



ADAM MAZEK

Diaries

April

2018

part I



• Post "Mazek Virtual Performance"

• Cover: post "Why is life fair?"

## **MAZEK VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE**

**April 2018 at [www.adammazek.com](http://www.adammazek.com) began with the post entitled "Mazek Virtual Performance." What was my virtual performance? Was it a GO-GO dancing in front of the webcam? Or maybe on publishing live stories on social media web sites? No. Mazek Virtual Performance takes place at [www.adammazek.com](http://www.adammazek.com), here and now. Website as an art form? Why not? What is happening on my website is my virtual performance. All blog posts, including "Diaries," contain my thoughts, contemplations, and analyzes of many topics. I decorate my ideas with photos that I took earlier. The fact is that artists, for centuries, used appropriate tools for their time to express their artistic ideas, feelings, and thoughts. Photography is no exception. Inventions such as camera obscura, daguerreotype, calotype, XX-century analog photography, XXI-century digital photography are proof of this. Is there a reason why I should not use my website to present my works of art?**

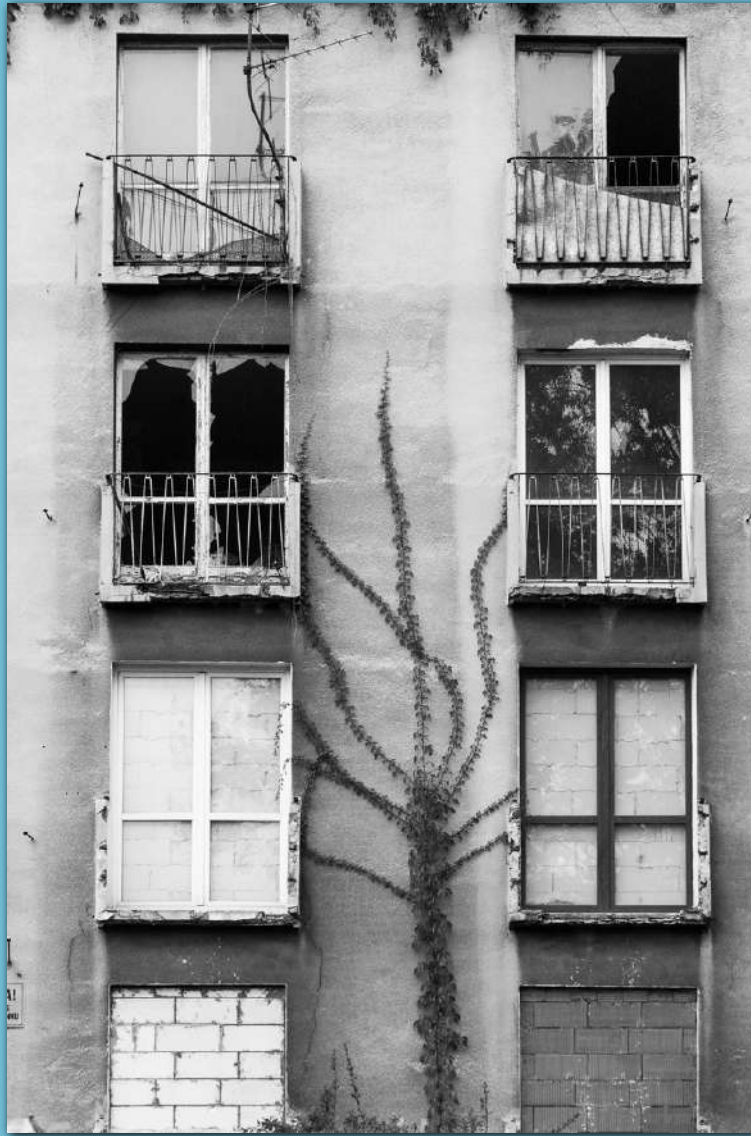
## **MAZEK VIRTUAL PERFORMANCE**

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I devote a lot of my free time to planning what else I could publish on my website. April 2018 was the time when the best I could do was to publish more content. A year earlier, I didn't even think about running a blog. Now I do it because it gives me a lot of joy. Moreover, I want to inspire others to do similar things. Creating art, employing all kinds of tools, possess healing power for the mind, soul, and body. I want to inform all nations of the world about this fact. I want to make other people aware that they can bring happiness to themselves and their beloved ones through broadly understood artistic creativity. I created a personal, never-ending adventure with widely recognized creativity that can be seen on the virtual page. Taking photos on the streets of Warsaw, running a blog, creating subsequent editions of "Diaries" is the heart of my artistic activity. I dream about art creating for the rest of my life. The post "Mazek Virtual Performance" and "Diaries" of April 2018 is another continual dropping that wears away the stone.

- *Post "Mazek Virtual Performance"*





• *Post „Inspired by Beksinski“*

## **INSPIRED BY BEKSINSKI**

**To write another post, I was inspired by an interview with the painter, Zdzislaw Beksinski (post "Inspired by Beksinski"). One of Beksinski's statements gave me a clue in the direction of developing my life motto. The Polish painter stated that if you have to wait for the end of the life and fulfill the meaninglessness of your existence, it is better to spend your life in comfortable conditions sitting on an armchair, than sitting on a cactus. I, Adam Mazek, unlike Beksinski, believe that our life has a meaning that is unknown to us. Nevertheless, I agree with the dead genius that it is better to spend a comfortable life than being tormented during one's life. I believe that life should be as flexible as possible.