

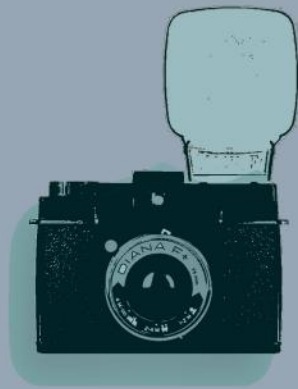


# BETA

developments in photography

59

APRIL 2026



Cover image 'Corpus 2' [detail] from the series 'The Neuroanatomy of Water' © Steve Goldband & Ellen Konar

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# BETA ALUMNI

ADLER Monika #44  
AFSHAR Hoda #2  
AKIMOV Andrey #38  
AL DAGHARI Saleh #36  
AL RAWI Basil #4  
ALTMAN Ben #19  
ANDERSON Lewis #28  
ANDERSON Ri #22 & #50  
ASHTON Robert #46  
AZHAR Che' Ahmad #18  
BACON KIDWELL Angela #5 & #16  
BAKER Ben #41  
BARKER Mandy #13  
BATEMAN Edward #22  
BECKER Craig #19  
BELL Marcus #53  
BENSON Steven #46  
BIDEGAIN Ray #47  
BINI Alfredo #24  
BIRD Leon #11 & #16  
BLACKWOOD Christa #10  
BLAKE Jason #26  
BLANCH Alice #5  
BLINKINSOP Philip #38  
BODIN John #10  
BOGACZEWICZ Peter #41  
BOGARTTE J Karl #37  
BOGUE Terence Stewart #6  
BONANNO Simona #7  
BOSCAINI Gloria #50  
BRADLEY Todd #22  
BURNSTINE Susan #9  
CAGA Jan #15  
CARLILE Brad #12  
CARTIER F & D #10  
CASH Neil #1 & #23  
CATO John #6  
CERASOMMA Nicoletta #58  
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CHANG He #15  
CHASKIELBERG Alejandro #16  
CHEN Calvin #22  
COBURN Daniel #26  
COCKBURN Gary #18  
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CONROY Juliette #10  
COOPER Dean #36  
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ESTABROOK Argus Paul #28  
EVANS SMITH Heather #54  
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FORMAN Fran #34  
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FREDERICKS Scott #24  
GEORGE Daniel #25  
GILLET Francois #52  
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GOLLINGS John #1  
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GRIFFIN Brian #39  
GRIFFITH Tim #1  
HABERL Judy #35  
HARDING PITTMAN Robert #9  
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JIE Pan #35  
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JOREN Gerhard #1  
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KARLINSKI Wojciec #43  
KATSAROVA Boryana #16  
KAZANJIAN Jim #27  
KEARNEY Tony #2  
KEEVER Kim #18  
KELLNER Thomas #16  
KEMP Ian #38  
KERN RJ #33  
KIM Sungmin #23  
KIRKPATRICK Bear #12  
KISTNER Horst #31  
KLEIN Sandra #26  
KOURAKOU Antigone #45  
KOZHANOVA Mariya #11  
KOZKA Bronek #49  
KRIVIC Matjaz #20  
KRUGH Kent #12  
KURLAT Galina #4  
LABOILE Alain #47  
LANGFORD Mike #56  
LECHNER Jurgen #13  
LEUNIG Helga #23  
LEVENTIS Chris #54

LEVY Moises #54  
LIPSKY Clay #3  
LONG Jane #16  
MACAK Sonia #6  
MACRAE Sheena #6  
MALEK Nasser #57  
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MARCIN Ben #3  
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MC DONALD Laurence #58  
MC GRATH Mick #27  
MC KEAN Charles #56  
MC KIECH Murray #43  
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MILLER Nathan #7  
MILLOTT Richard #16  
MIRACOLO Debbie #45  
MOORFOOT Jeff #55  
MORAN Robert #14  
NINOMIYA Naohiro #23  
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O' SHEA Meredith #6  
PAGE Colin #6  
PAINE Jeff #17  
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PANEBIANCO Catherine #48  
PANG XianLiang #16 & #27  
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PARASCANDOLA Mark #34  
PAYNE Christopher #19  
PEACOCK Barbara #58  
PENG Abbey #25  
PENG Xiangjie #21  
PERETTI Viviana #2  
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POND Lori #29  
RANKEN Jackie #6  
RANSOM & MITCHELL #19  
RASMANIS Kara #1 & #16  
REED Mike #44  
REINHART Johannes #21  
REZA #47  
RIBART Guilhem #52  
RIDER Paul #45  
RODICK Frank #40  
ROGERS PRITZL Michelle #13  
ROPP William #14  
ROSS Doc #6  
ROTHER Frank #9  
RUOTED Robert #5  
SAGUY Dotan #33  
SALGO Roberto #57  
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SCHEURWATER Hester #6  
SCHILL Allen #30  
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SCHNELL Jean #27  
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SHANEWAZ KHAN Mohammed #42  
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SHEPPARD Gary #7  
SHERROD Judy F #5  
SHIM Jai Yon #2  
SIKORA Tomek #25  
SIMONUTTI Lauren #1  
SMALLMAN John #17  
SPENCER Jack #43  
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STONE Elizabeth #42  
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SUNDET Dida #17  
SURRETT Dawn #38  
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TACON Dave #16  
TADROS Ingetje #14  
TERLIZZI JP #32  
THOMSON Matt #17  
VANDERHILST Robert #49  
VANNIER Michele #16  
VANWELLEGHEM Frederick #3  
VENEZKY Martin #32  
VERSTEEG Greer #11  
VICTOR Eric #46  
VINCIGUERRA Guy #6  
VLASENKO Vsevolod #15  
VUKOBRATOVIC Rina #4  
WADDINGTON Rod #5  
WAGENSTEIN Oded #31  
WALLS Rob #20  
WALTON HEALEY Nicholas #36  
WASHBURN Peggy #41  
WERTHEIM Andres #13  
WESTON Grace #44  
WEYLAND Ingrid #48  
WILKES Becky #32  
WILLIAMS David A #16  
WILLIAMS Michelle #17  
WITHAM Kimberly #53  
WITMAN Deanna #3 & #33  
WRIGHT Rick #33  
WRIGLEY Ben #16  
YU Ningtai #34  
ZAHORNACKY Michal #56  
ZAMMIT LUPI Darrin #16  
ZEILON Elisabeth #6  
ZEISS Rebecca #34  
ZHAO Zengyi #21  
ZUPCO Ion #47



Chris BUDGEON

AUSTRALIA/CANADA  
[www.chrisbudgeon.com](http://www.chrisbudgeon.com)

COOPER PEDY



Steve GOLDBAND & Ellen KONAR

USA  
[www.goldband.com](http://www.goldband.com)

The  
Neuroanatomy  
of Water



Vaune TRACHTMAN

USA  
[www.vaune.net](http://www.vaune.net)

*Now is Always*  
COLLABORATING ACROSS TIME



Ralf J DIEMB

GERMANY

DECEPTIVE CALM  
when the earth was still asleep

# COOBER PEDY

*I was commissioned to travel to Coober Pedy and capture a 'day in the life' style story of an opal miner who lived there underground in a home he had dug out himself. Dave was a true eccentric, possibly even a bit of a hermit, who had arrived in Coober Pedy from America riding an old Triumph 40 years ago and just never left. It was Coober Pedy in January, unbelievably hot and virtually deserted. We tagged along with Dave for several days as he went about his daily routine and I was very grateful for his patient generosity and boundless enthusiasm for all things geological. Along with some amazing memories, I returned to Melbourne with two prized possessions: a propellor from the first ultralight aircraft in Australia, and a beautiful fist sized meteorite that Dave presented to me as I left.*

