

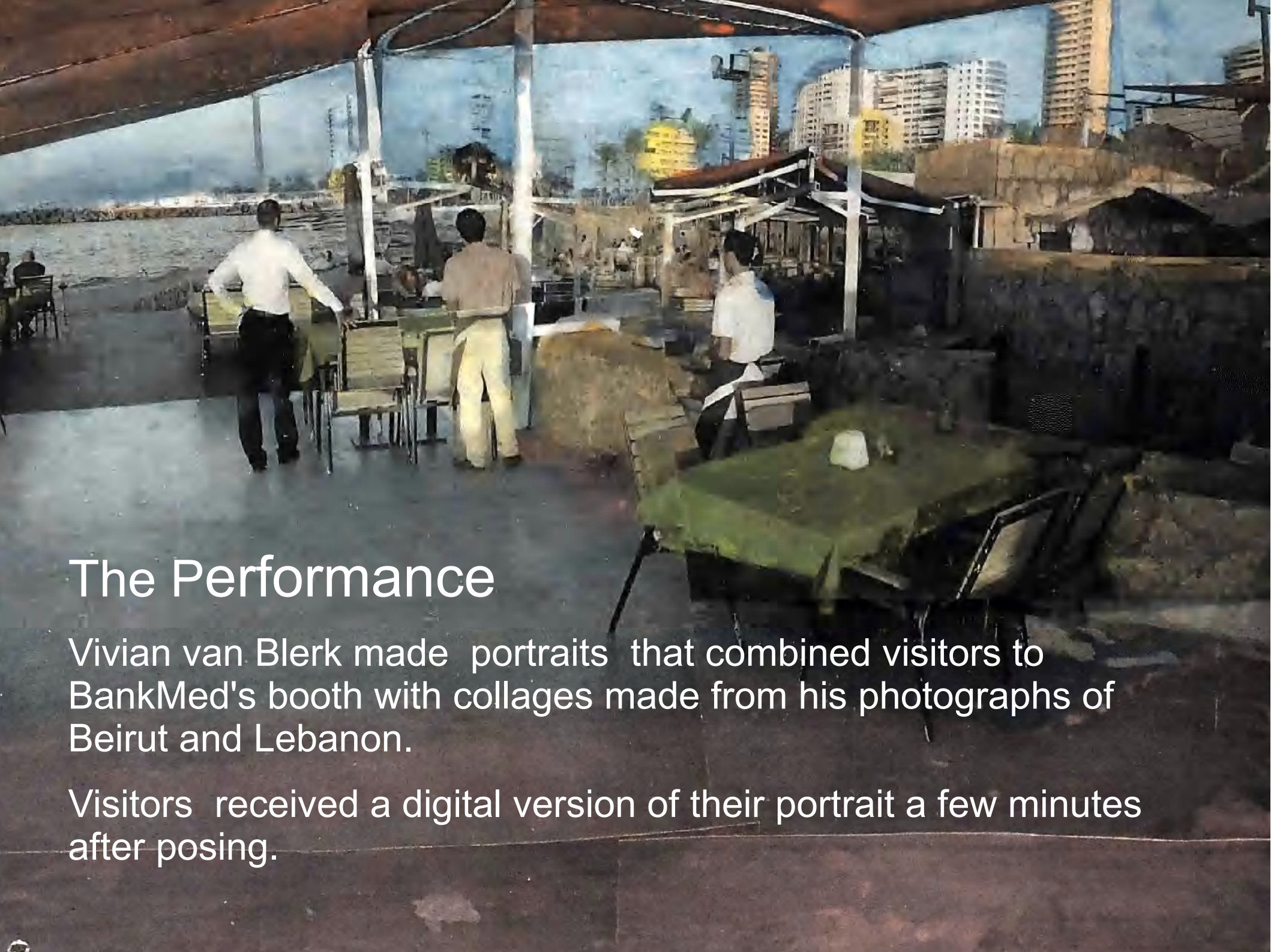


BankMed  
with Vivian van Blerk

presents

# The Levantine Portraits

19-22 September 2013, BankMed, Beirut Art Fair's main sponsor, invited artist photographer Vivian van Blerk to create an art performance on their booth during the four-day fair.



## The Performance

Vivian van Blerk made portraits that combined visitors to BankMed's booth with collages made from his photographs of Beirut and Lebanon.

Visitors received a digital version of their portrait a few minutes after posing.



## How it was done

Van Blerk took hundreds of photographs in the city of Beirut and in the nearby countryside, from the seashore at Jounieh in the north to the hills of the Chouf seen from Jezzine, south-east of the capital.





From prints of these photographs he made seventeen collages on which he painted.

To present the event on the booth he used several BankMed buildings to create one large composition.

The sixteen other collages were used as scenery for the portraits.



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BankMed Offers you an artistic portrait by  
International Artist and Photographer Vivian Van Blerk



**BankMed**  
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**Vivian van Blerk**

**LEVANTINE PORTRAITS**

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The BankMed booth became van Blerk's photography studio.

On the left hung sixteen collages. To the right was a long black curtain.

Van Blerk made two exposures which the camera combined in one picture.

The first exposure was of the portrait subject against the black curtain.

Immediately afterwards, a second exposure was made of the collage chosen by the sitter.



