even though both of them had been to Burning Man seven times, Nick's vision of the festival was very divergent from Jill's story, mentioned at the beginning.

And then, there I was, seeing this for the first time wide-eyed with childlike enthusiasm (I also based my photos on this naive curiosity), I knew that my Burning Man would only intersect Jill's or Nick's at various points of contact.

And that is the way it was. The Burning Man is an event which changes lives and draws a certain positive addiction: As good-bye from new and old friends always goes there: Next year at Burning Man!





# Samsung EX1



The market is currently overflowing with high quality compact digital cameras. It's still great news when a new model is introduced which has characteristics and features that can threaten the stable positions of leading cameras in this class. If you think you'll find the name of one of the leading photography brands written on the body of this camera, you are mistaken – this camera is manufactured by the Korean Samsung.

Since it has come up let's discuss the Samsung brand for a moment. Despite being labeled as a cell phone and refrigerator manufacturer, Samsung is no rookie in the field of photography. It has been producing cameras since the 1980s, establishing deals of cooperation with renowned optics manufacturer Schneider-Kreuznach and the Porsche designer studio. Samsung had not missed out on the arrival of digital technology either, as you may have noticed on the Week of Life website – we have introduced some of these fascinating cameras in the past.

With its newest digital compact camera – model EX1 – Samsung has advanced to the ranks of the elite category, in which you can find the best digital compacts available on the market today. We have brought you reviews of the Canon PowerShot S90 or G11, as well as the older Leica D-Lux 4.

So here you have a slightly larger digital compact (for instance, the body is as wide as the Olympus Pen E-PL1) in its basic design with dominating, sharp edges. You can purchase Samsung EX1 in black or in dark silver with a titanium feel to it (see the tested piece). The body is

metallic, or rather has a metallic 'shell' and the factory manufacturing is exemplary – all parts stay in alignment and the control buttons have a clear purpose. (this is not a word, I had to guess what is meant)

As a compact camera of the highest class, the EX1 is equipped with a large quantity of control elements – a hot shoe for an external flash, a lens thread and an articulated display. The greatest highlight of this camera is undoubtedly the ultra-wide lens Schneider-Kreuznach Varioplan 24–72 mm F1.8–2.4. Simply speaking, no other camera in the same class can match the lens speed of the Samsung EX1.

Viewfinders are slowly becoming extinct among digital compacts, with large displays on the backs of the cameras assuming their role. Samsung went all out with the EX1 model and used a 3" AMOLED display (you can find more about the display in the Samsung NX1 review) with high VGA resolution. On top of that, the display is articulated, a great feature which enables the user to take photos from almost any position.

## Super features High Quality Optics RAW format availability Articulated AMOLED display

Just like the display, the menu has everything a person could ask for. It's very well graphically designed, supplemented with a simple animation. It is quite clear and logically arranged. The Fn button offers quick access to the most important parameters. As an advanced digital compact camera, the Samsung EX1 is equipped with various control buttons that allow for direct access to functions. There is a mode dial embedded into the hand grip on the front side; the rear control dial is around the d-pad.

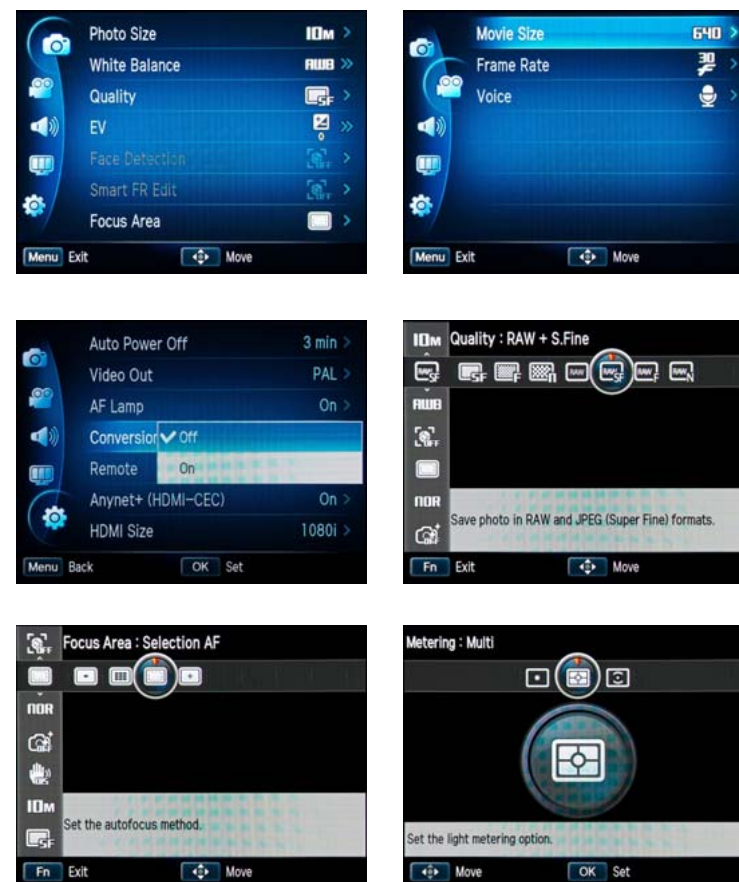
There are two control dials on top of the camera, including one for the conventional mode settings and the second for setting the Drive mode – single frame, continuous, self-timer, and exposure bracketing.

The right rear side of the camera is of typical design; perhaps the only thing worth mentioning is the dedicated video-recording button, which is becoming an increasingly popular feature on cameras of this class.

One of the features that resembles competitors like the Leica D-Lux 4 or the Panasonic Lumix DMC-LX3 is the built-in pop-up flash, which needs to be activated manually with a switch at the top of the camera. The internal flash is weak (Guide number not specified), but can be used on many occasions in combination with the high

brightness of the lens. Alternatively, in bad light conditions, users may attach an external flash on the hot shoe.

### SCREENSHOTS OF THE MENU



### OVERALL EVALUATION

As far as the design and controls go, the Samsung EX1 is nearly flawless. The only thing that can be a little irritating for the user is the fact that the histogram disappears when setting exposure compensation. Apart from that, the camera is intuitive and easy to use. Regarding speed, frankly it is a little disappointing – the camera takes time to load when turned on and the same applies when saving images in the RAW format. Fortunately, it focuses quite well considering the average speed of cameras in its class. The image quality is excellent. The lens keeps the images smooth in its widest angle and defects, such as color aberration, are almost non-existent. Up to 800 ISO, noise is easily corrected, but be aware that the image quality will deteriorate with higher sensitivity values. The biggest problem is the sensitivity of the lens in its widest angle when dealing with contre-jour light. The anti-reflective layers are most probably weak, meaning that any kind of back light will cause problems and create an unwanted lens flare (loss of contrast) on the final image. Perhaps a lens hood would be helpful in this case, but this accessory is not included in the basic kit.

**Samsung EX1 – in short**  
Resolution **10 Mpx**,  
Sensor **CCD 1/1.7"**  
Optics **24–72 mm F1.8–2.4**  
Video **VGA** (640 x 480 px)

**COMMON PRICE** (at the time of this review being published)

**BODY ONLY:** **\$ 369.00**

### BASIC TECHNICAL DATA FOR SAMSUNG EX1

#### SENSOR

CCD 10 Mpx, 1/1.7"  
10 Mpx (3 648 x 2 736 px)  
Light sensitivity ISO 80 to 3 200

#### OPTICS

24–72 mm F1.8–2.4  
Stabilized optics

#### MEMORY MEDIUM

SD/SDHC, 24 MB internal memory

#### DATA FORMATS

Image: JPEG, SRW  
Video: MP4

#### VIDEO

640 x 480 px, 30 or 15 fps  
320 x 240 px, 30 or 15 fps  
Mono sound

#### LCD

AMOLED  
Screen size 3"  
614 000 px

#### POWER SUPPLY

Li-Ion battery

#### DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHT (BODY ONLY)

6.1" x 2.56" x 1.81" inches (w x h x d)  
11.8 oz. (incl. battery and memory card)

#### IMAGE PREVIEW



# Olympus Pen **E-P2**



In the last issue of WOL we introduced the latest camera of the Olympus PEN family, the E-PL1. No doubt, our attention should be also drawn to a second PEN, the E-P2, which comes in black or silver. This all-metal camera looks like it traveled here from the 1960s. If you didn't happen to see the large LCD display on the back, you would even know that this masterpiece of photographic apparatus was digital. The reason for this is very simple: PEN E-P2 follows in a long tradition of old, analogue Pen cameras, which were announced to the public for the first time 51 years ago. All fans of classic and clean design and all of those who happen to own one of those old Olympus Pen cameras, Nikon FM models or Leica M cameras, are sure to fall in love with the PEN E-P2 immediately.

