



**STUDIUM  
PUNCTUM**

**Queen Gallery Ziba Loghmani Reza Eslami November 15th**



A tribute to Roland Barthes and his book "Camera Lucida"

"Studium operates in the arena of liking, while Punctum operated in the arena of loving"

## Studuim & Punctum

Studium:

Studuim, which doesn't mean (at least not immediately) study, is a Latin word which means;

- an application to a thing,
- taste for someone,
- a kind of general, enthusiastic commitment

And of course, without any special acuity.

To recognize the Studium, is inevitably to encounter the photograph's intentions, to enter into harmony with them, to approve or disapprove of them, but always to understand them or to argue them within self.

Punctum:

The second element will break (or punctuate) the studium. This time it is not the viewer who seek it out, it is this element which rises from the scene, shoots out of it like an arrow. This second element which will disturb the studium, has been called also by Roland Barthes, Punctum, for punctum is also: sting, speck, cut, little hole and also a cast of a dice.

The tricky thing is not pointing to, and elaboration on photographs as examples of studium. All photographs can, in fact, be considered as studiums. Definitely the challenge is finding and explaining the arrows Barthes is talking about as punctums, those accidents that pricks and makes small holes in you.

Well, the fact that you start looking for punctums at all misses the point. Punctums hit you, so go looking for something that might hit you is moving the scene from punctum to studium. Punctums are also casts of the dice.

Who was Roland Barthes!

Roland Barthes was a French literary philosopher best known for influencing structuralism, semiotics and anthropology was born on November 12, 1915, he was educated at the Sorbonne, and went on to help establish structuralism as one of the leading intellectual movements of the 20th century. His work made important advances in the areas of semiotics, anthropology and post-structuralism.

Influenced by his mother's death in October 1977 — an event that left him devastated — Barthes wrote his final book, *La Chambre Claire* (Camera Lucida), discussing photography as a mean of communication, in 1980. Barthes died in Paris in 1980.



**Ziba Loghmani** is an Iranian-Canadian Urban Planner that was born on November 8th 1972. Her interests in Photography and Psychology led her to see the objects and spaces around her from a conceptual frame work. She is a screen play writer that is honoured to let us know that for more than five years, she had been the student of one of the most famous Iranian photographers and cinema directors, Nasser Taghvaei to learn short story and screen play writing, Nasser Taghvaei's emphasis on importance of framing ,pulled Ziba in to the world of photography.



Born on February 7th, 1972, Reza Eslami is a Canadian-Iranian architect and poet who is a long-term resident of Toronto, Canada, having immigrated to the city in 1996. Since the age of 15, Reza has been actively engaged with drawing, photography and writing poetry.



## **A dream within a dream**

"All that we see or seem is but a dream within a dream."

Edgar Allan Poe

**\$280**  
**12"x16"**





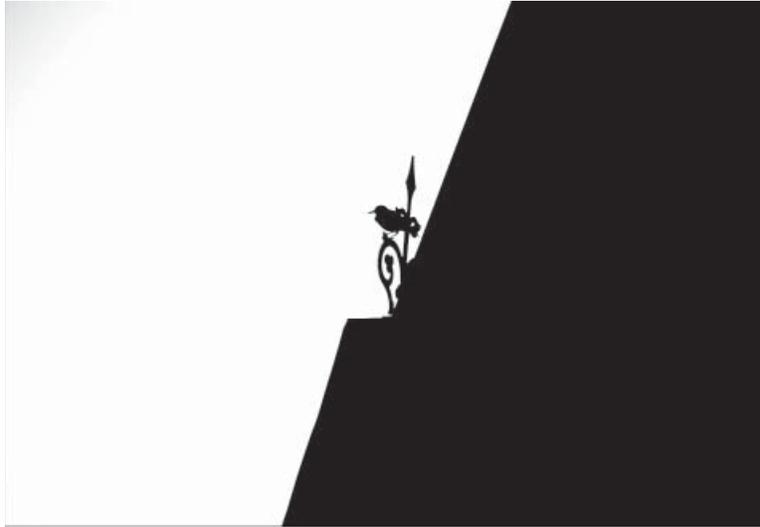
## **No exit/Huis Clos**

L'enfer c'est les autres /Hell is other people

Jean-Paus Sartre

**\$750**  
**20"x28"**





## Shadow dweller

“There was a missing heart  
once  
from an empty soul  
lost among the ghosts  
of the city  
Then you showed up.”

Reza Eslami, Solitude

**\$280**  
**12”x16”**





**The passage to the wonderland**

**\$750**  
**20"x28"**





**“I have friends wherever there are companies of trees, wounded but not vanquished, which huddle together with touching obstinacy to implore an inclement and pitiless sky.”**

Marcel Proust, *Swann's Way*

**\$320  
12"x18"**





**“A message from the other side of the  
end”**

Mehdi Akhavan-Saales

**\$250  
11”x14”**



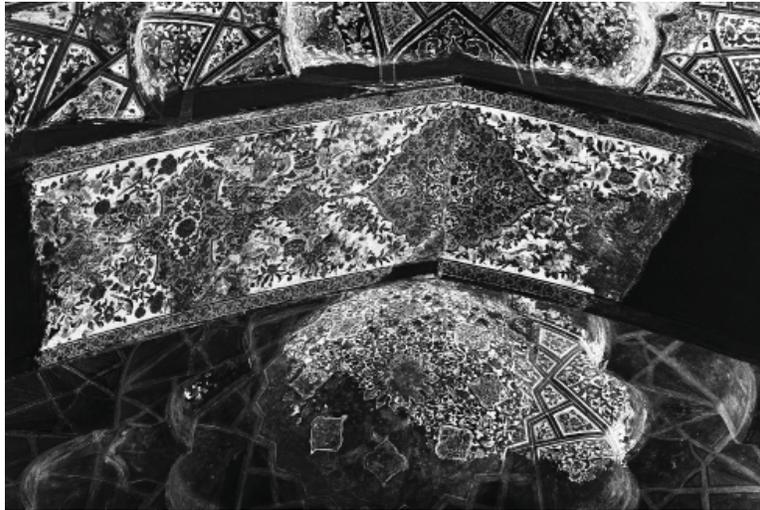


**“5 am”**

David Gilmour, Rattle that lock

**\$380**  
**16”x20”**





## Prologue

“Don’t look away from me  
even if I am  
weeping bitter tears  
Comfort me  
in your sweet arms  
protect me from my fears

Let the whispering wind  
fly us high  
Let the forbidden dream  
become our glory  
As the magic in your eyes  
has given me a new ink  
to write our story.”