Vivian van Blerk signed the photograph digitally, downloaded it to a memory stick marked BankMed and gave it to the sitter.

The visitor's memory stick also contained a presentation of the Levantine Portrait Project and examples of Vivian van Blerk's photographic artworks.

More than 150 visitors to the booth posed.

Here are the collages and a selection of portraits.



The image features a halftone-style portrait of a man with dark hair and glasses, looking slightly to the right. The portrait is centered and occupies the lower half of the frame. The background is a halftone-style photograph of a building facade. On the right side, there are signs with the words "Baabool" and "Beyrouth" visible. On the left side, there is a sign with the Arabic letter "ل" (Lam) and a large, stylized arrow pointing downwards. The overall image has a grainy, dotted texture characteristic of halftone printing.

# The Levantine Portraits





Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013

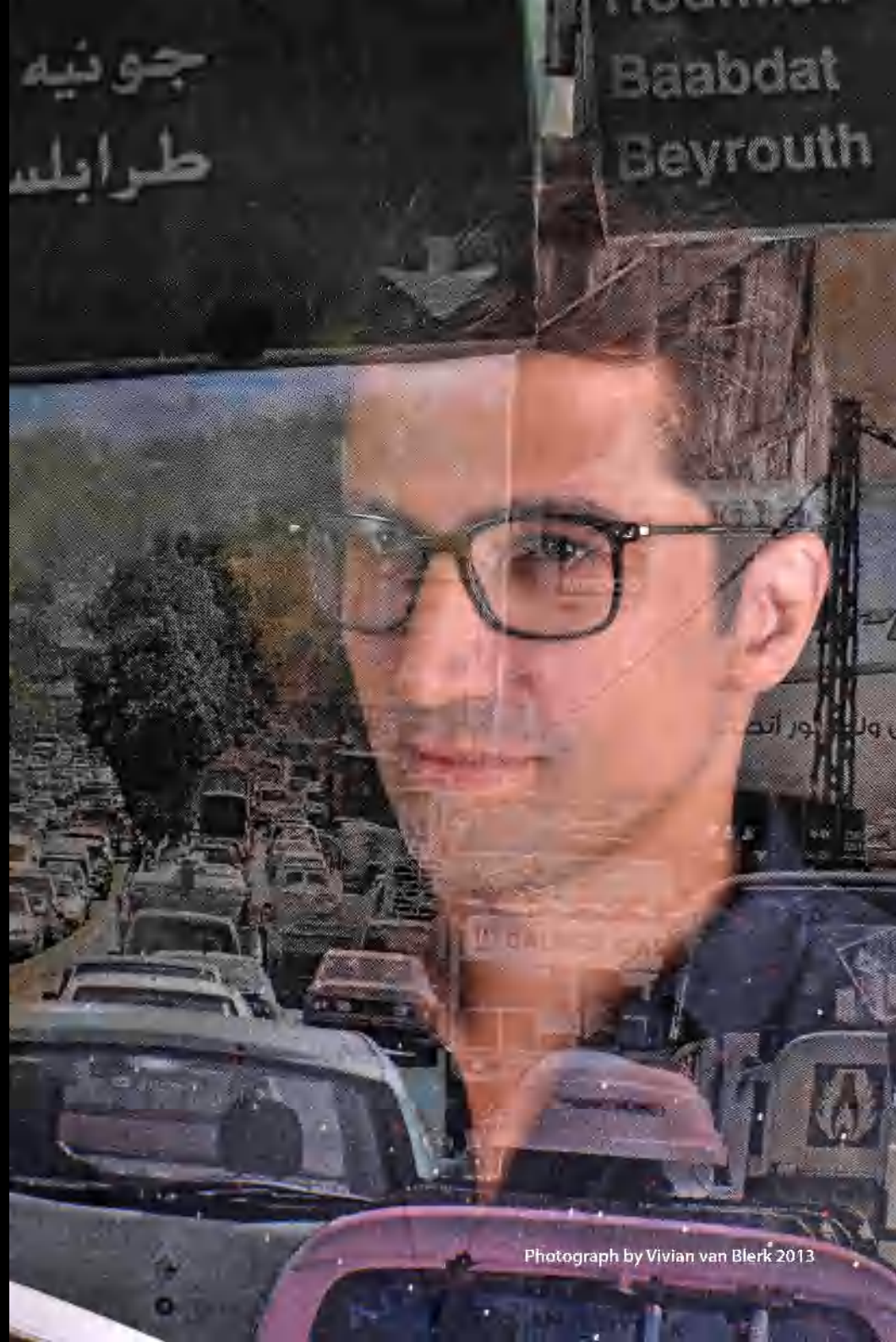
Zalqa زلقا  
Jounieh جونية  
Tripoli طرابلس