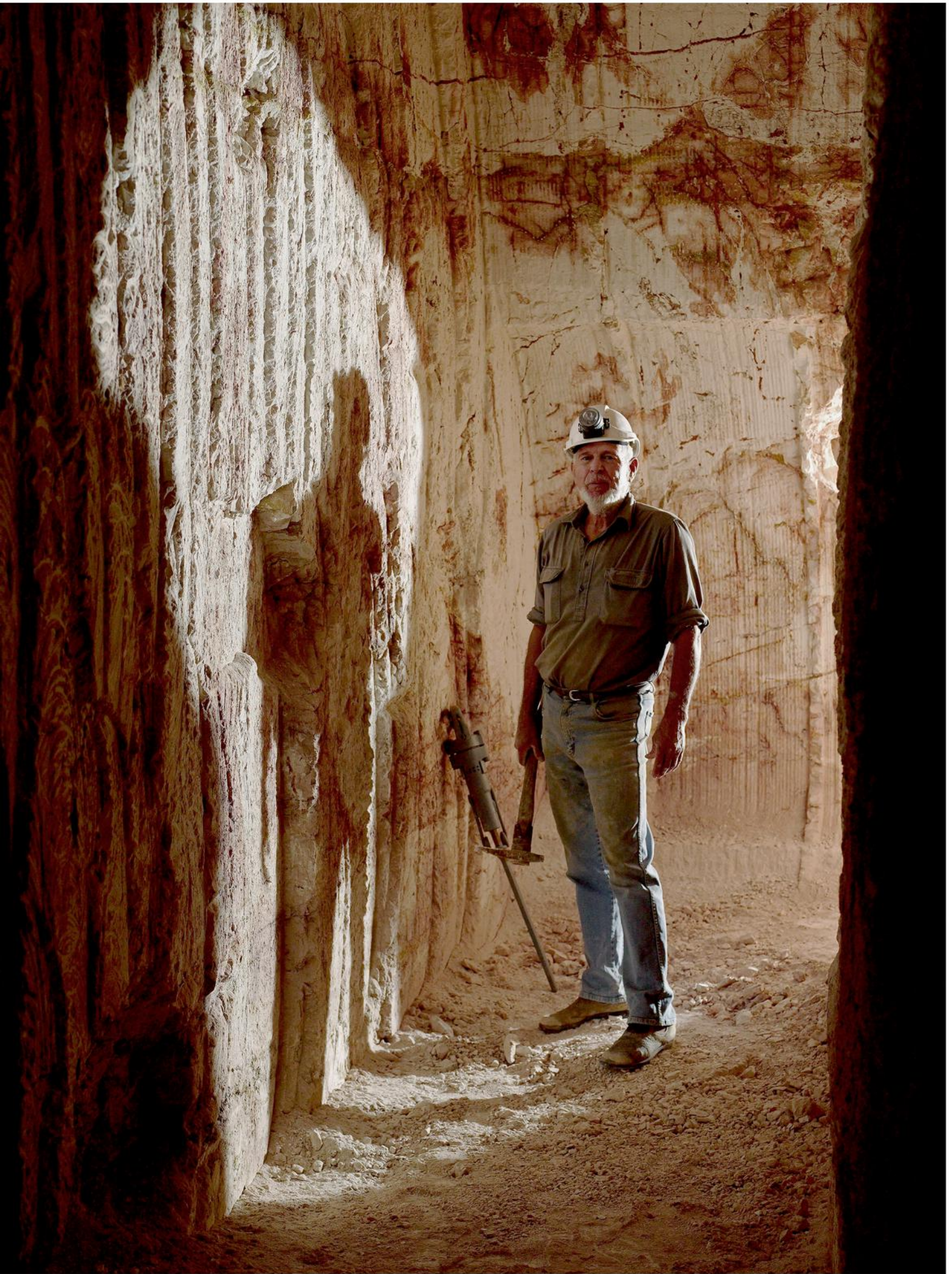




CHRIS BUDGEON



























**COOBER PEDY**

**DANGER**







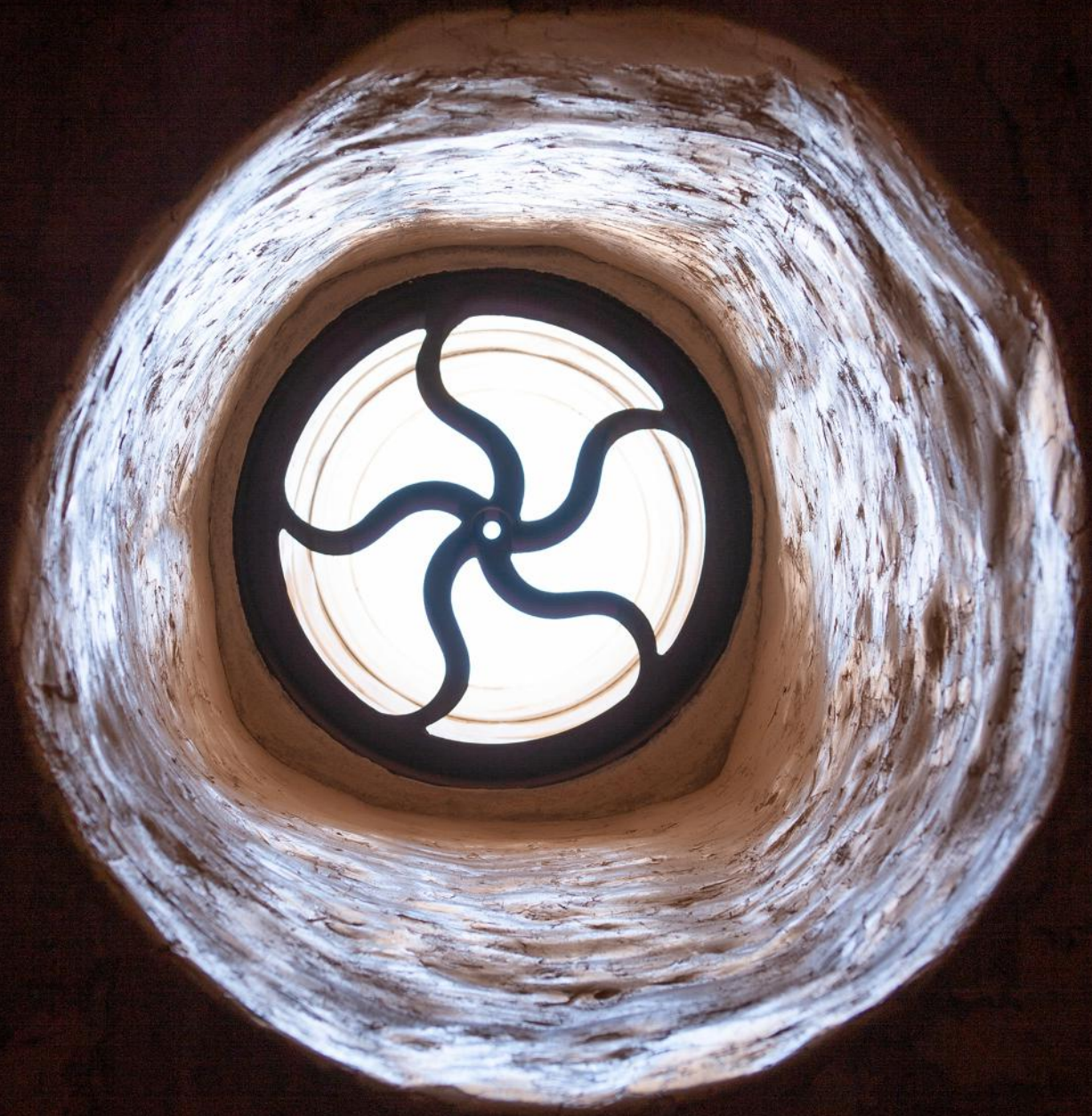


















***Chris Budgeon** is a Canadian born, Australian based photographic artist specializing in lens based media.*

*He has served as a Lecturer and Adjunct Professor at RMIT in Melbourne and been involved in countless projects and campaigns leading to multiple inclusions in awards, exhibitions and annuals including the Taylor Wessing Award, Moran Photographic Award, Olive Cotton Award, HeadOn, Martin Kantor Award, Ulrich and Schubert Award, Iris Award, Percival Award, Bowness Award, Graphis Photographic Annual, American Photography Annual, Communication Arts Annual, D&AD and AWARD.*

*Highlights have included being selected 11 times into Lurzer's Archive Top 200 Advertising Photographers Worldwide, including the 2021/22 cover image, a 2022 Taylor Wessing Finalist and being a National Portrait Prize Finalist 7 times.*

[WWW.CHRISBUDGEON.COM](http://WWW.CHRISBUDGEON.COM)

# The Neuroanatomy of Water

Standing at the shore, breaking surf on a stormy day is seductive. Photographing turbulent surf from above, without the grounding of horizon or shore, we see beyond the surface to the structures below: its neuroanatomy. We revel in lace-like white filaments spreading across blue fields, fleeting configurations that exist for mere seconds before being reabsorbed into the ocean.