Retro design is only one of the many highlights of the E-P2. Another aspect of its design is its very robust and precise construction. Compared to the E-PL1, its full-metal casing gives it a sturdier, more stable feel for hand-held shooting. Additionally, the camera is equipped with a built-in image stabilization system, which is able to compensate around 4EV's. The great advantage of a built-in stabilizer is its compatibility with basically any lens that the camera housing can accommodate. It proved very helpful during our test, too.

Similarly to the E-PL1, the E-P2 offers a standard menu, well known from Olympus DSLR models, stocked with a broad range of adjustable settings. There is also what we call a quick menu, comprised of two menu bars – horizontal and vertical. The vertical menu is there to set the exposure mode and other frequently employed modes, while the horizontal menu helps adjust the exact parameters of the chosen mode. For example: if the symbol IS is chosen in the vertical menu, it is then possible to set it to OFF, IS1, IS2 or IS3 in the horizontal menu. One great advantage of such a menu, especially with the E-P2, is its quick functionality. With the E-P2, this is thanks to two turn controls – a thumb controlled dial and the second ring around a four-way direction pad (which were both lacking on the E-PL1). Adjusting with the menu is much easier and faster thanks to these two dials.

As for the exposure modes, it is possible to set the camera to almost all modes generally known in the DSLR world: from the fully automated iAUTO mode, 19 scenic modes, 8 Art filters to fully manual modes like

P, A, S, M. Apart from the photographic features, the E-P2 reveals itself to be a great video camera that even records in stereo sound. The AVI format is slightly too big in terms of required memory on the other hand it really is high quality. It was easy to edit the video with iMovie and we got great results (this software is not part of the packaging).

One issue often criticized on many internet photo discussions, is the absence of internal, built-in flash. Personally, we have not missed it at all. As Leica M7 and Nikon FM users, we are simply used to reportage photography with available light. During our test we had three lenses out of the whole actual range: basic 14-42 (equiv. 28-84mm), Pancake 17mm (equiv. 34mm) and the brilliant 9-18mm (equiv. 18-36mm).

We used either the Pancake or the wide-angle 9-18mm lens nearly the entire time. We used the basic lens very rarely even though it gave great results. The recent award from TIPA for the 9-18mm lens proved to be much deserved on account of sharpness and overall image quality rare for such a compact lens. We highly recommend



it for reportage, architecture and nature photography.

Let's not forget one of the major reasons we decided to choose the E-P2 for this short test: the two new E-P2 Black kits. The E-P2 Special Black Flash Edition, which includes the black E-P2 body, black Pancake lens and a black FL-14 (both accessories, made solely for these limited editions). The second kit, the E-P2 Special Black EVF Edition contains also the black Pancake and a black version of VF-2 electronic viewfinder (with a brilliant resolution of 1.44 megapixels). Neither the black Pancake, nor the black FL-14 flash will be available separately. There was only one missing accessory we would appreciate to go with such elegant kits: a black leather strap. It might be purchased separately; on the other hand, with such limited editions it would be a nice replacement for the standard strap, which comes with the box.

## SCREENSHOTS OF THE MENU



- 1 – User-friendly control dials
- 2 – Electronic viewfinder
- 3 – Lens cap with historical Pen F logo
- 4 – PEN lens family (ZUIKO DIGITAL)



## OVERALL EVALUATION

The E-P2 camera, whether in a standard kit or in one of the two limited black editions, is a good, universal reportage camera, even fit for high society. It provides you brilliant image quality and ease of use while turning heads with its elegance.

**Olympus Pen E-P2**  
**Resolution 12 Mpx**  
**Sensor Live MOS**  
**Optics Based on lens**  
**Video 1280 x 720 px**

**COMMON PRICE** (at the time of this review being published)

**KIT INCLUDING 14-42 MM LENS** \$ 799.00

## BASIC TECHNICAL DATA FOR OLYMPUS PEN E-P2

### SENSOR

Live MOS 17.3 x 13mm  
 12 Mpx (4,032 x 3,024 px)  
 Light sensitivity ISO 100 to 6400  
 Built in IS system

### OPTICS

Based on lens

### MEMORY MEDIUM

SD, SDHC

### DATA FORMATS

Image: JPEG, RAW (ORF)  
 Video: AVI

### VIDEO

1280 x 720 px, 30fps  
 640 x 480 px, 30fps  
 Stereo sound

### LCD

Screen size 3", 230 000 px

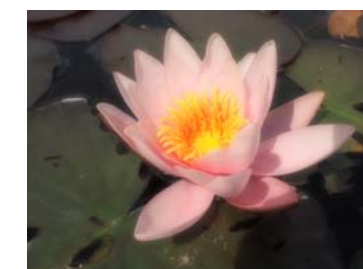
### POWER SUPPLY

Li-Ion battery

### DIMENSIONS AND WEIGHT (BODY ONLY)

4.74"x2.75"x1.37" inches (w x h x d)  
 13.6 OZ  
 (incl. battery and memory card)

### IMAGE PREVIEW





# WoL – A Project for Future Generations

**ZDENEK DVORAK**

**From the day photography came into existence, a desire to document unique events in all realms of human activity was born.**

**Countless individual collections full of captured moments have spread throughout the entire world, recording history for future generations.**

The Czech Republic does not offer many options in this field. Let us remember the first public project of its kind, named 'The Last Book of the Century'. This project documented 24 hours on the 10th of October in the year 2000, a rare combination in Roman numerals – X.X. MM. The project was created by photographer Adolf Zika, who found inspiration in the 1986 far-reaching project, 'A Day in the Life of America'. In both cases, a group of photographers joined forces to capture various themes relevant to life on our planet in a chosen time frame. On one hand, it was a unique occurrence, on the other, it expressed the course of events of a single day from the perspective of several hundreds, or perhaps thousands, of photographers, who usually chase the biggest sensation and search for the rarest moment, hoping to join the ranks of the best.

Suddenly, a new thing has appeared. A project, which does not focus on capturing the uniqueness of a given day. On the contrary, it deals with the ordinary lives of individuals from all over the world, over the course of 7 consecutive days. Now, what we have is not simply a book or exhibition documenting a short period of time. Day by day, a new photographic compendium forms and expands, available any time for anyone anywhere in the world to see. A place where cultures interact with traditions and different perspectives of the world. By now, you surely know I am talking about the project known as Week of Life.

Today's world full of social networks, blogs and various communication gadgets, requires but a single click and everything is at the user's disposal. The same applies to photography. Several million websites offer more than billions of photographs from the whole world. You can divide them into several groups. The most obvious group of photographs would consist of all the perfect portraits, images of animals and landscapes, often found in different internet photo galleries. The second common group consists of the exact opposite – family celebrations, birthdays, and vacations. The former group is admired for its beauty and perfection, the latter is ignored by

nearly everyone who does not see a familiar face or themselves, for that matter. The Week of Life project has existed for some time and is under continuous development. When you dig deeper, you discover that it's not just about the highest quality photographs. Amateurs cross paths and cross-pollinate with professionals and the same range applies to the quality of the photographic equipment the members own. You can find contributions from world famous photographers next to a week submitted by a crazy, young student documenting her life with a cell-phone. This unbelievably large spectrum of humanity is reflected in the breadth of the conditions documented thereby, each segment contributing equally to the overall value of the project. Looking at internet photo galleries, we find that the top professionals rarely meet beginners who use low-end equipment. The quality of the photographs, their technical aspect or their quality of composition is a certain bonus for the viewer.