Roumieh رومية  
Baabdat بعبدات  
Beyrouth بيروت



MSCOO  
**Propell**  
بنزين بتركيبة متطورة  
بيوهو اكبر لبيقة افضل ولباكر انصف

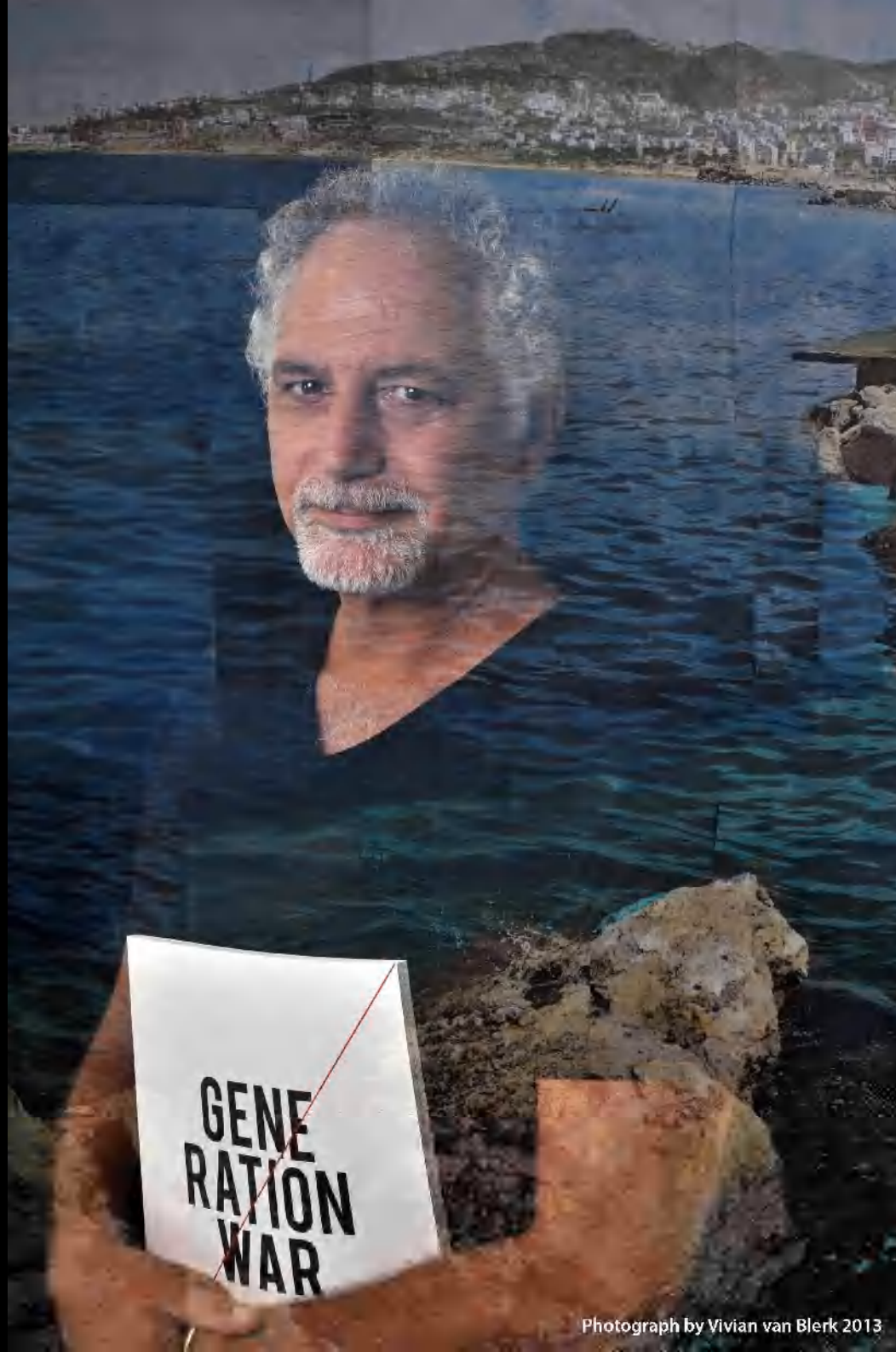




Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013







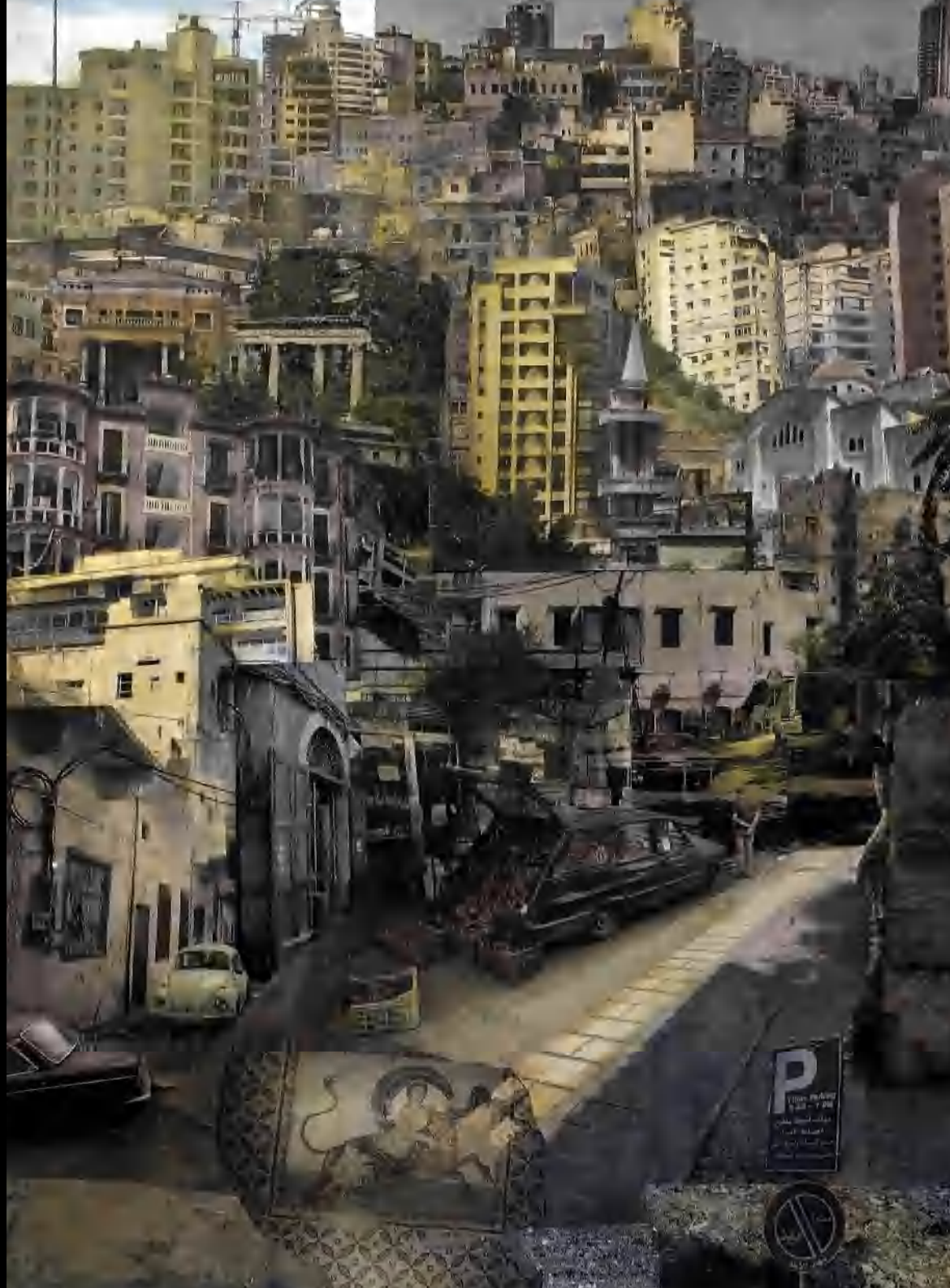
Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013





Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013







Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013







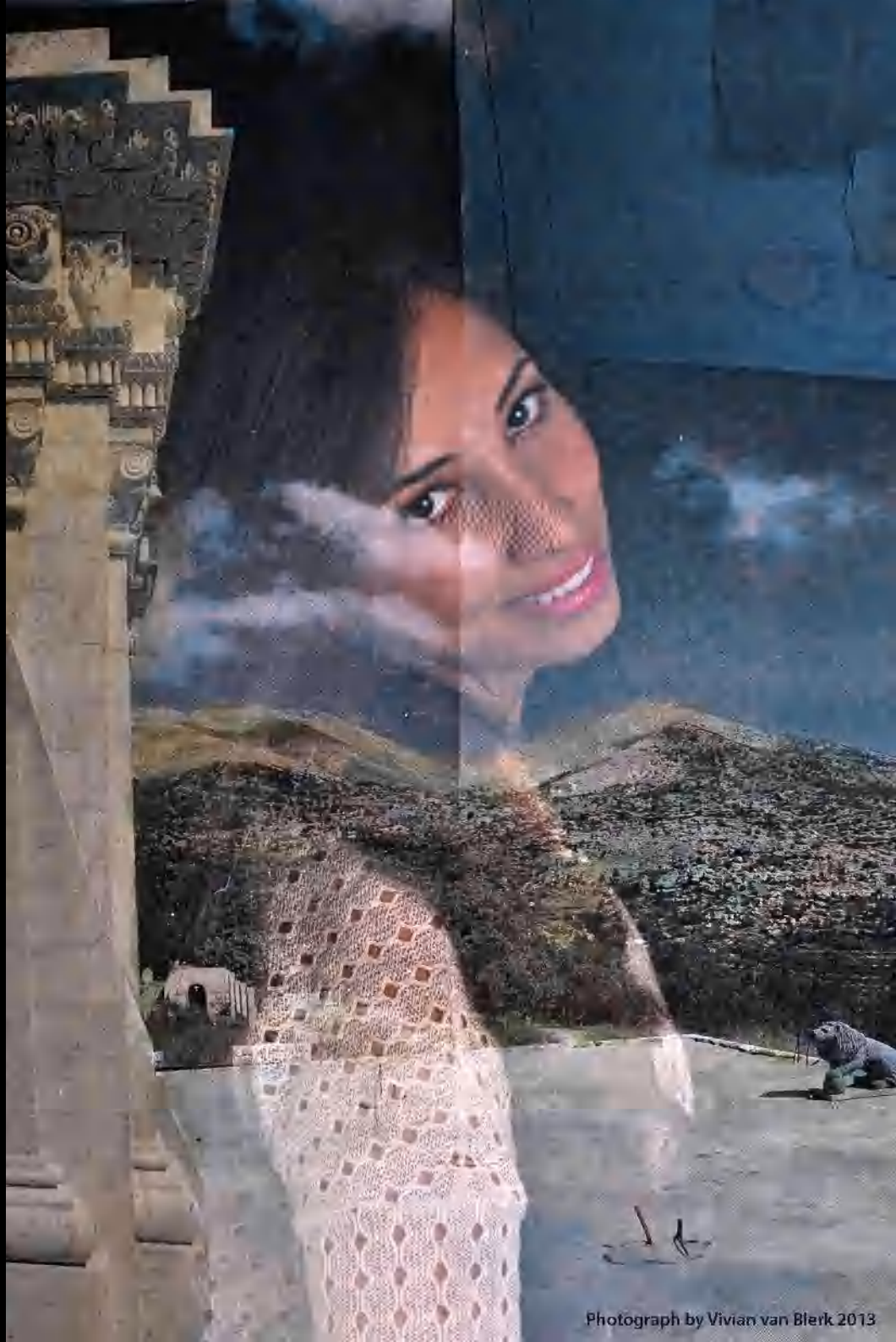
Photograph by Vivien van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