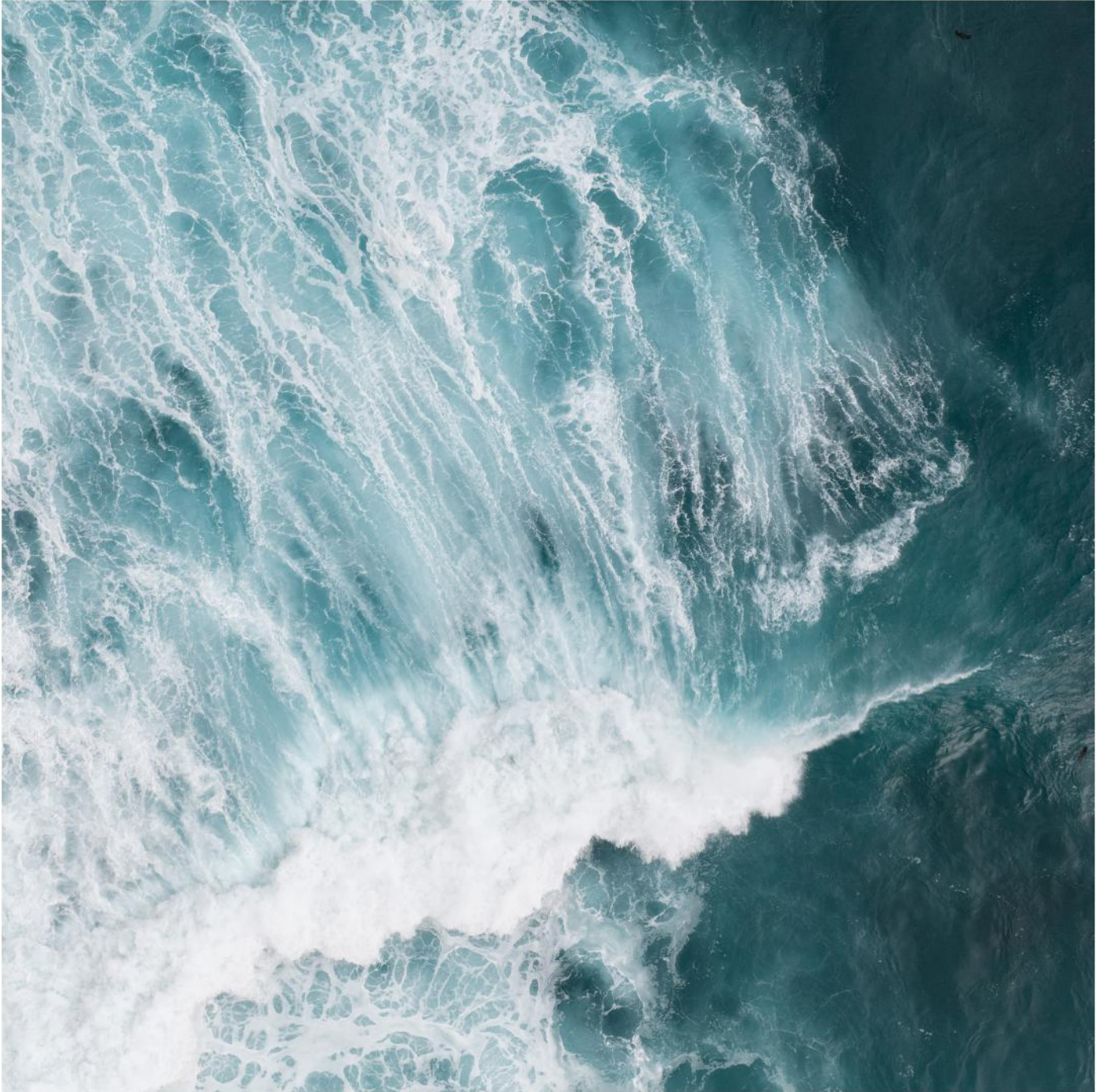
For Steve, these images are oddly familiar, bearing an uncanny resemblance to cerebral neurons, a subject of his earlier career as a neuroscientist studying the brain's response to stress. Beyond the visual similarities, we note that both the ocean surf and the cerebral nervous system involve activation and return: turbulence rising, intensifying, and dissolving back into a baseline state. In certain images, where the composition invites it, we focus the eye travels toward an inner circle — quiet the surrounding field evoking the view through a microscope and also the curve of the earth seen from above.

As human activity pushes our oceans toward their breaking point, these images of the neuroanatomy of water are a visual rallying cry. They call us to protect the fragility and power of our oceans as if our lives depended on it — they do.