However, it does not end there. The combination of an individual's profession and their country of origin makes it ever more interesting and adds to the uniqueness of the project. By now it's evident that graphic designers submit weeks of high quality, but what about the cooks, women on maternal leave, electricians or sailors? Everyone contributes with his or her own perspective. Some are detail-oriented and their weeks are full of artistic photographs. Different authors will present their lives in ordinary, raw photographs depicting everyday life. Many are not satisfied with only one week and make a habit of it, others will coherently document their lives for several months. For some people, the project has become a part of life. We come to realize how family pictures, consisting of 9 photos per day and some simple rules, can suddenly interest the eyes of many. Long forgotten family albums on the internet are transformed into a week in the life of a person or of his or her family. Comments from other members, who like to compare and contrast who, what and how and experience the fates of others, can often be



**Silly Season**

**author: Mila Stafek**



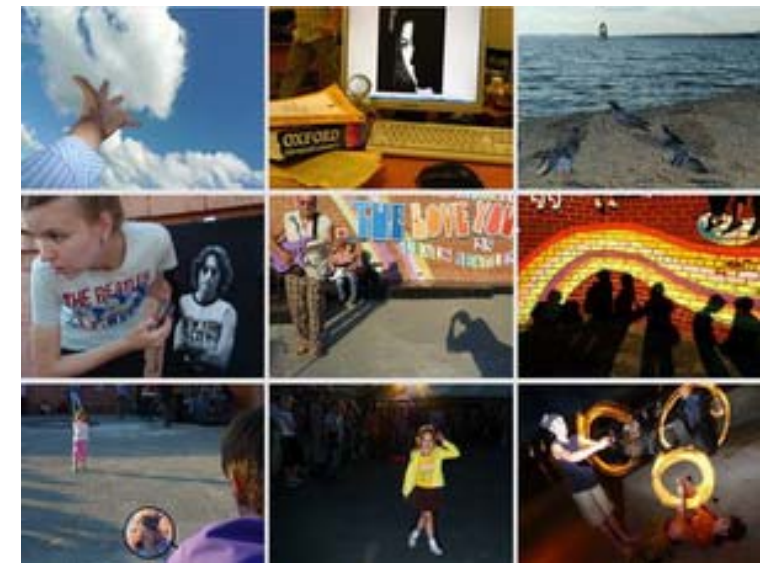
**A little girl**

**author: Xiong Jun**



**My week**

**author: Eva Mueller**



**First week**

**author: Sergei Rogozkin**

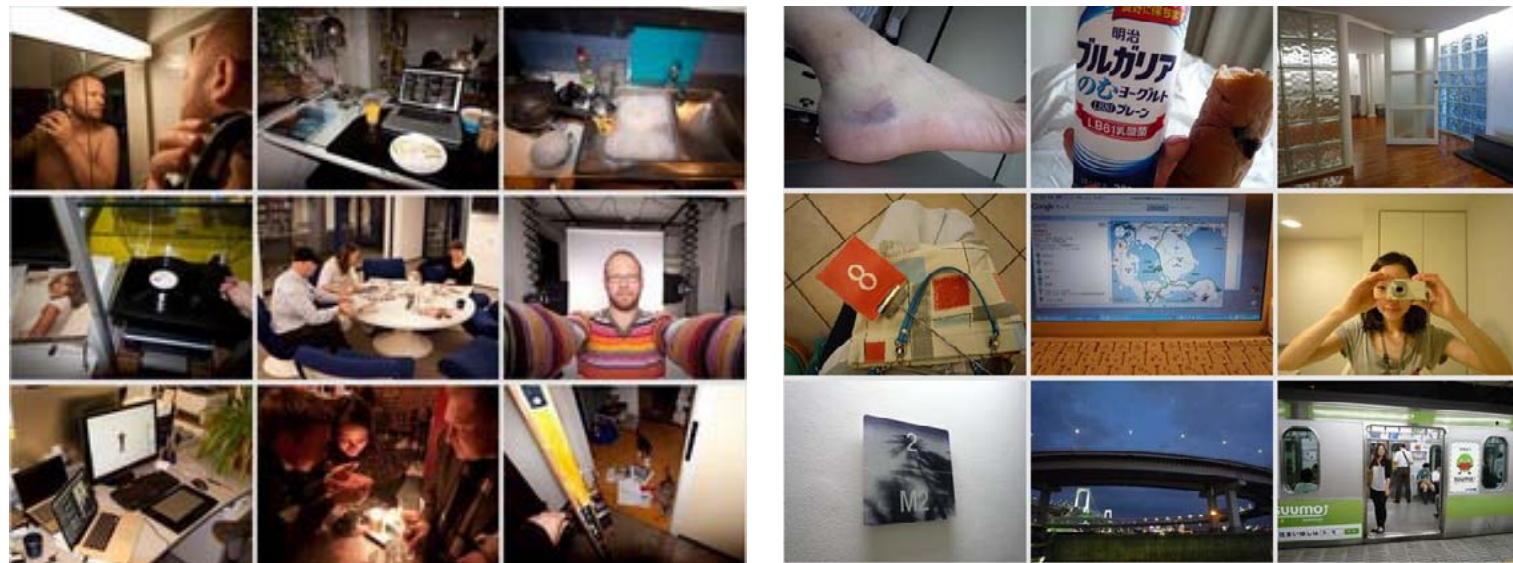
an influential 'whip' for those who have contributed and wish to continue in their documentation further. There will certainly be a WoL member meeting in the future, official or unofficial, where members will meet one another for the first time in person, but will already know each other quite well from all the photographic depictions of their lives on the site.

All of the above mentioned, and much more, plays in favor of the WoL project. However, there is a certain responsibility that comes with joining the project. Abiding by the rules is obvious, but what about adjusting your life for your next week? Many of you will balk at this, saying: Not me. But to be honest, who hasn't experienced a time when they were about to capture an interesting moment found through their viewfinder and thought: "this is a perfect image for WoL?" Seeing the world in a brighter light is still a common factor among many of us, suggesting that we prefer beauty in pictures over a valuable and accurate depiction of life. There are even some that struggle to adapt their life to attract such moments into their lives. For instance, there are weeks that show strong weekends, but rather bleak week days. In reality, that is often the case. We enjoy our free time during the weekend and our activities tend to be much more diverse. During the week, we spend most of our days at work, a tedious and non-photogenic image for the camera. A vacation is exactly the opposite, but it says

a lot less about the person's real life, which reveals its real face only after we see more weeks from the person. When someone tries to adjust and enrich his or her life just for the sake of the audience, the project is taken out of proportion and is less beneficial for the future generations as a result. It's not important to show the best photographs from life; it's important to disclose life as it is.

Future generations will have all the information they need about the lives of people of various ages, professions and origins. They will be able to investigate and compare our day-to-day lives. It's a pleasant sight to see how the project has consumed so many people, becoming a part of their everyday life. It's not mere entertainment however; decisions and responsibilities are involved regarding our attitude towards capturing life as it is, with commitment and without prejudice.

Week of Life is more than entertainment on the internet. Let us protect it, protect its quality, since it is a result of our efforts.

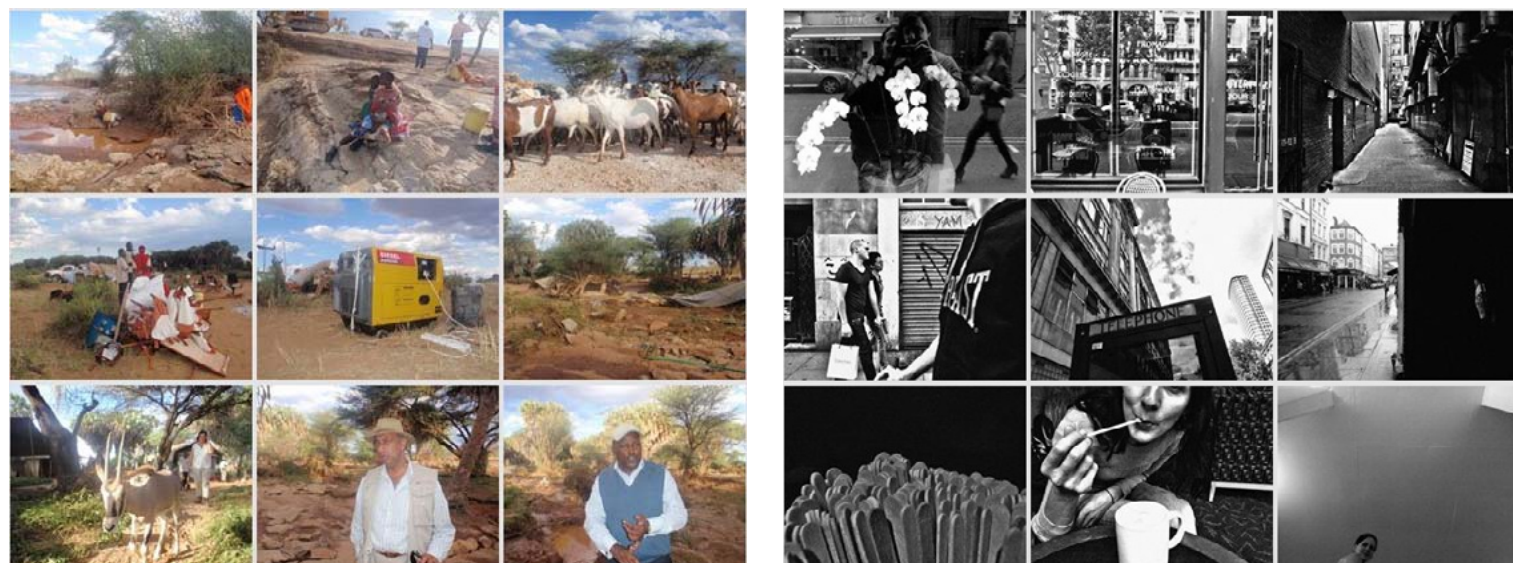


Waiting for the winter 2009

author: Pasi Heiskanen

Autumn arrival?