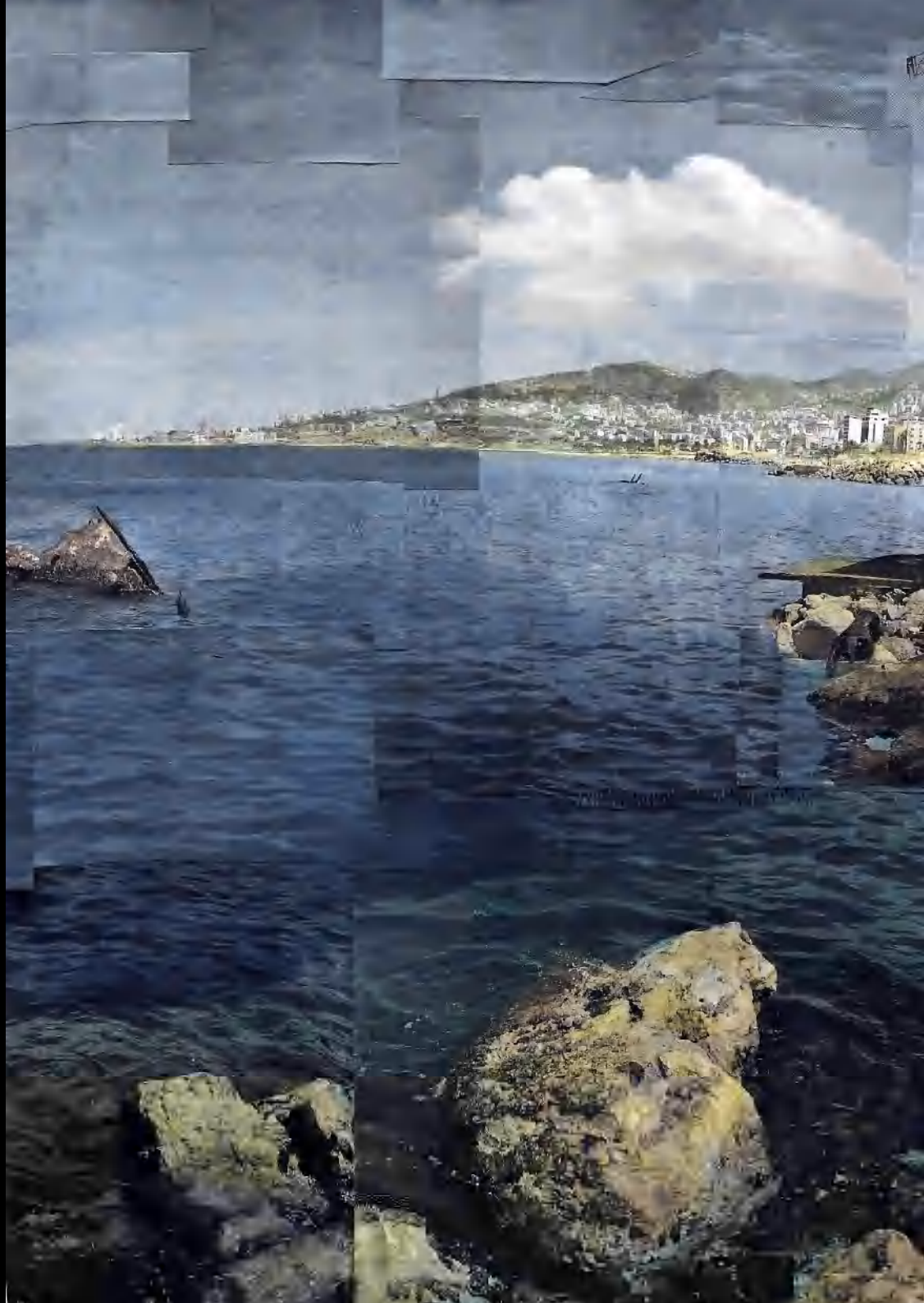




Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013





Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013















Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013

Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