**

## INSPIRED BY BEKSINSKI

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For example, Zdzisław Beksiński moved from his hometown - Sanok - to Warsaw. He did it because, in communist Poland, it was easier for him to sell his works while being in the capital than in the south-eastern part of the country. This fact was in line with what Beksiński said in an interview. What's more, it is also in line with the message of Seneca and Bruce Lee, which I mentioned in the "Diaries" of December 2017. All three of the abovementioned gentlemen want to tell us a similar thought: try to adapt to what fate will bring you, and do not treat the blows inflicted on you as attacks. Seneca added that we should thank the enemy for the experience he gave us. In turn, we treat our defeats as lessons, not as losers. We should not be afraid of risk or failure. In the end, we will all die anyway. Let's not waste our precious time and energy on senseless and worthless actions or skirmishes.



• Post „Inspired by Beksiński“

## **IN WHAT SHOULD WE INVEST?**

In the next post, I asked the question of what should we invest in? (post "In what should we invest?"). The apparent answer, apart from investing in your own children, is investing in knowledge, or more precisely, in books. Can you make money from this type of investment? I don't know, there is no guarantee. I don't think I can make anything out of it myself. I don't analyze it in any way.

On the other hand, given that we will all die, is this an important question? I am convinced that it is worth investing in books. However, it does not necessarily have to be profitable for our portfolio. Reading develops our mind and imagination. It makes us think, ask questions, look for answers. Books make a person contemplate his life, verify his knowledge about him. I am convinced that reading books (next to traveling and talking to other people) are the best way to learn about the world around us. Books can provide answers to many questions.

• [Post „In what should we invest?](#)





• *Post „In what should we invest?“*

## **IN WHAT SHOULD WE INVEST?**

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Nevertheless, I am sure that books will not provide solutions to many existential queries. Humanity will never find answers to some mysteries. It is worth reading, but it is challenging to convert this knowledge to a specific amount of money. That's why I can't write that investing in books will bring us tangible profit. One thing is sure: the more we read, the smarter we become. Thanks to this, we begin to see that the "dangers" awaiting us are, in fact, opportunities that allow us to become a better person. The more opportunities we see in our lives, the more things can become a real passion for us. Thanks to this, there is a chance that we will start earning on our hobby. In short, the wisdom received through the books gives incredible powers that earnings can follow. Recently, I read a lot about broadly understood art. Besides, I photograph and write further texts all the time. I don't know if this passion will bring me extra money, but I'm sure that thanks to it, I am still developing. Investing in books is a valuable activity that does not have to bring tangible financial benefits.