author: Nozomi Mochii



My first week

author: Job Weru

Another week through our gritty lens

author: Jonathan Slee



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

## ZDENEK DVORAK SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS TEACHER CZECH REPUBLIC

My name is Zdenek. I am a 30 year old married man with two children. I was born and have lived my entire life in the city of Znojmo (Přímětice part), to which I have become attached. I graduated from the technical school of food-processing technologies in Pardubice after successfully finishing my pastry-cook apprenticeship. During my mandatory civil service, I worked with the mentally handicapped, which urged me to prolong my studies in the pedagogic field. For the past 7 years, I have been working as a special education needs teacher and I have spent my last 3 years working at a boarding school, part of 'Special schools of Znojmo'. Regarding photography, I became acquainted with this medium in the year of 1999 as a self-taught amateur, when I tried out a manual SLR that belonged to my father, a photography enthusiast. In the field of photography, I prefer documentaries, primarily from social and rural environments. It has also become a part of my monthly earnings. During the season, I photograph weddings and cultural events. My profession as a special education needs teacher is still my primary source of income and photography stays as my biggest hobby. My biggest achievements include 1st place in the 'Photographer of the Year' competition in the years 2008 and 2009, 3rd place in Czech Press Photo 2008 in category 'Everyday life' and also the opportunity of being able to work for the Week of Life project as a photo-assessment manager. In the foreseeable future, I would be happy to devote myself to photography in the way that it stays as a hobby that I can enjoy, not as a source of income. I would be more than satisfied if photography served me as a tool for documenting everyday life and exploring foreign countries and their cultures.

Shooting great pictures has never been so easy.



# OLYMPUS PEN

New Generation System Cameras

Find out more about the E-P2 at [www.olympus.eu/pen](http://www.olympus.eu/pen)

## PHOTO OF THE DAY

The photographs included in the Photo of the Day section have the trait of being the most interesting and creative components of complete sets, while simultaneously having a life of their own. They're selected for their composition, richness of color and technical rendering. It would be a shame for them to hide within photographic mosaics of individual days, so we decided to show them in this special section, just for you to feast your eyes upon and appreciate their rarity and exceptional value.