STEVE GOLDBAND & ELLEN KONAR

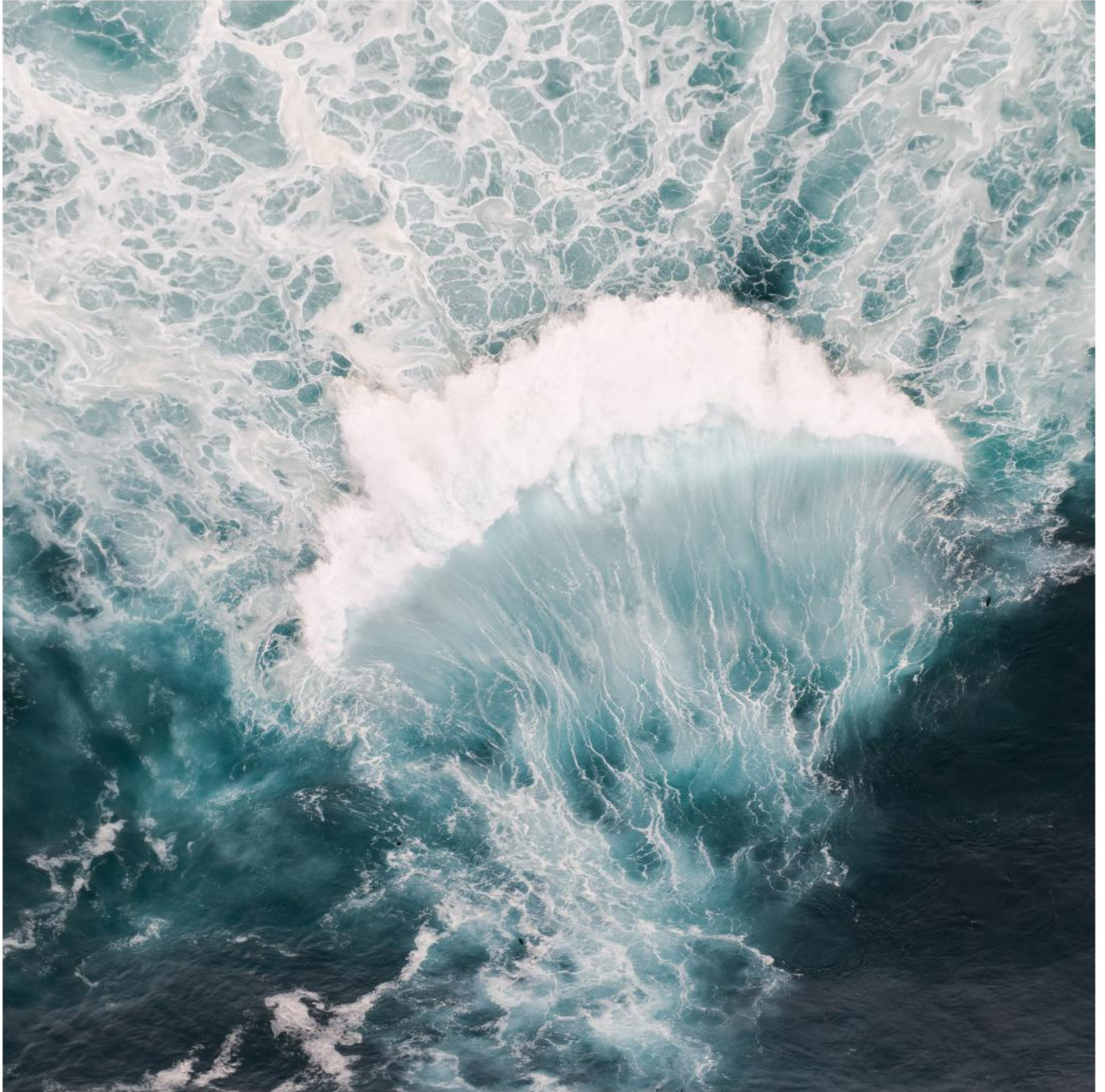








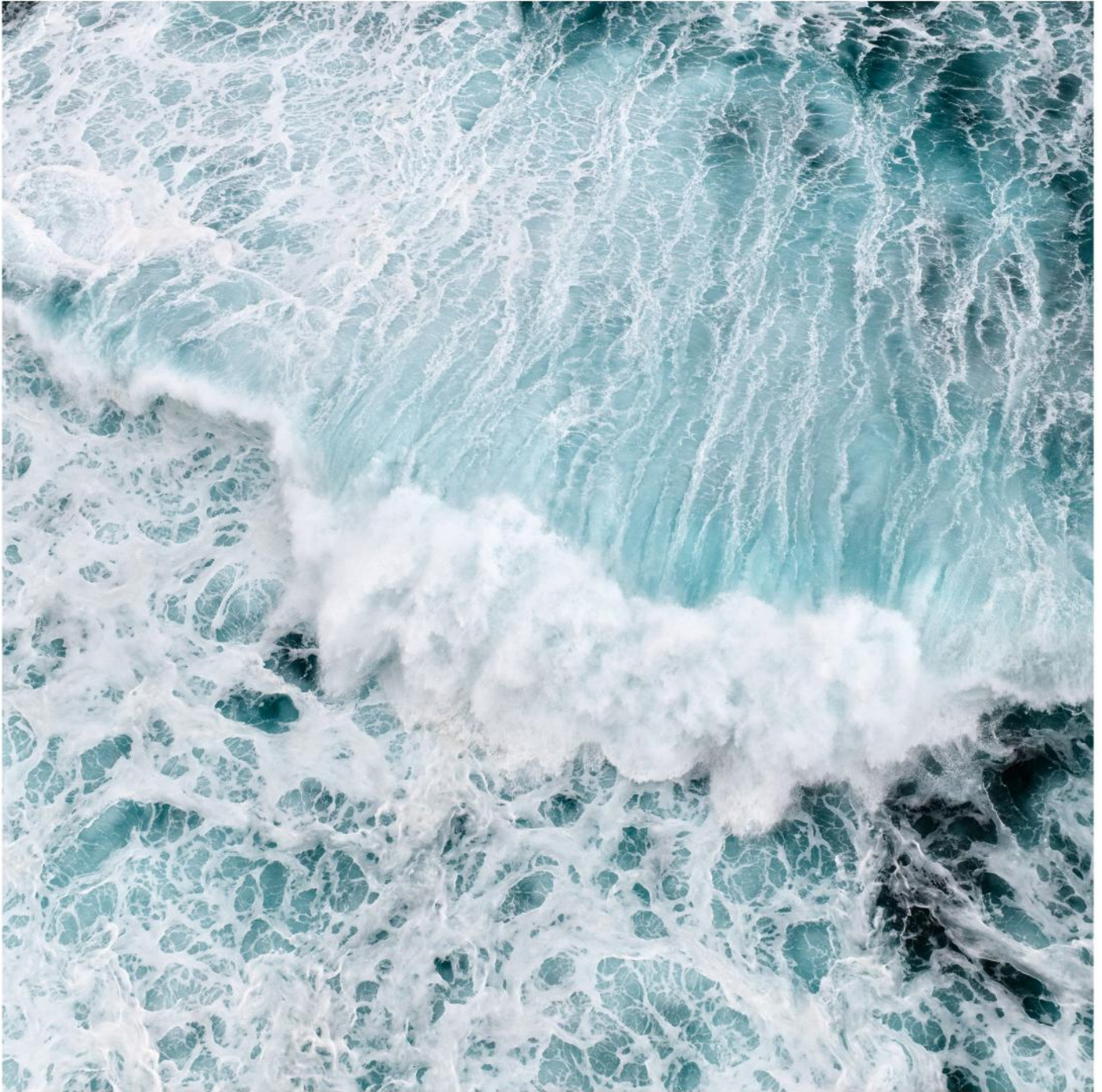
*Dorsal*





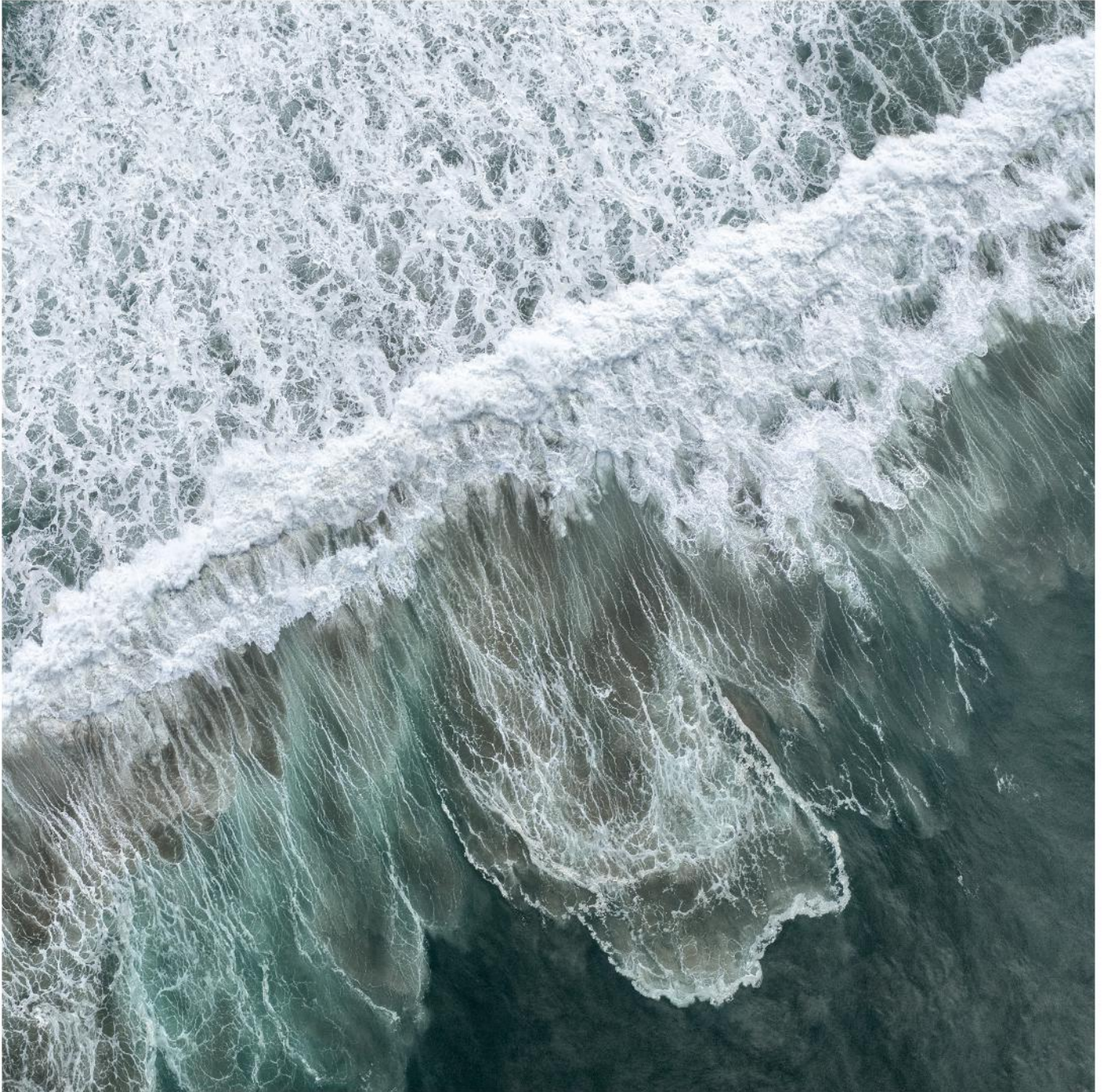
*Dendrite*



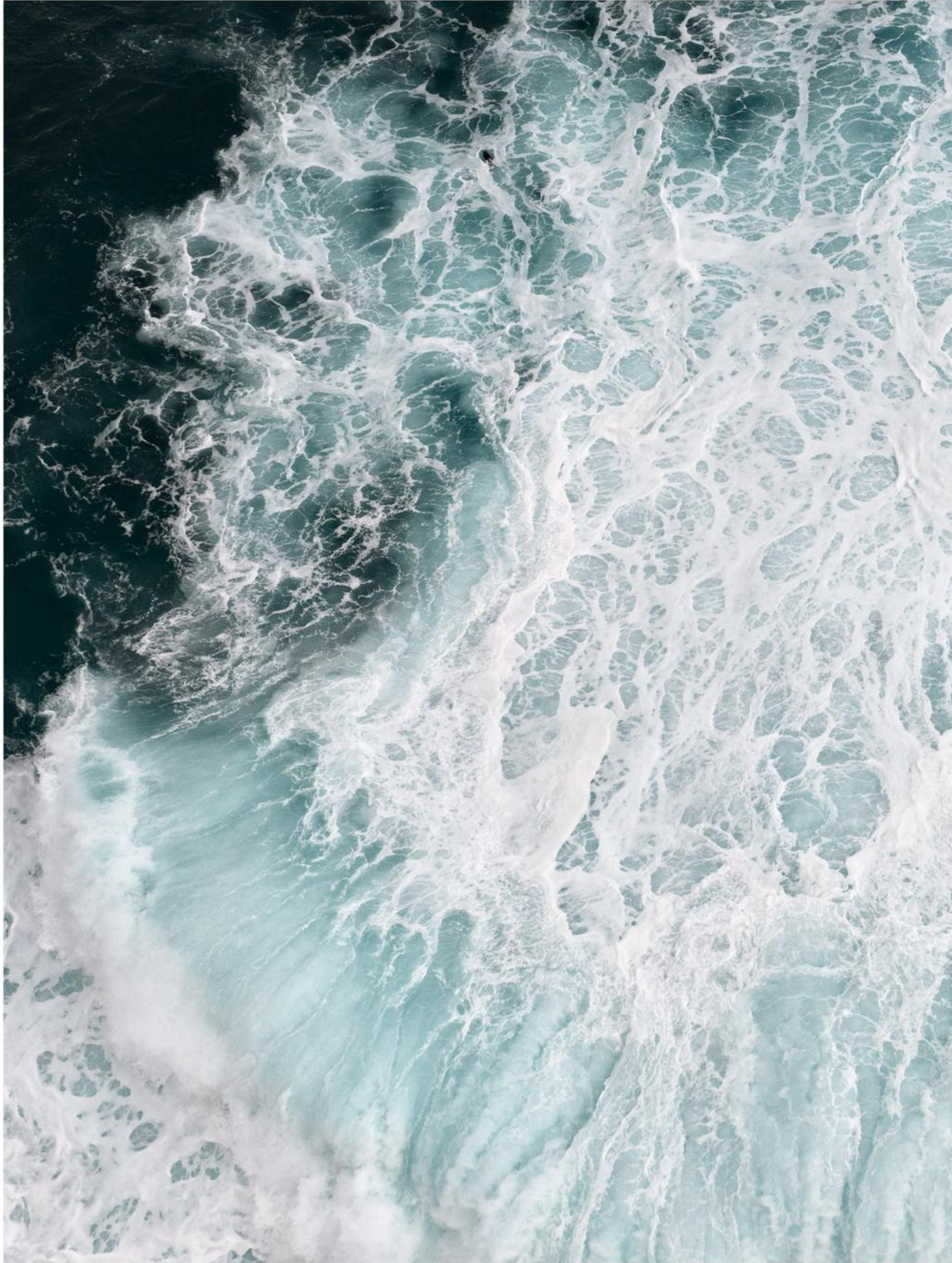








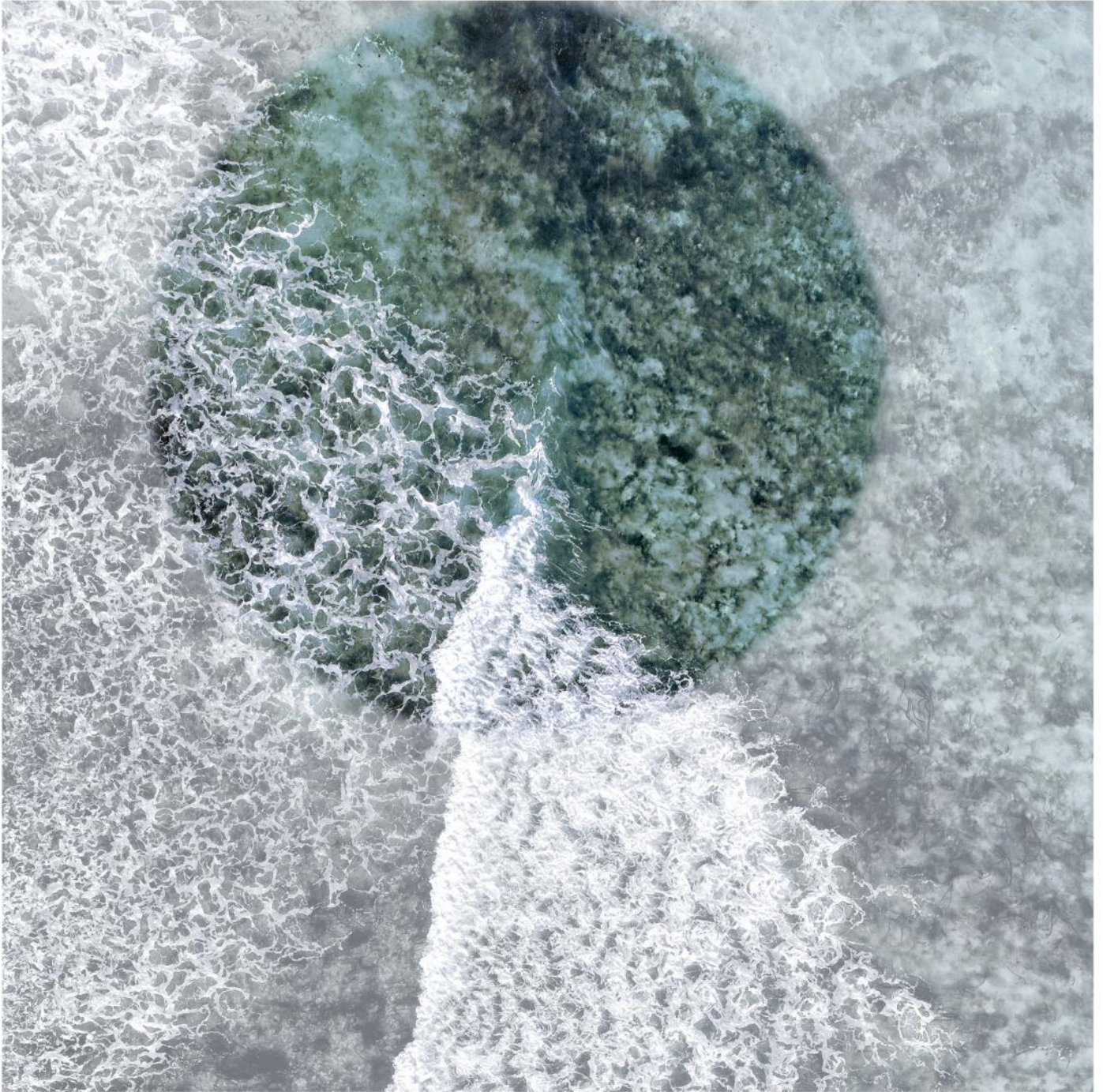
*Fissure 2*

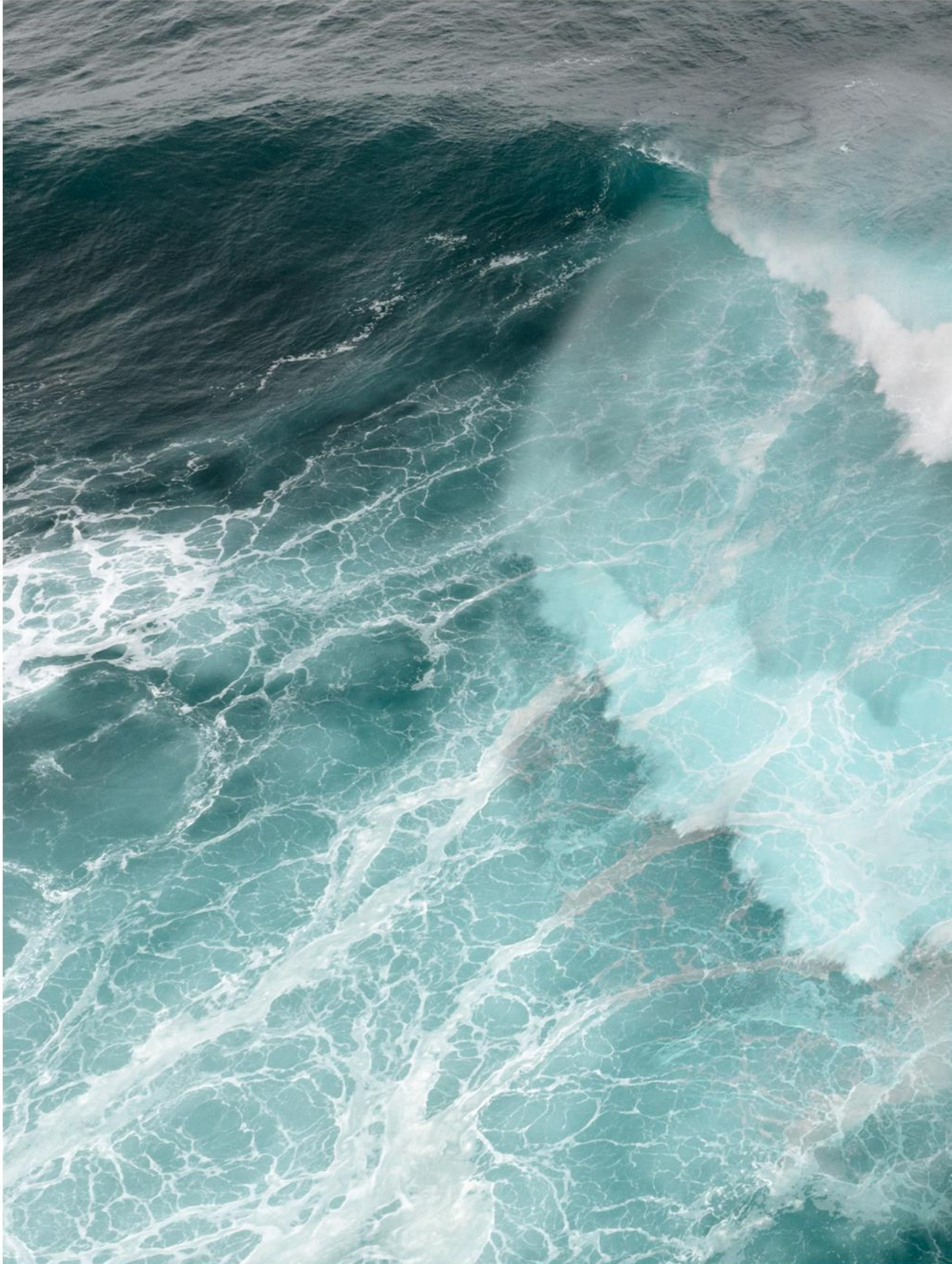


*Pallium*



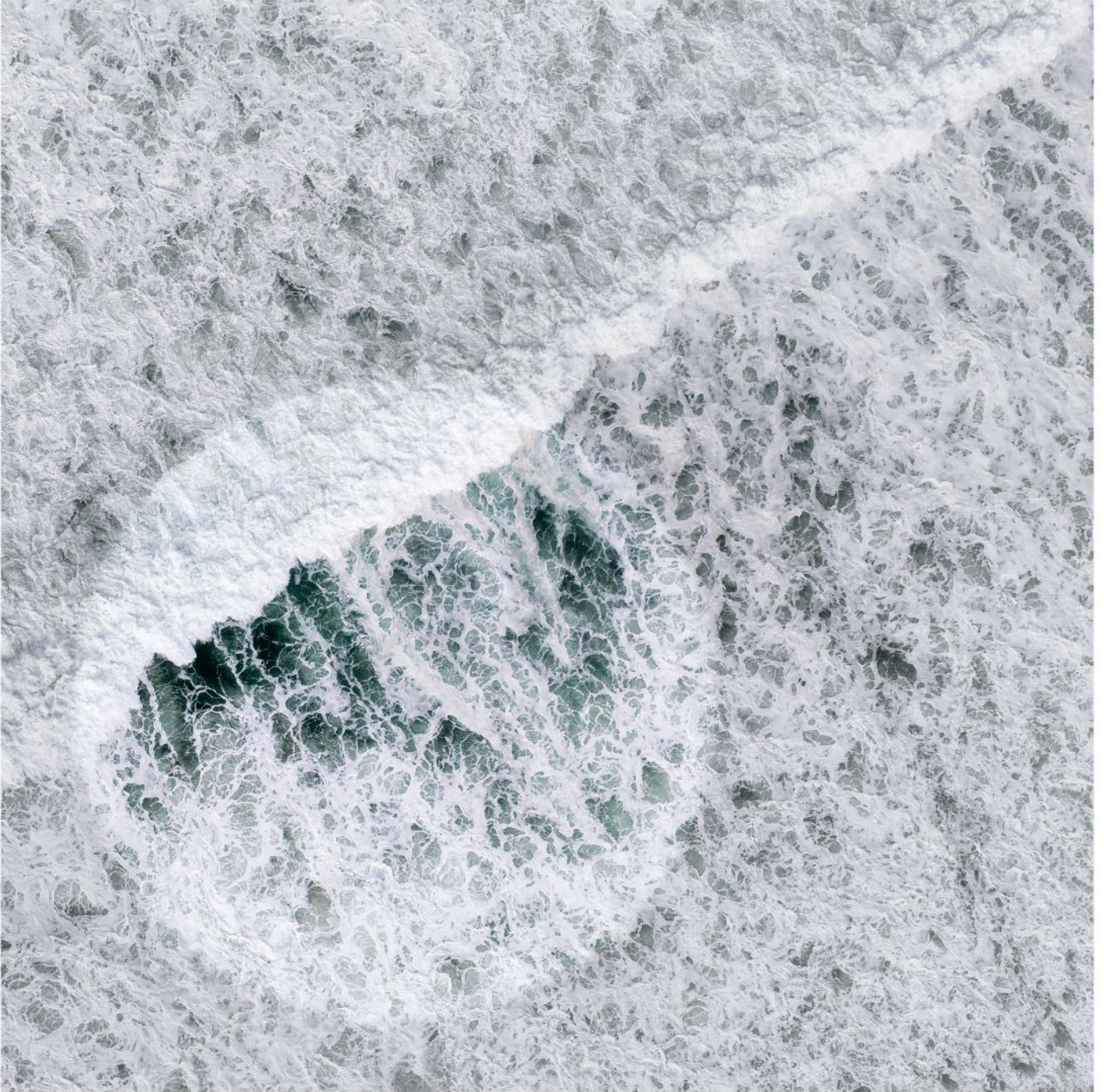