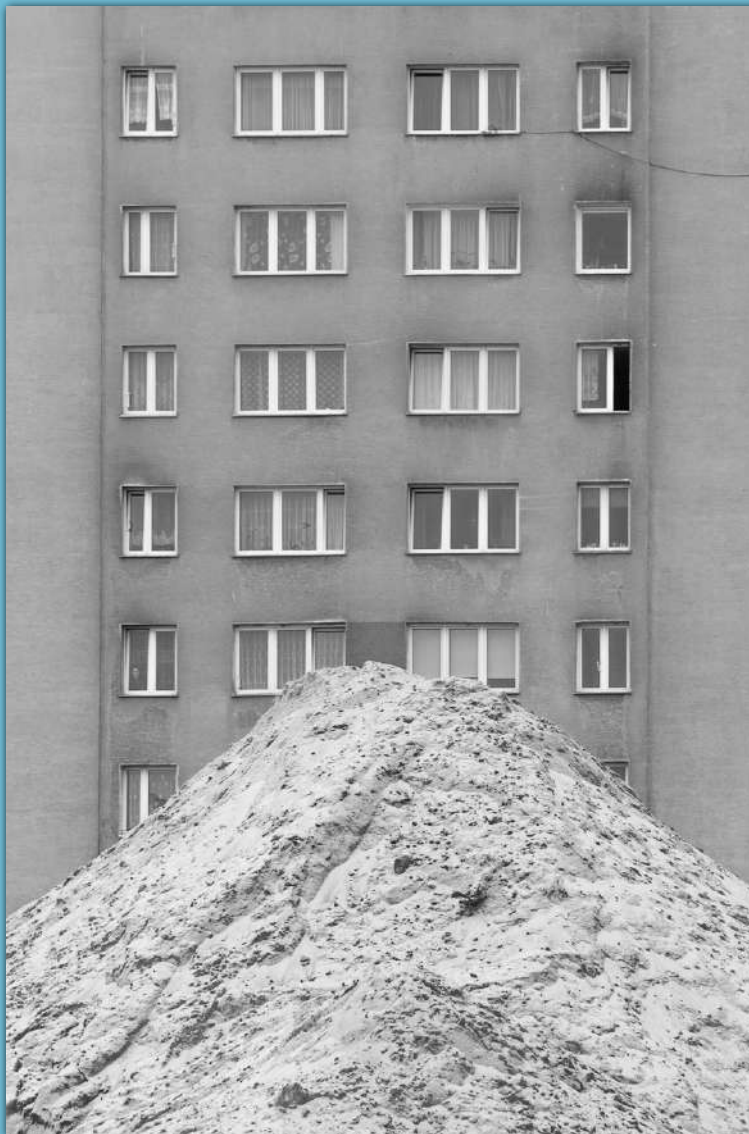
A black and white photograph of a tree trunk with exposed roots and a circular manhole cover on the ground. The tree trunk is in the upper left, with roots spreading across the ground. The manhole cover is in the lower center, surrounded by a circular concrete base. The ground is dirt and littered with small debris.

# **A WRITER'S DIARY**



## **A WRITER'S DIARY**

Another post told about Fyodor Dostoyevsky's "Writer's Diary" (post "A Writer's Diary"). I wrote in it that the way I run the website [www.adammazek.com](http://www.adammazek.com) is inspired by how Dostoyevsky published his "Writer's Diary." The famous Russian writer did this in the period from 1873 to his death in 1881. From 1876, he published his texts at his own expense. Genius describing many matters. The most important is the fact that he wrote about what interested him the most. I have a similar blog. I try not to use self-censorship. Regardless of whether I want to write about photography, philosophy, art, other artists, or if I want to write science fiction stories (e.g., "Earth Wars"), I do it and publish it. There was a lot of valuable content in Dostoyevsky's Diary.