**VICTORIA MINYZOVA** DRIVER RUSSIA 9.3.2010

*“I show how you live  
and see how others live”*



**NATALIE SALANGINA** DESIGNER RUSSIA 8.16.2010

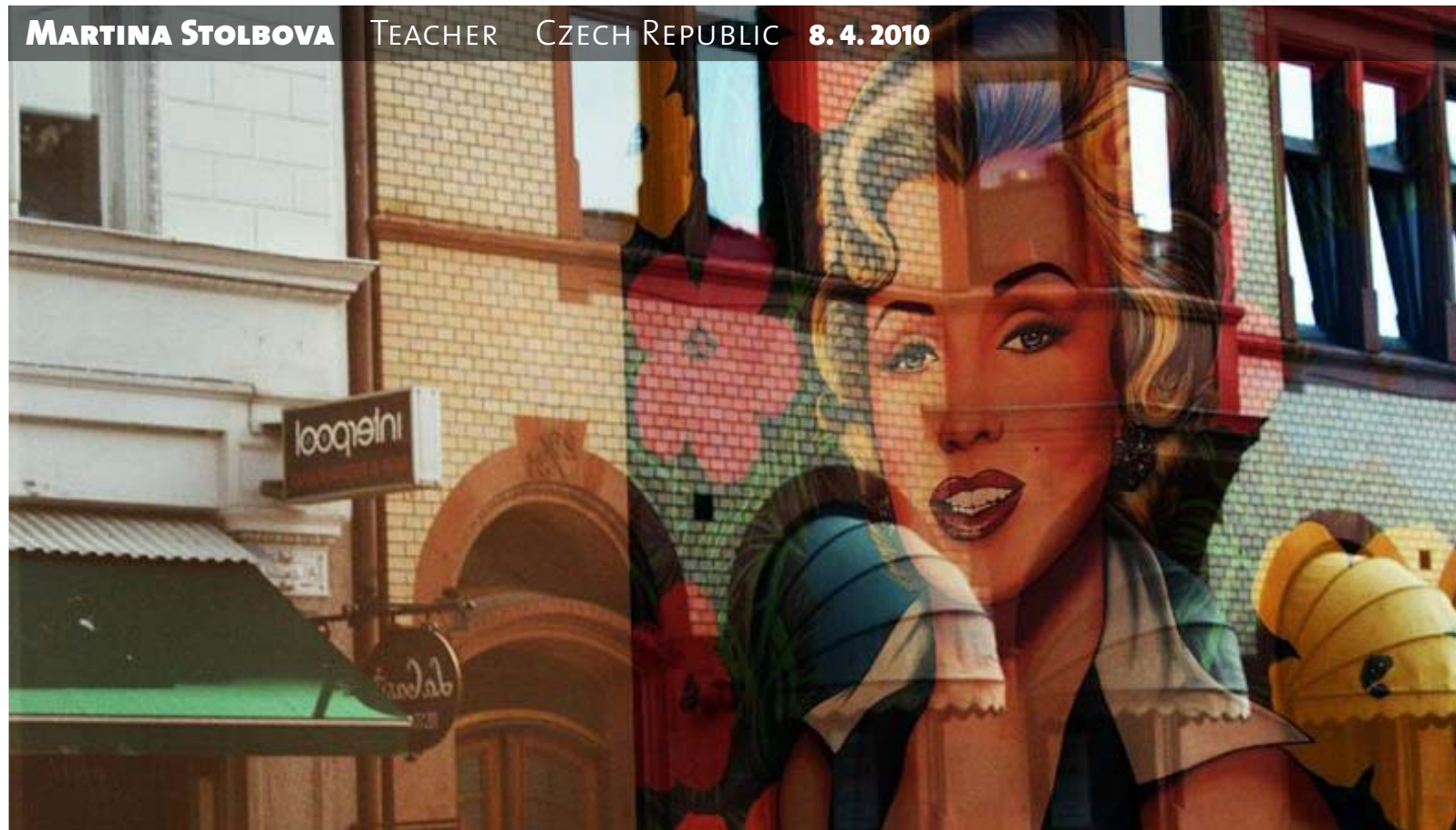


**KARRI ANTILA** COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST FINLAND 6.27.2010

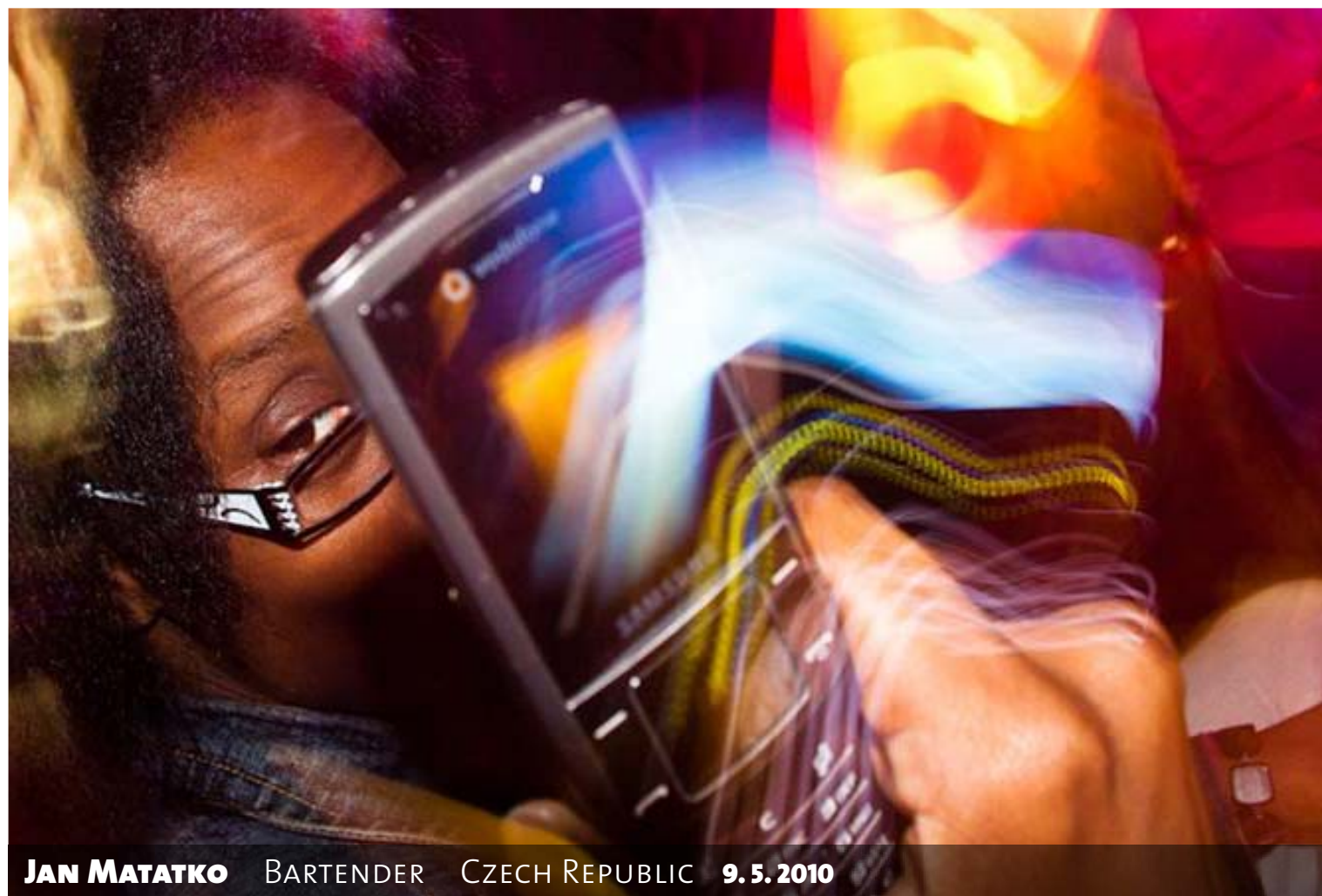


**IVANA MLCKOVA** STUDENT CZECH REPUBLIC 9. 9. 2010

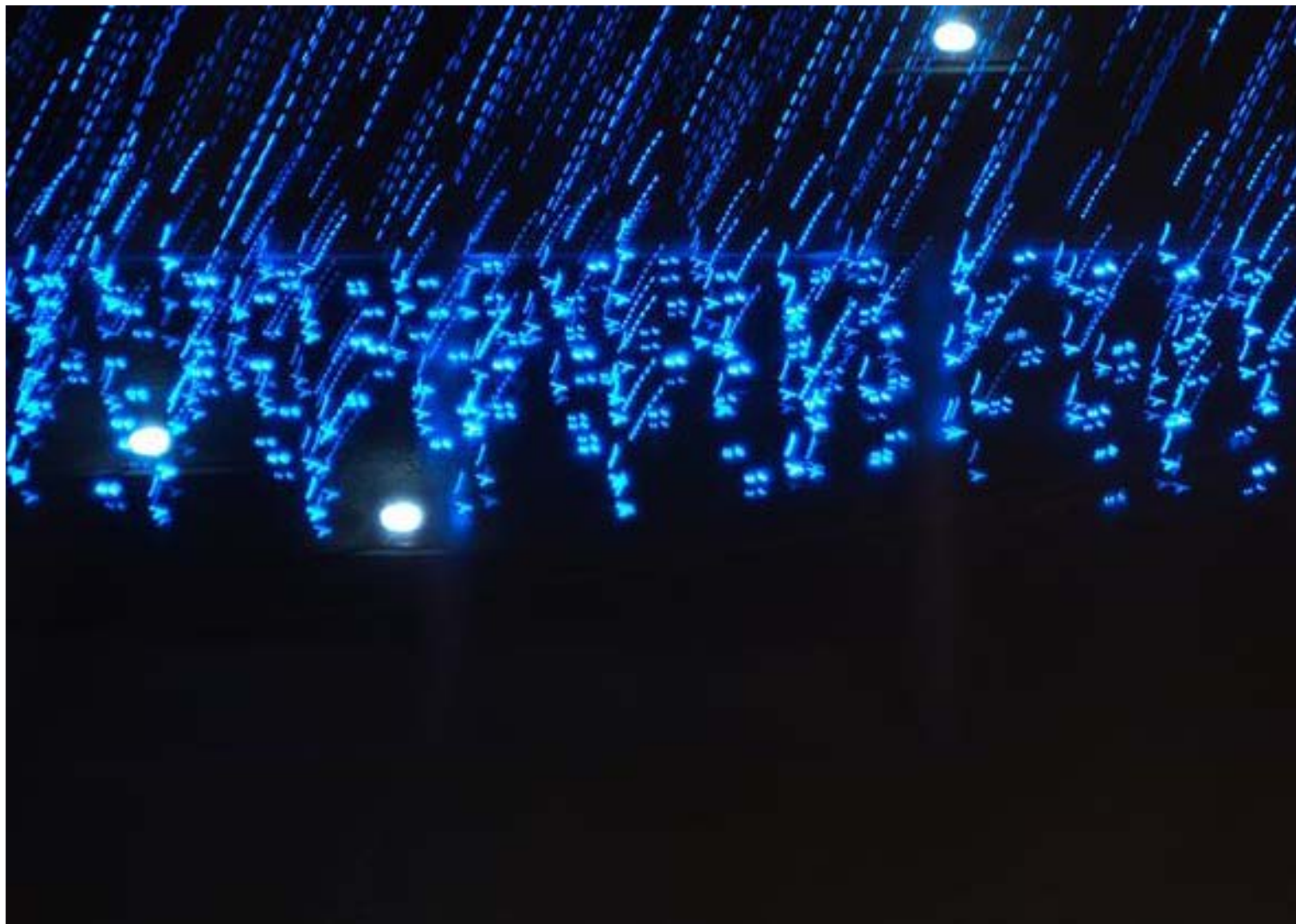
*“See the journey  
of our lives and savor  
the feeling of  
every moment”*