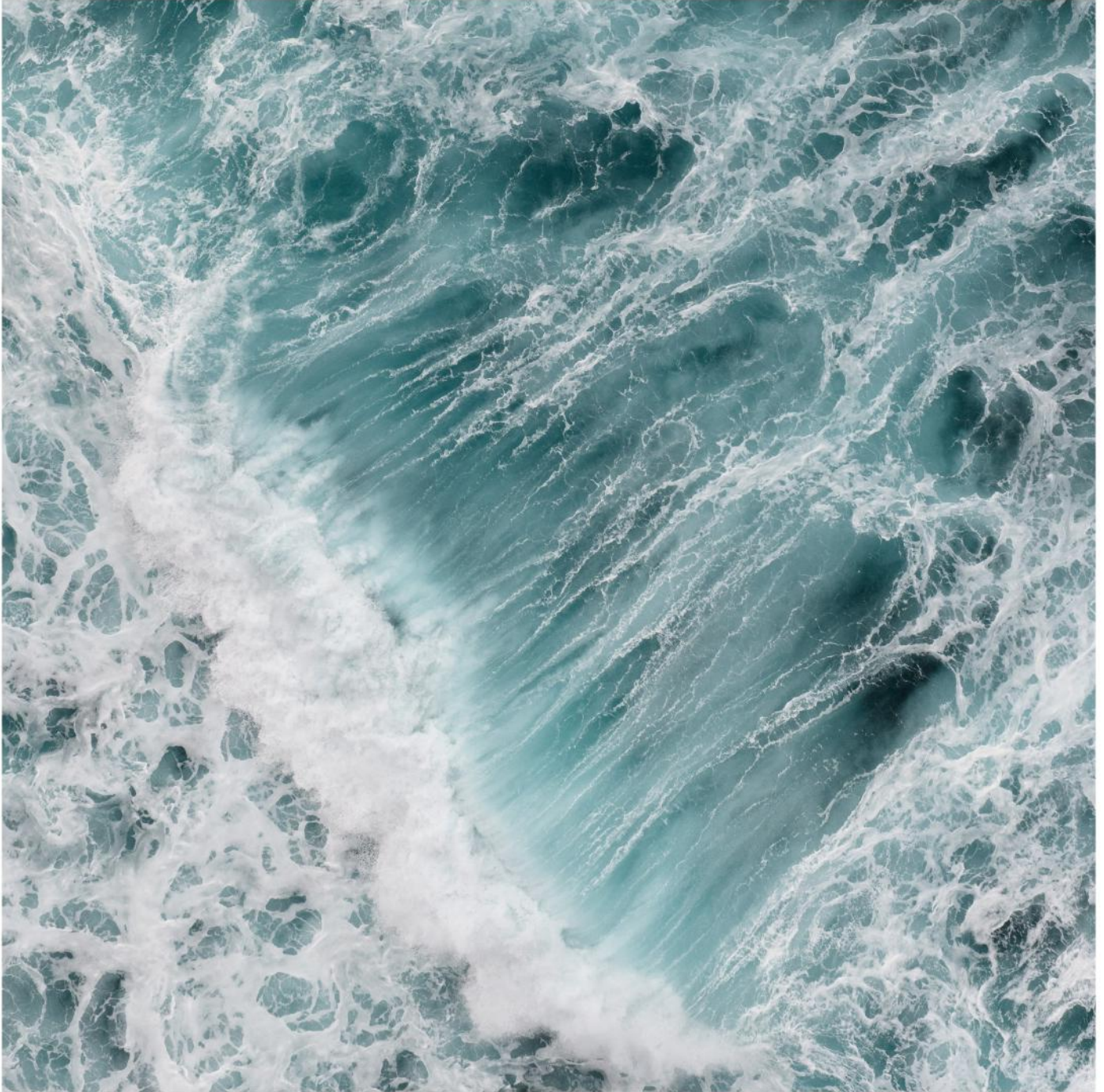


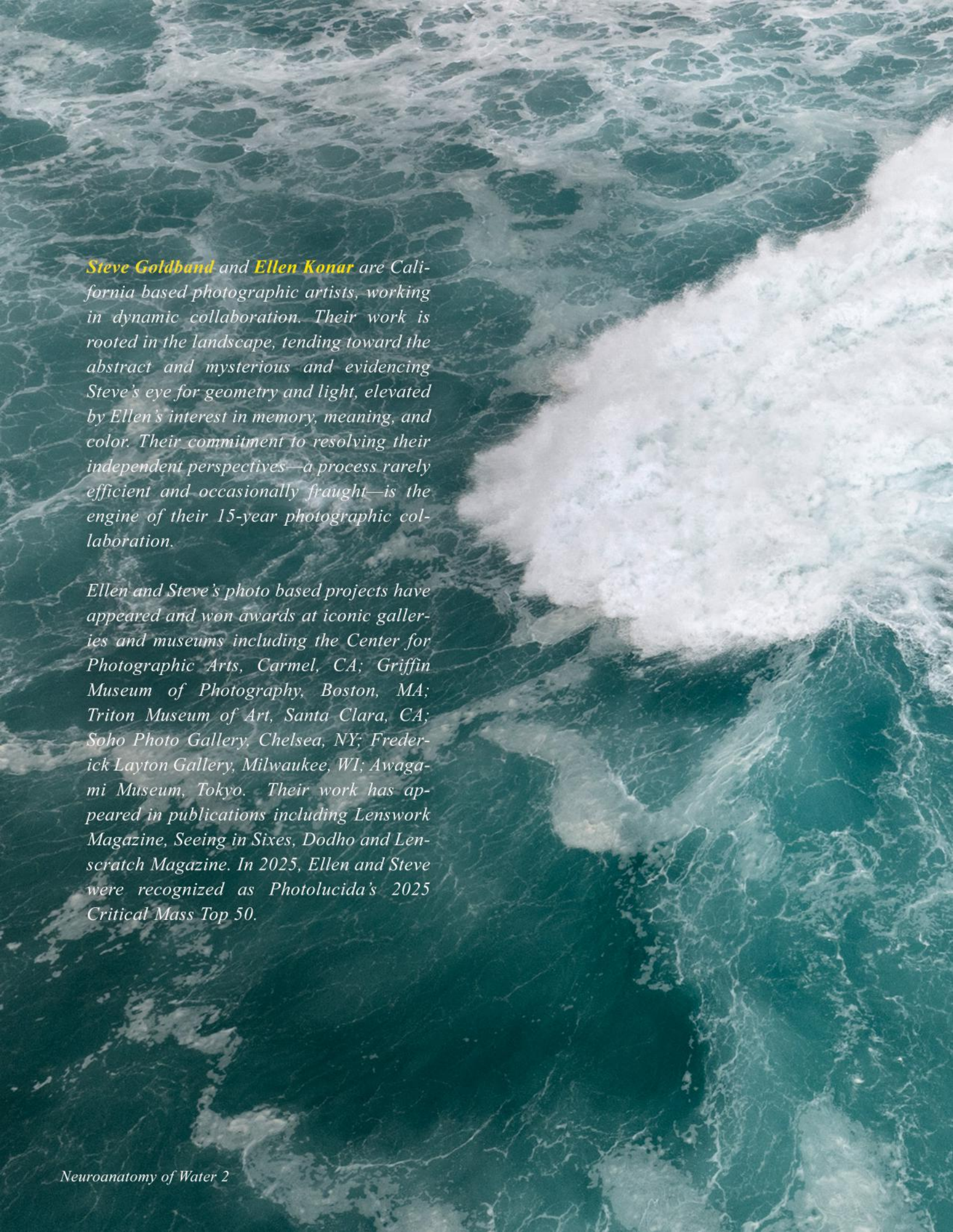


*Medulla*









**Steve Goldband** and **Ellen Konar** are California based photographic artists, working in dynamic collaboration. Their work is rooted in the landscape, tending toward the abstract and mysterious and evidencing Steve's eye for geometry and light, elevated by Ellen's interest in memory, meaning, and color. Their commitment to resolving their independent perspectives—a process rarely efficient and occasionally fraught—is the engine of their 15-year photographic collaboration.

Ellen and Steve's photo based projects have appeared and won awards at iconic galleries and museums including the Center for Photographic Arts, Carmel, CA; Griffin Museum of Photography, Boston, MA; Triton Museum of Art, Santa Clara, CA; Soho Photo Gallery, Chelsea, NY; Frederick Layton Gallery, Milwaukee, WI; Awagami Museum, Tokyo. Their work has appeared in publications including *Lenswork Magazine*, *Seeing in Sixes*, *Dodho* and *Len-scratch Magazine*. In 2025, Ellen and Steve were recognized as *Photolucida's* 2025 *Critical Mass Top 50*.