- *Post „A Writer's Diary“ (also p.. 8)*



- *Post A Writer's Diary*

## **A WRITER'S DIARY**

The "Writer's Diary" contains many legendary works of the Russian master. For example, they are short novels, such as fantasy novels ("Bobok") and even science fiction ("The Dream of a Ridiculous Man"). The famous writer published phenomenal, short fiction, like the philosophical "The Centenarian" and the psychological "A Gentle Creature." I dream about my "Diaries" and the website [www.adammazek.com](http://www.adammazek.com) becoming no less valuable work than "A Writer's Diary." I want to intertwine my thoughts with photos of my authorship. I feel great joy doing this. I'm sure Dostoyevsky felt a similar euphoria when writing all his content. It is interesting that the genius also wrote in his journalistic works on politics. I try to avoid political topics on my blog. I think many of us have enough of everyday policy. I believe that it is much better to focus on creating art.

## WHY IS LIFE FAIR?

I wrote about why life is painfully fair in the fourth post of April 2018 (post 'Why is life fair?'). Life is fair because the lives of all creatures that walk on this planet will end. Death is the justest thing in this world. There is no other undeniable and impartial phenomenon. Speaking shortly: it will reach us all. It doesn't matter if you are intelligent or not. The level of wealth or health has nothing to do with it. Each of us will disappear, just as the greats of this world have gone, e.g., Julius Caesar, Napoleon Bonaparte, or Steve Jobs. It's the only thing I'm 100% sure of. I think the fact that all lives on our planet will end is the justest thing I can imagine. We can try to extend our lives, but there will always be a limit. Medicine, science, knowledge about the world around us - all these things can make the lives of our descendants much longer than the lives of our ancestors.

• [Post .Why is life fair?](#)





• Post „Why is life fair?“

## **WHY IS LIFE FAIR?**

**We are continually extending our life expectancy. I can imagine that in 200 years people will be able to reach an average age exceeding one hundred years. Centenarians walking on the streets will not surprise anyone. Nevertheless, we will never find a solution that will make us immortal. I think it is no accident that we have a limited time in our lives. Therefore, we should focus on what we really love. I recommend concentrating on your loved ones and passion. Personally, I chose photography and website [www.adammazek.com](http://www.adammazek.com). I try not to give up and seek answers to many existential questions. Even if I know that I can't find solutions to many problems. To sum up: I think that our loved ones and our passions are the things we should focus on. Indeed, we will all die someday. This is the only sure thing in this world. It proves that death is one of the justest, impartial and independent phenomena that exist.**



- *Post „Who is the Artist?“*

## **WHO IS THE ARTIST?**

**About who the artist was, I tried to answer in a post entitled "Who is the Artist?" I wrote in it that the artist should have his own, unreal world. An artist is someone who, in various ways, tries to present his vision of the world, to manifest it. Thanks to this, not only he but also the recipient of the message, can broaden his horizons, knowledge and overcome new boundaries. Art created by the artist can evoke various feelings, not always positive ones. Works of art do not have to be limited to photos, paintings, films, written words, music, sculpture, etc. I am convinced that the artist's inner world is a kind of shelter for him, a place of silence, but at the same time, it is a world in which he continually goes out of your comfort zone. Contrary to appearances, it is not easy to describe your feelings. Do you have to be born as an artist? No. You can become one. Everyone has a greater or lesser chance.**

## **WHO IS THE ARTIST?**

However, not everyone has the talent to sing, dance, carve, paint, etc. Photography is the most universal medium. The age of smartphones and Instagram proves this. Today, everyone can master the art of taking pictures. One of the options to improve your skills may be reading this blog. I try to inspire at [www.adammazek.com](http://www.adammazek.com). I don't focus on technical issues (there are plenty of them on the Internet). If you are honest and authentic in the pictures you have made, you become an artist. Try to arouse emotions with the help of your frames. Today, virtually all people who do not live in countries at war or ruined by a major crisis have this opportunity. By the way, if all people can become artists, why treat all other people as competitors? I don't treat other photographers and artists as competition. They are more friends in the playground for me.