**MARTINA STOLBOVA** TEACHER CZECH REPUBLIC 8. 4. 2010



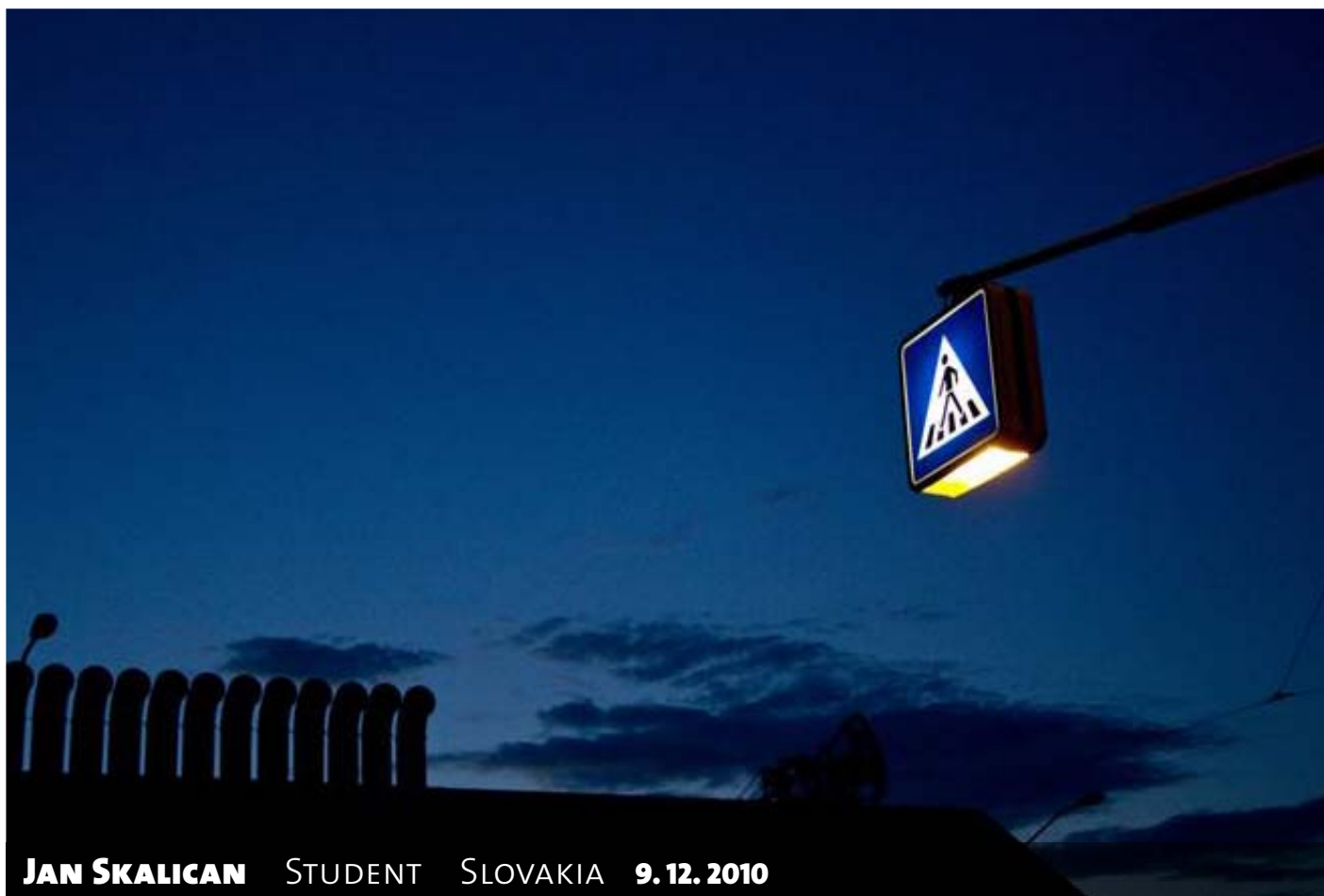
**JAN MATATKO** BARTENDER CZECH REPUBLIC 9. 5. 2010



**NATASHA PAVLOVA** PRESSMAN RUSSIA 9.14.2010



**KACHALINA OLGA** PHOTOGRAPHER RUSSIA 8.8.2010



**JAN SKALICAN** STUDENT SLOVAKIA 9.12.2010

*“Become a co-creator  
of the documentary  
of human beings  
living in the 21st century”*