[WWW.GOLDBAND.COM](http://WWW.GOLDBAND.COM)

# *Now is Always*

## COLLABORATING ACROSS TIME

*This series began in the 1930s when my father took some photos near his home in Philadelphia. Nearly 90 years later I obtained his negatives, which I combined with my own images. NOW IS ALWAYS is our collaboration across time.*

*My parents died when I was young. I left home when I was fifteen, and I moved around a lot. Often the view out a car window felt more like home than wherever I was living. Over time, I've developed a kinship with blurred bridges and the husks of industrial towns racing by at two in the morning.*

*In this series, my father's life becomes part of these landscapes. In NOW IS ALWAYS, I want to create a sense of collapsed-yet-expanded time. Yes, I want to see what my father once saw, and yes, I want him to see what I see—but I also want the viewer to look at the past, and I want the past to look right back. I want viewer and subject to feel each other's gaze. And by combining images taken almost a century apart, I also want to integrate layers of technology and image-making history.*



VAUNE TRACHTMAN

*Gravitate*



*Corner*



*Kindred*



*Starren*



*Flint*





*Bound*



*Conduct*



*Limn*



*Singlet*



*Cycle*







*Tenement Roof #1*




*Yoke*



*Reverie*



*Scull*



**Vaune Trachtman** is a photographer and printmaker whose work honors historic processes without relying on toxic chemicals. Formerly a master printer of silver-gelatin prints and asphaltum-based photogravures, she began rethinking her materials after feeling that traditional methods were compromising her immune system. She now creates photopolymer gravures with little more than light and water.

Vaune has been in *Photolucida's* Critical Mass Top 50; shortlisted for the international Hariban Award; received the Olcott Family Award in *The Print Center's* ANNUAL Competition. Her series *NOW IS ALWAYS* was recognized as a Top Portfolio by *Rfotofolio* and an Outstanding Work by the Denis Roussel Awards. Her book *NOW IS ALWAYS* was recently published from Tusen Takk Press with a foreword by poet Major Jackson, designed by David Skoklin and printed at Trifolio Press in Verona, Italy.

She lives and works in Vermont, in a former textile mill overlooking the Connecticut River.



[WWW.VAUNE.NET](http://WWW.VAUNE.NET)

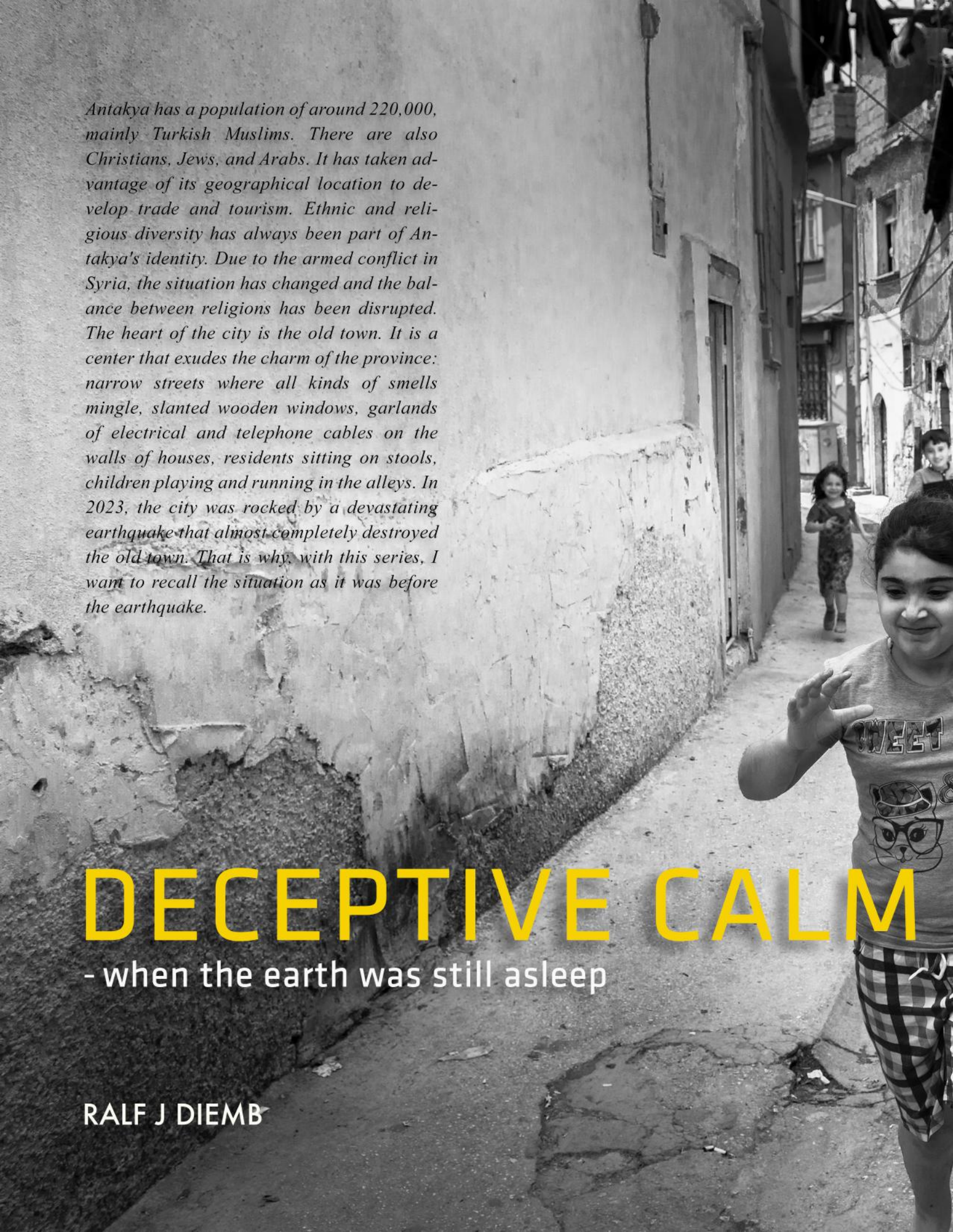
*Divers*

*Antakya has a population of around 220,000, mainly Turkish Muslims. There are also Christians, Jews, and Arabs. It has taken advantage of its geographical location to develop trade and tourism. Ethnic and religious diversity has always been part of Antakya's identity. Due to the armed conflict in Syria, the situation has changed and the balance between religions has been disrupted. The heart of the city is the old town. It is a center that exudes the charm of the province: narrow streets where all kinds of smells mingle, slanted wooden windows, garlands of electrical and telephone cables on the walls of houses, residents sitting on stools, children playing and running in the alleys. In 2023, the city was rocked by a devastating earthquake that almost completely destroyed the old town. That is why, with this series, I want to recall the situation as it was before the earthquake.*

# DECEPTIVE CALM

- when the earth was still asleep

RALF J DIEMB









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HALI YIKAMA

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Lİ  
32 6  
NDEN  
İŞYERİ  
39 35

El Dövmesi - İşyeri  
Kısa süreli - kalıcı - kalıcı  
her türlü işyeri - işyeri  
her türlü işyeri - işyeri  
her türlü işyeri - işyeri

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Photographer **Ralf J. Diemb** was born in Suhl, Germany, in 1942 and has been involved in photography since 1980, initially using analog technology. In 2007, he switched to digital photography and has since been focusing on capturing life on the streets of large cities, mainly in Turkey, India, and European metropolises. He is not interested in the well-trodden tourist paths—it is above all the people in the context of their living or working conditions that he tries to capture with his camera. His intention is to create vivid snapshots that document reality while still allowing the viewer to make their own interpretations. His pictures want to tell stories. Seen in this light, he works in the field of “social documentary photography” or “humanitarian photography.” The artist lives in Ettlingen (Germany) in a community of sculptors, writers and painters and is active on social media platforms Instagram ([ralfj.diemb](#)) and Facebook ([Ralf J. Diemb](#))



BY THE LIGHT OF THE MOON