## **WHO IS THE ARTIST?**

Another question about the artist came to my mind. What does the artist create exactly? Art. However, what is art? For me, it is a conscious, deliberate transfer of feelings, thoughts, to the minds and senses of other people. It is not easy, but you can learn it. As we can see, art is a kind of manipulation. This is one way of reinterpreting the reality that surrounds us. I always try to present my thoughts and share my feelings in my photographs and texts. "Diaries" are the next step to share my inner visions and incentives with other people.



- [Post „Who is the Artist?“](#)

## **BARTON FINK**

To write the next post, I was inspired by the film by Coen brothers entitled "Barton Fink." Produced in 1991, the picture is one of the best masterpieces in the history of American cinema. In the post, I wanted to focus on one thing that mainly stuck in my mind. The work of the Coen brothers made me realize that some internal or external factors can cause a lack of inspiration to creatively express myself. Also, I realized that the broadly understood creative crisis could be the worst nightmare for an artist. For me, being unable to take pictures, writing, and run this site would be one of the saddest things that can happen in my life. Photography continually inspires me. To this day, I can find beauty in ordinary and mundane places in my urban surroundings. The same thing I have on my website. I wrote my first post in May 2017. Then, I started a blog in September 2017. Since then, I have been regularly writing texts. To be honest, I would not like to stop taking photos or writing texts. I simply enjoy doing these things.

• [Post „Barton Fink“](#)







• Post „Barton Fink“

## **BARTON FINK**

**My goal is to inspire and encourage other people to create new things, i.e., to create broadly understood art. Art is a medicine for our contemporary, busy souls. This is a valuable food for people tired of reality, doubting a better tomorrow, bored with their surroundings, or looking for more reliable impressions. Art gives people fresh breath of hope. Creating new things brings happiness and joy, not only to the soul but also to our hearts and mind. That is why "Barton Fink" scared me so much. The main character of this black comedy is thriving as a promising playwright on Broadway, New York. He then receives a lucrative offer from one of Hollywood's producers. He moves to Los Angeles, and his creative spirit disappears. He can't write anything. This is how the story of the Coen brothers begins. I think that lack of creative inspiration and inability to create (regardless of whether you are a painter, musician, dancer, or another artist) is one of the worst things that artists can encounter.**