IL EM NONE SLOVAKIA 1.30.2010

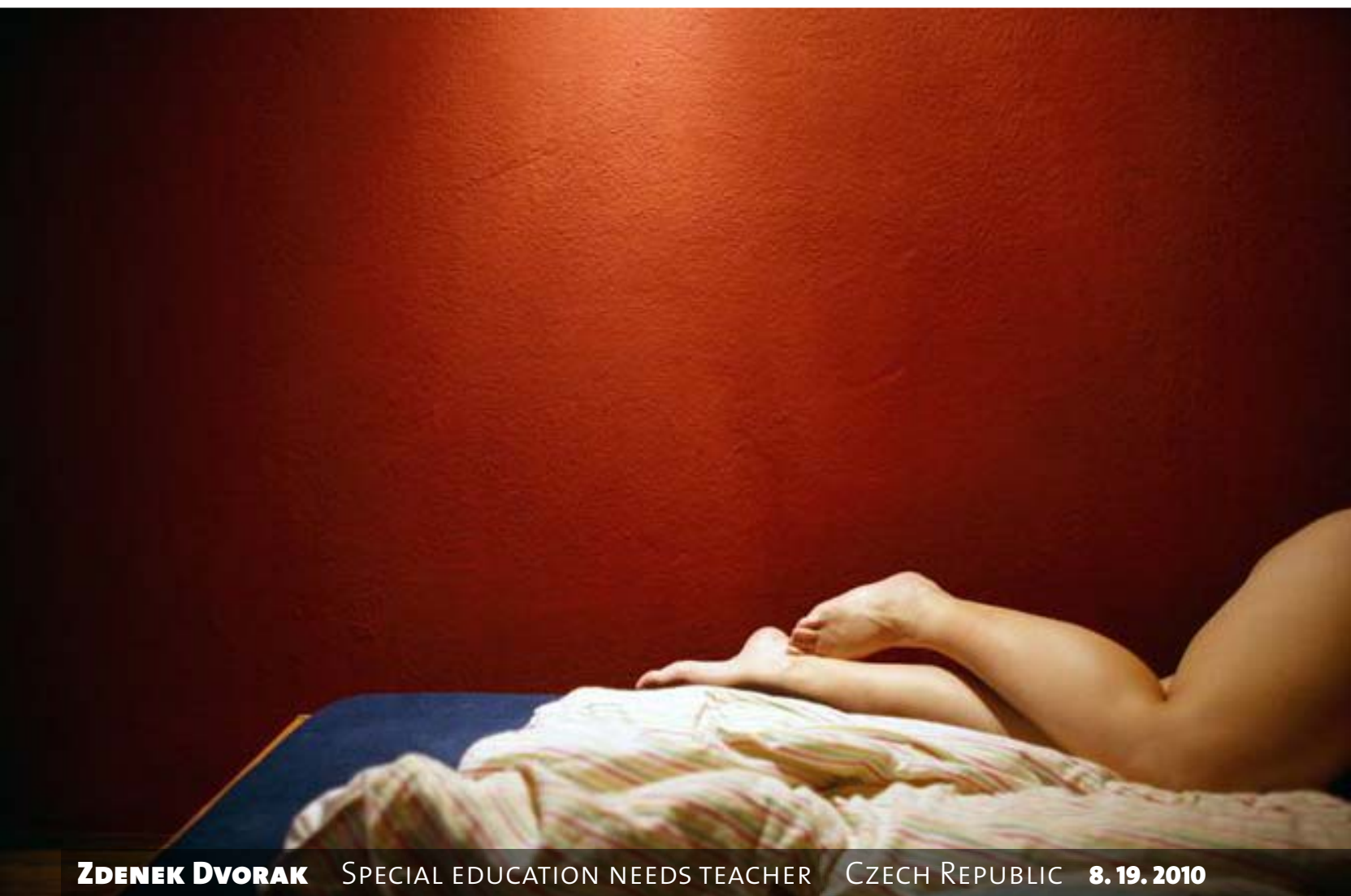


VERA LESENKO RETIRED RUSSIA 8.14.2010

*www.weekoflife.com*



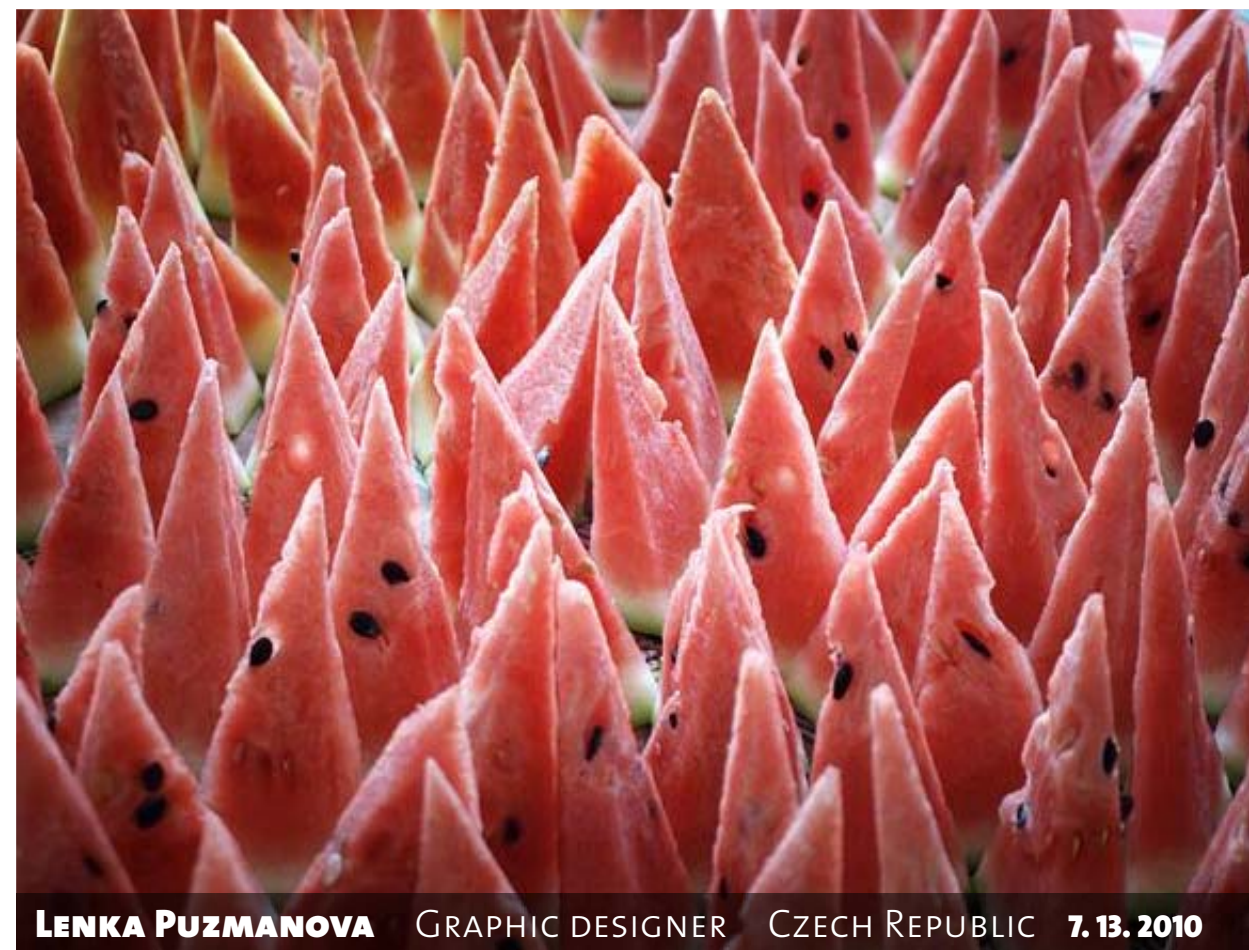
TOMAS LOEWY ENTREPRENEUR FLORIDA 1.31.2010



**ZDENEK DVORAK** SPECIAL EDUCATION NEEDS TEACHER CZECH REPUBLIC 8.19.2010



**POTERYAEV SERGEY** ENGINEER RUSSIA 9.7.2010



**LENKA PUZMANOVA** GRAPHIC DESIGNER CZECH REPUBLIC 7.13.2010

*www.weekoflife.com*



**JIRI VONDRAK** DTP OPERATOR CZECH REPUBLIC 8.15.2010



**EVGENIY LESNOV** ENGINEER RUSSIA 8.28.2010



**SERGEI ROGOZKIN** PROFESSOR RUSSIA 9.6.2010

*“A unique possibility  
to share your life  
with the whole world”*





**JURAJ SUCHARDA** BUSINESSPERSON SLOVAKIA 7. 2. 2010



**JAN NOZICKA** PHOTOGRAPHER CZECH REPUBLIC 8. 25. 2010



**JAROSLAV SKLENAR** FREELANCE ARTIST CZECH REPUBLIC 8. 20. 2010



**FOMAS** GRAPHIC DESIGNER CZECH REPUBLIC 6. 13. 2010



**XIONG JUN** HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA 4. 7. 2010



**ADOLF ZIKA** PHOTOGRAPHER CZECH REPUBLIC 4. 22. 2010



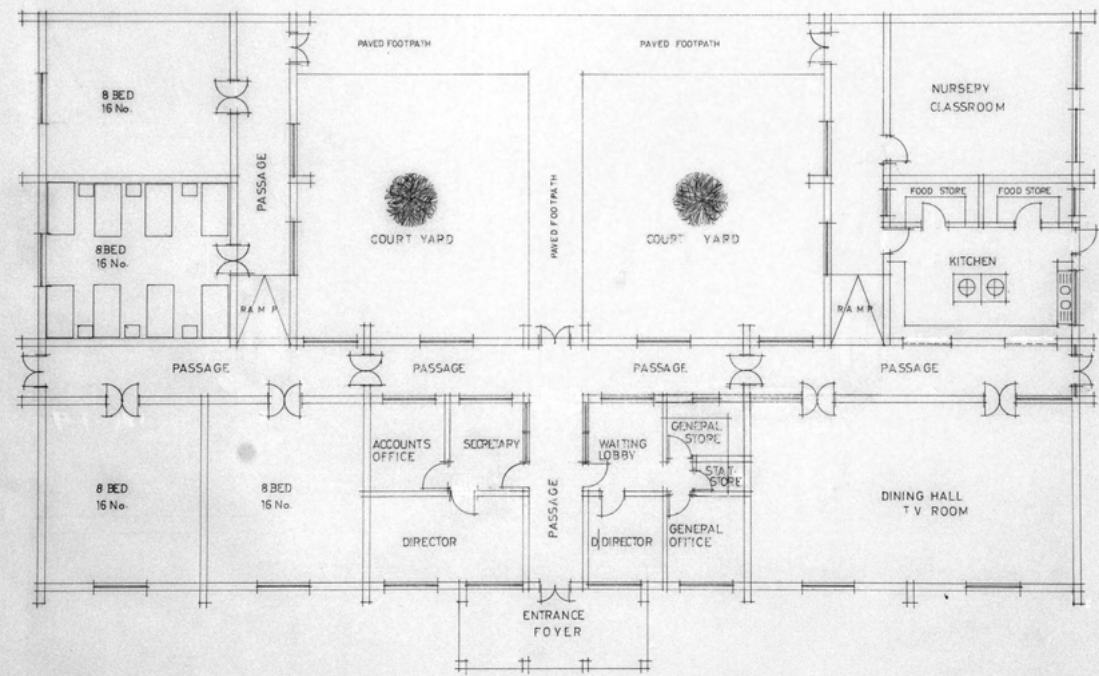
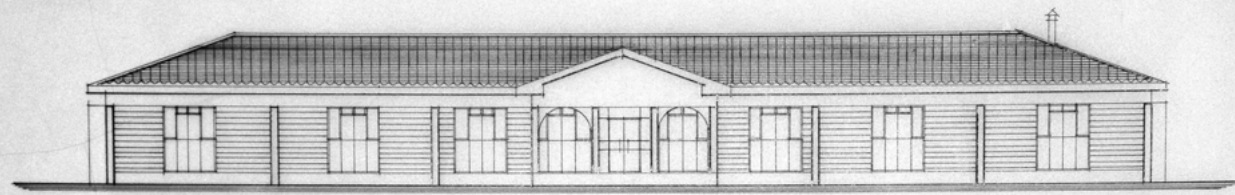
**JULIE NG** SALEPERSON HONG KONG 3. 17. 2010