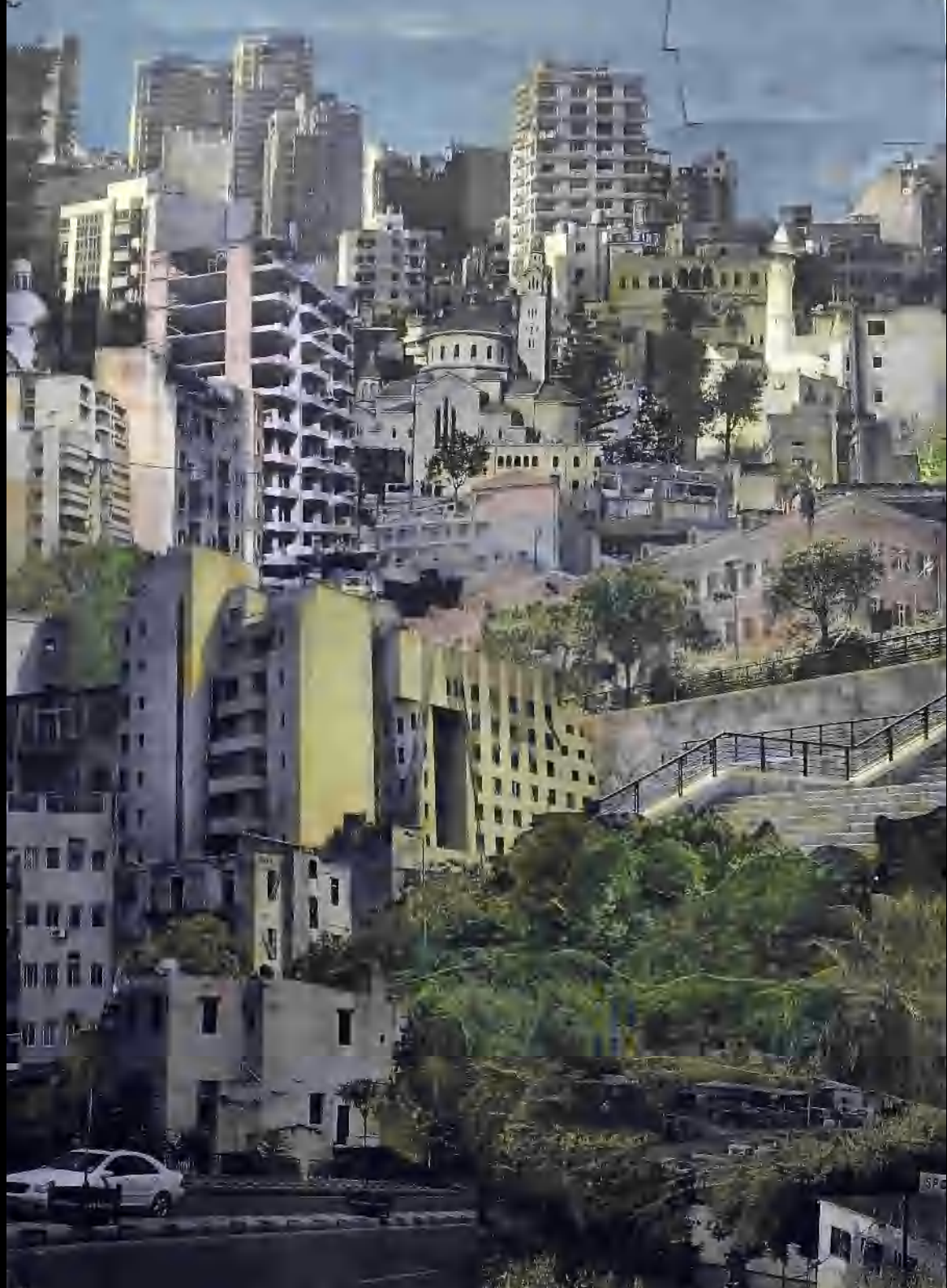


Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013





Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013





Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Berk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013





Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013

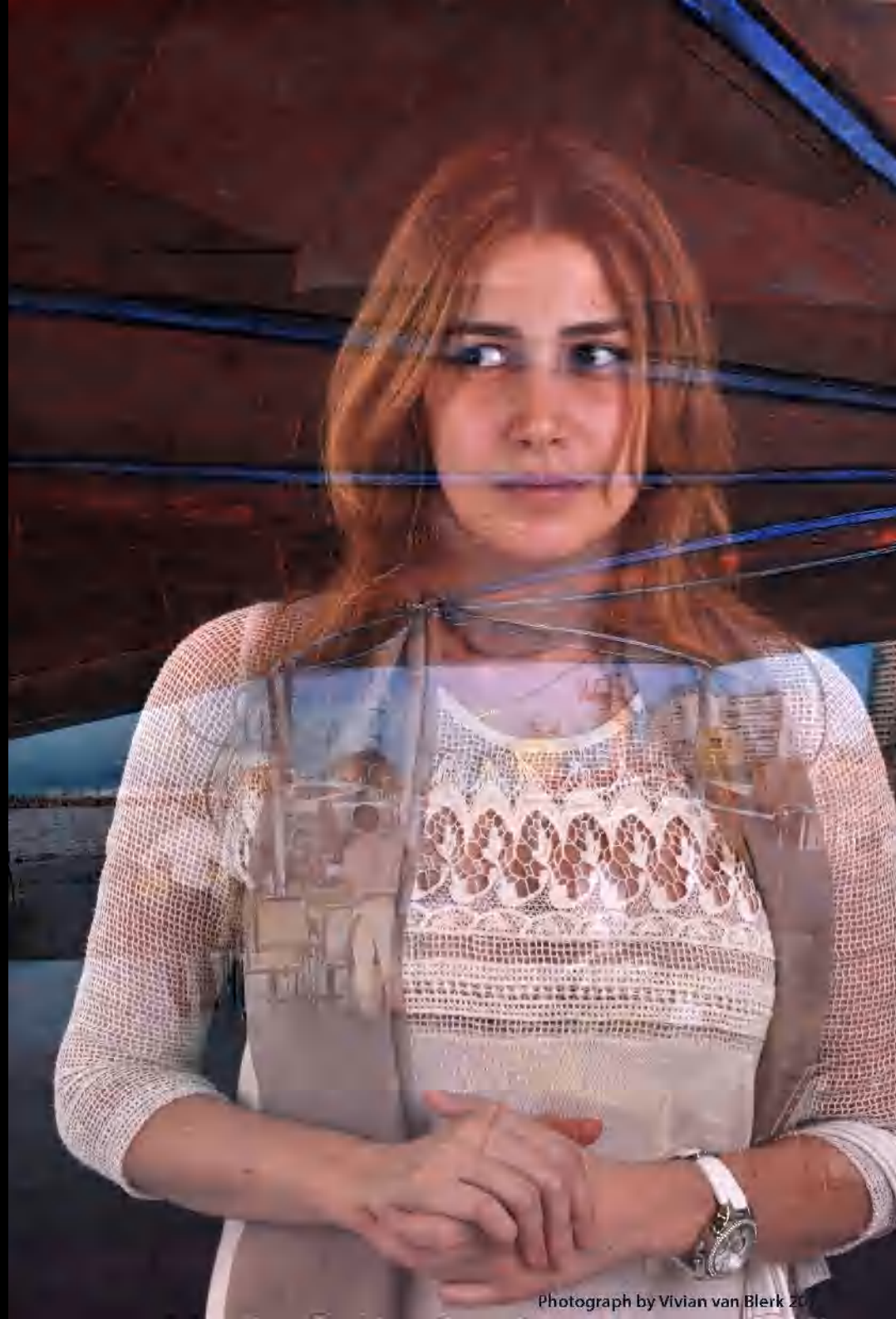
Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013







Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 20

Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013





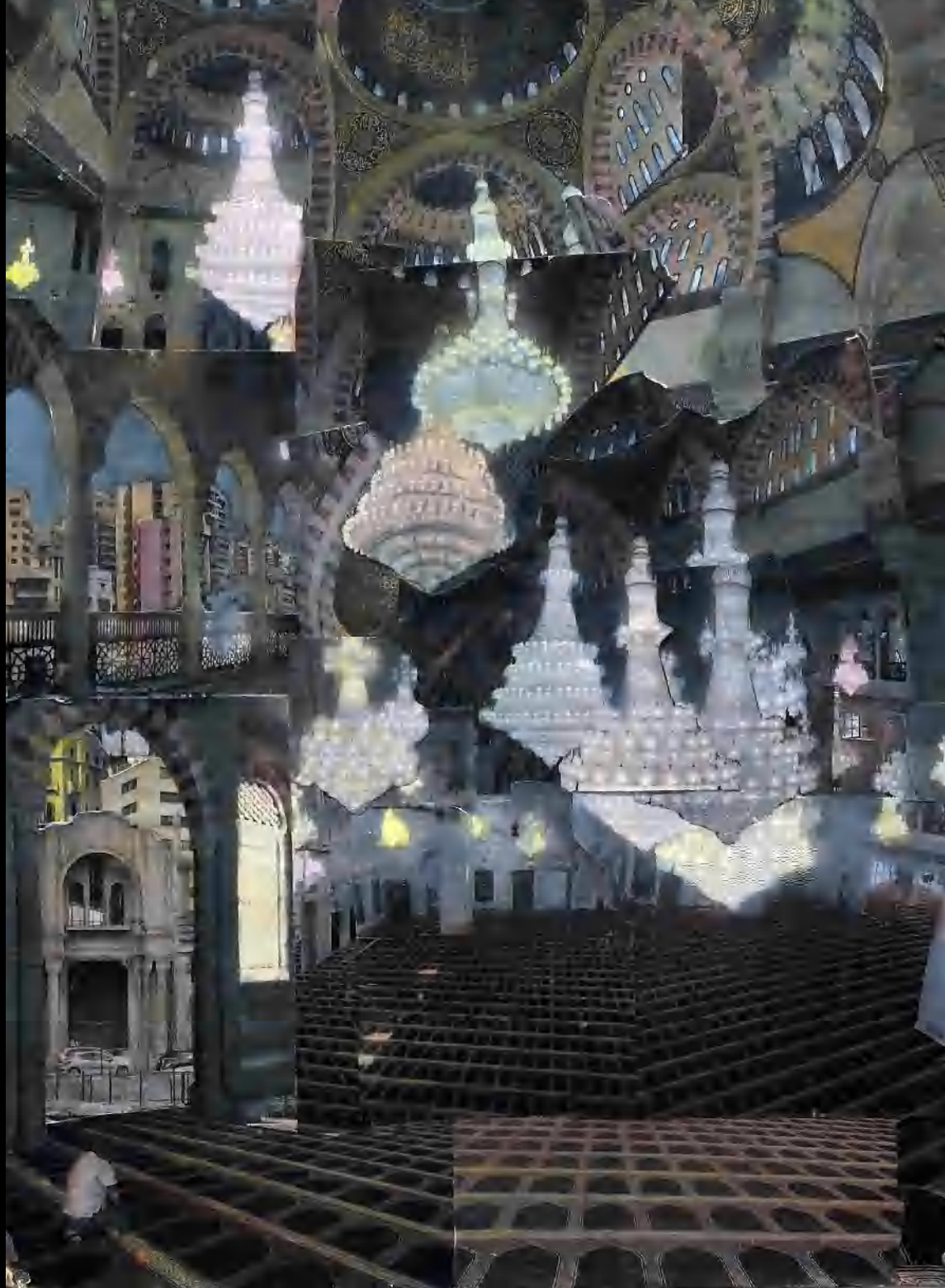
Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013

Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013





Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013







Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013

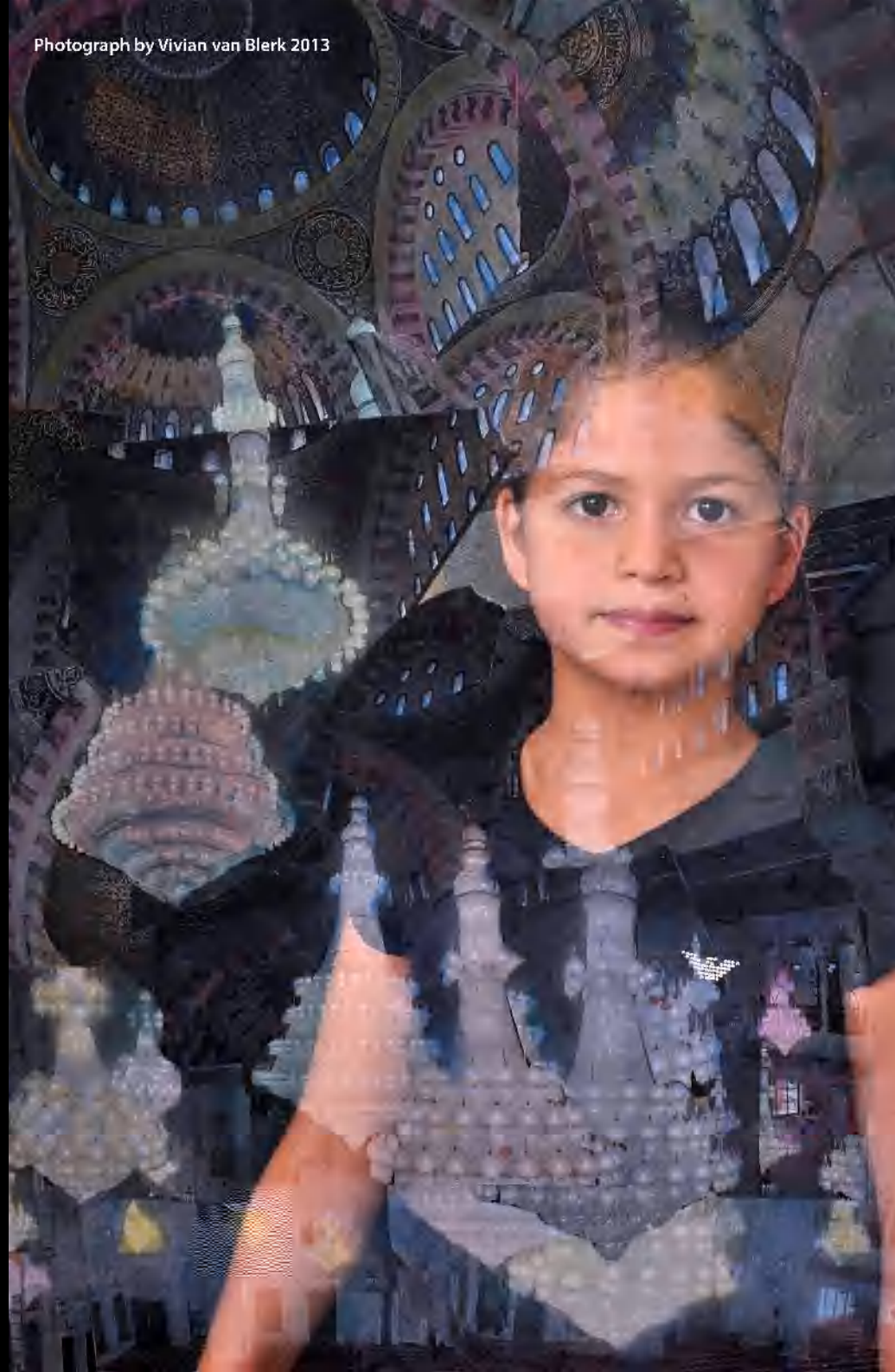


Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van der Vliet 2013

Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



Photograph by Vivian van Blerk 2013



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