## WHY MY PICTURES ARE "SAD"?

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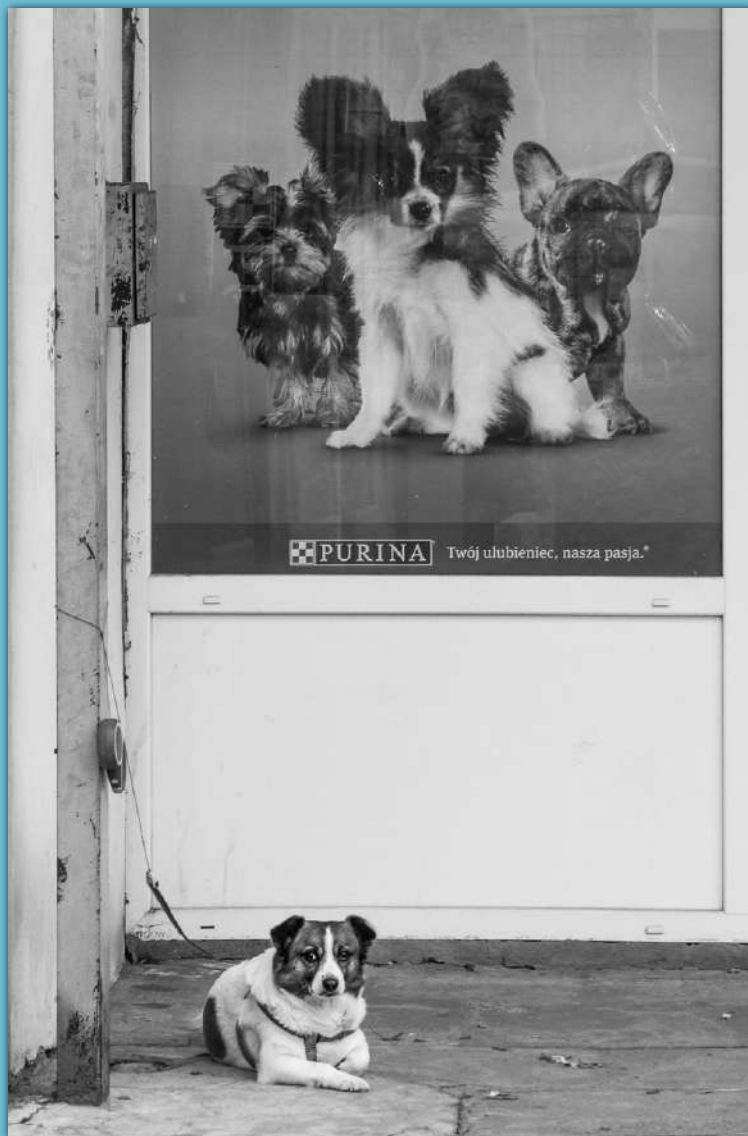
About why my photos can be "sad," I wrote in the next text entitled "Why my pictures are "sad"?" For me, my images are not "sad." They can introduce different states of mind to the recipient, not necessarily the positive ones. The perception will be mostly dependent on the mood and experience of the viewer. It largely determines how it will transform the impression of a given work in its mind and imagination. Nevertheless, the fact is that I want my images not always to evoke pleasant feelings in the viewer's imagination. Why? I think that the most valuable works of art can bring the viewer not necessarily positive emotions and good memories. Let's look at the paintings of Hieronymus Bosch, Salvador Dali, or Zdzislaw Beksinski. Did they paint a calm and rural landscape? Let's try to recall such films as "Midnight Cowboy" by John Schlesinger, "Barton Fink" by the Coen brothers, or "Tenant" by Roman Polanski. Should I mention farther? Here you are!

• [Post . Why my pictures are sad?](#)



## WHY MY PICTURES ARE "SAD"?

Read the novels of Dostoevsky or Lem and understand how little we know about ourselves (despite the constant development of science). Read Seneca and realize that life is precious in a lot of pain. It is a pain that helps us develop. It makes us stronger, and we go through life straight with our heads up. Also listen, my Dear Friend, songs of David Bowie ("Space Oddity" or "Warsaw"), R.E.M. or Sting. By the way, the last two music bands have exceptions in their melancholic works. "Shiny Happy People" performed by the group R.E.M. and Sting's "Love Is The Seventh Wave" are real masterpieces. They are "happy" songs on a master level. They show us that "cheerful" music (and broadly understood art) can be a real masterpiece.



## WHY MY PICTURES ARE "SAD"?

For me, the goal of art is to arouse emotions in other minds, souls, imaginations, and hearts. However, these feelings do not have to be positive. It is essential to introduce new, fresh thoughts to the vision and minds of viewers. I hope that my works will bring you, my Dear Friend, a lot of inspiration. I believe that they will help you broaden your horizons in thinking on many different topics. Exercise your imagination by reading, traveling, talking, watching, listening, or contemplating. You can start doing it anytime. It will bring you a new, fresh approach to many existential problems. Speaking shortly: art will discover unexplored for you. In the worst case, it will bring you "only" good fun.

## THE END

• *Post „In what should we invest?“*