*“Every life is interesting and certainly worth capturing”*

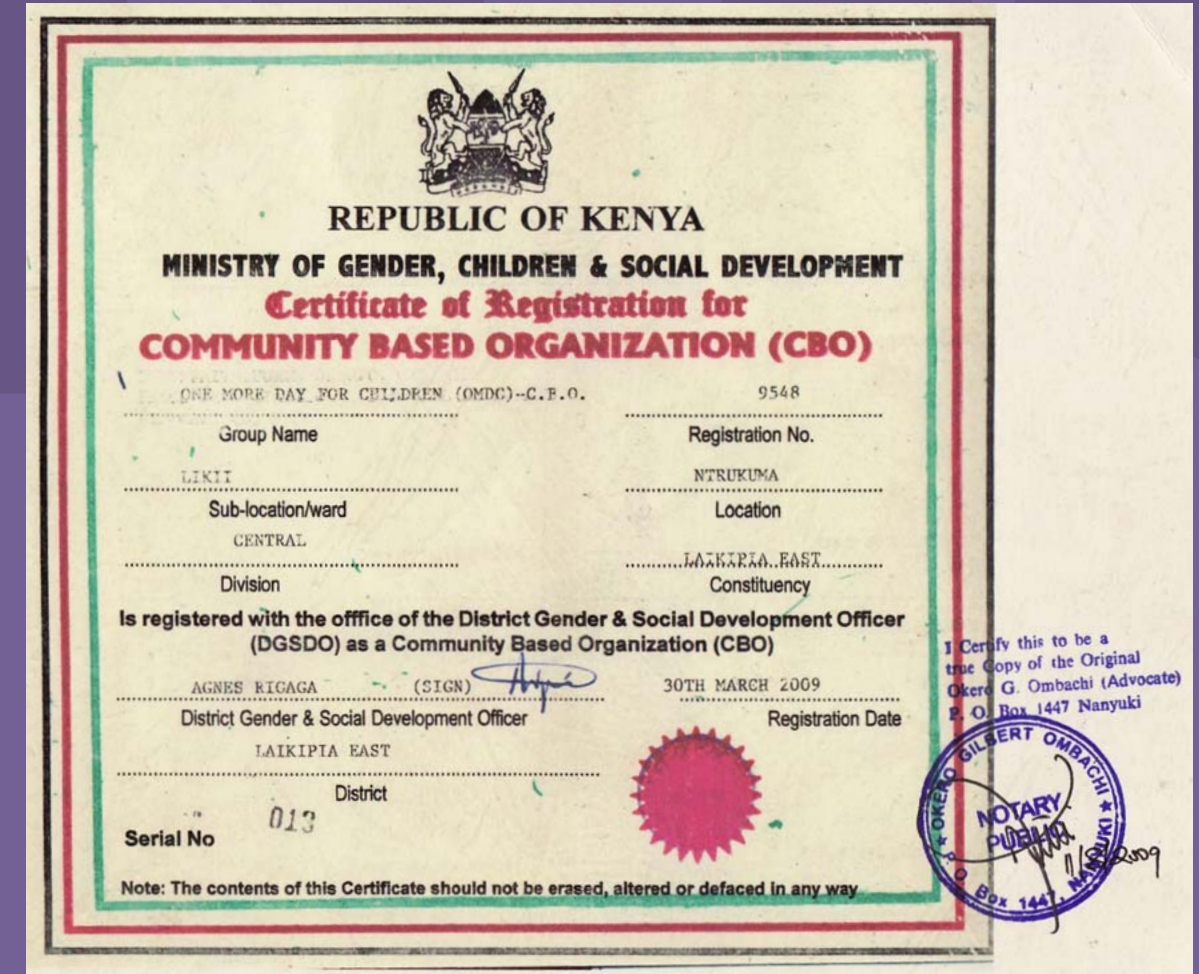
# OMDC

*Help along with us*

OMDC in cooperation with **Week of Life** is building a new **Children's Home in Kenya.**



PROJECT  
ONE MORE DAY FOR  
Comprehensive Chi  
Centre  
Dol Dol  
DEVELOPER  
DRAWN:  
ELLY O DEVA  
TECH. ARCHITECT (21)  
MEMBER OF THE ARCHITECTURAL  
OF KENYA - ARCHITECT



## One More Day for Children

*“Every one of us must have felt the chill on our backs when meeting charity directly face to face. Surely, everybody donates to their surroundings in one way or the other, but there are so many charity foundations of various types to choose from, all beneficial in their own way. However, when asked five times a month to donate without being Bill Gates, you start asking yourself questions whether to give or not, trust or not to trust, give now despite current situation or give elsewhere at another time. We do have to face this issue nonetheless. I, as well as the entire Week of Life team, solved this matter internally in form of the OMDC foundation. We do not want to argue in favor of one charity or the other, we do want to be sure however that the right direction is to donate where there is NOTHING and where HOPE was nothing but a mere phrase up until now.”*

**Adolf Zika, Week of Life**

*“It is not an easy thing to say, but I was blind. I didn't have the slightest idea about where Mombasa is, let alone the Doldol province. My business activities made it possible for me to see the world however and the travels slowly opened my eyes. As the years passed by, something changed, moved in me and I was able to see first hand the transformation of a person that now shows concern, care, but mainly the desire to help. I see things in different perspective today, but primarily, I have realized that the effort, solicitude and all the sacrifice for a part of the world is actually called PLEASURE. I will be glad for any kind of help directed at the lovely and joyful children in Africa, who aren't even aware that their smiles are an ironic instrument of fate.”*

**Jiri Pergl, founder of One More Day For Children**

The foundation **One More Day for Children** is registered with the government of Kenya and is active in the province Laikipia East, West and Central.

**First aid project** – construction of a new Children's Home

**Second aid project** – delivery of food and medicaments to suffering children

**Third aid project** – adoption of a child. See section “New children” in the menu at the website

For more information about OMDC activities and donations, please visit [www.omdc.eu](http://www.omdc.eu)

**Bank account 0102829786000**

Standard Chartered Bank

Name of account – ONE MORE DAY FOR CHILDREN, SWIFT CODE – SCBLKENX  
Street – Kenyatta street, City – Nanyuki, Country – Kenya

*Thank You*



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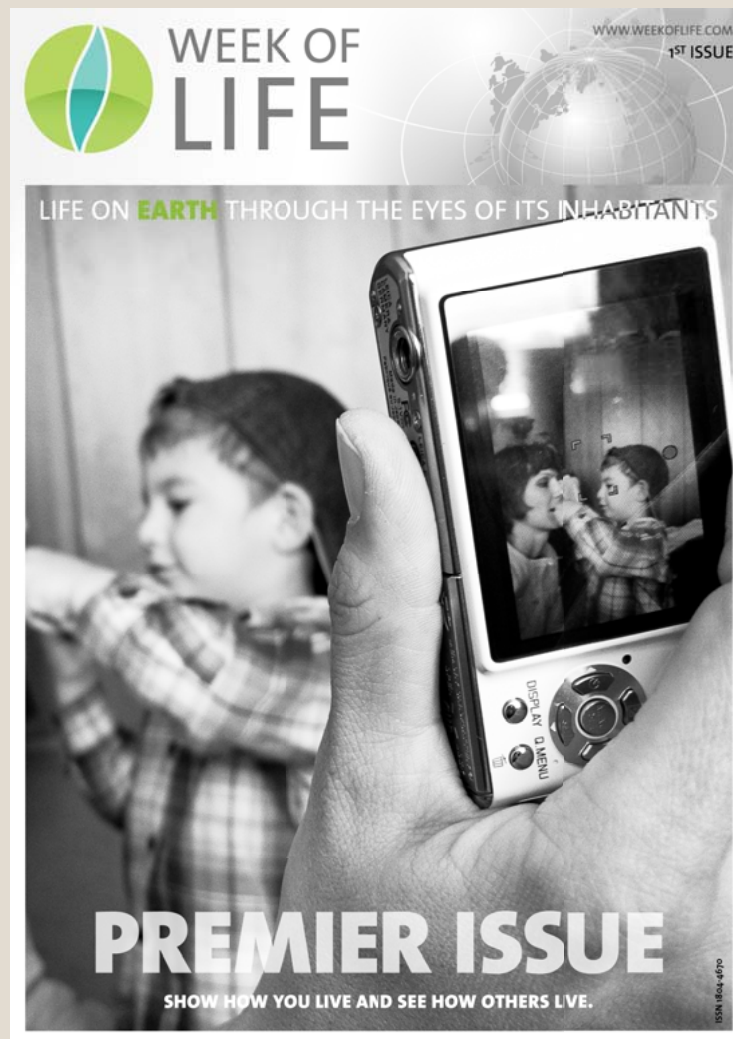
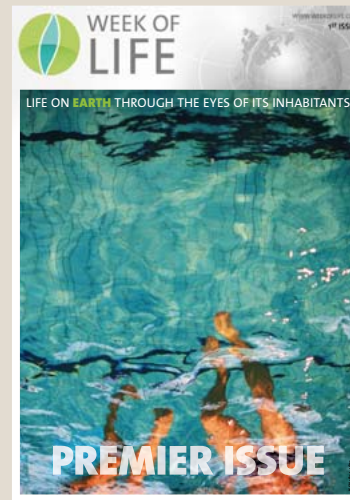
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Photos on this page: Bottom – Cover of the Premier Issue, Three at the top: Unused versions which may be seen in the future

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recognize true richness  
can appreciate it



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