Reza Eslami, Solitude



**\$380**  
**16”x20”**



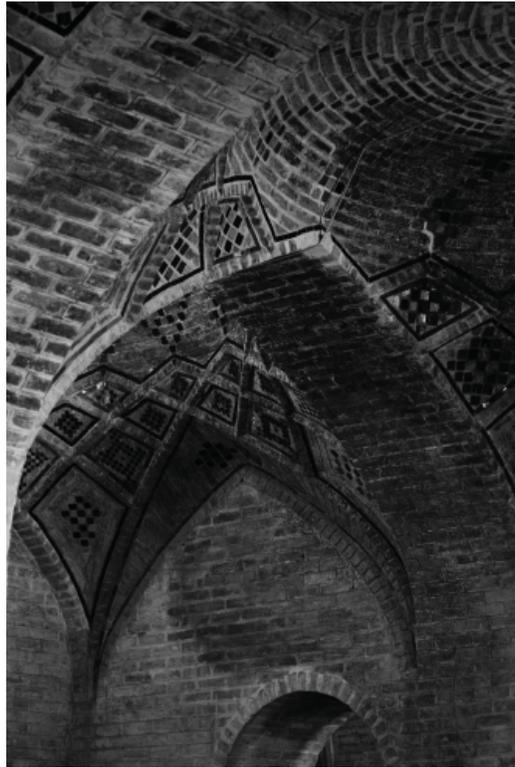
## Moving this little bit of light

“...this breathing  
in and out  
out and in  
these punks  
these cowards  
these champions  
these mad dogs of glory  
moving this little bit of light toward  
us  
impossibly.”

Charles Bukowski

**\$280**  
**12"x16"**





**"A true masterpiece does not tell everything."**

Albert Camus/Notebooks 1935-1942

**\$750**  
**20"x28"**





## Emancipation

"...For you are  
a referent  
of endlessness."

Reza Eslami/Solitude

**\$750**  
**20"x28"**



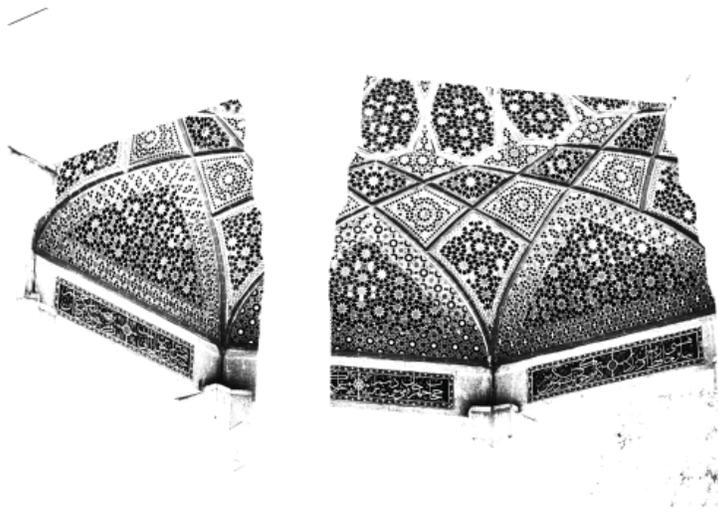


**“Good thoughts, Good words, Good deeds”**

A phrase that represents the three pillars of Zoroastrian faith.

**\$380**  
**16”x20”**





**Do not leave this home with despair,  
take a chance**

Tomb of Hafiz (Hāfezieh), In memory of the celebrated Persian poet Hafez, the greatest master of Persian lyric poetry and the literary giant of the 14th century.

Shiraz, Iran.

**\$250  
11"x14"**





## Interlude

“My heart  
beating in between  
my drifting thoughts  
anywhere from you  
to you.  
”

Reza Eslami/Solitude

**\$380**  
**16"x20"**





**“There is no more happiness than that  
you are my soul and universe”**

Rumi

Konya, Turkey

**\$280  
12"x16"**





**There is a lot of us out here**

**\$380**  
**16"x20"**





## **Waiting for Godot**

Esteragon: Well, shall we go?

Vladimir: Yes, let's go.(They do not move)

Samuel Beckett

**\$250**

**12"x12"**





## **Rocinante**

Rocinante is the name of Don Quixote de la Mancha's skinny and clumsy horse, in the universally acclaimed novel Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra.

**\$750**  
**20"x28"**





**“Oh, you, the lost belief...”**

Ahmad Shamlou

**\$250**  
**12”x12”**





## Solitude

Therefore, dear Sir, love your solitude and try to sing out with the pain it causes you. For those who are near you are far away... and this shows that the space around you is beginning to grow vast.... be happy about your growth, in which of course you can't take anyone with you, and be gentle with those who stay behind; be confident and calm in front of them and don't torment them with your doubts and don't frighten them with your faith or joy, which they wouldn't be able to comprehend.

Rainer Maria Rilke/Letters to a Young Poet



**\$750**  
**20"x28"**

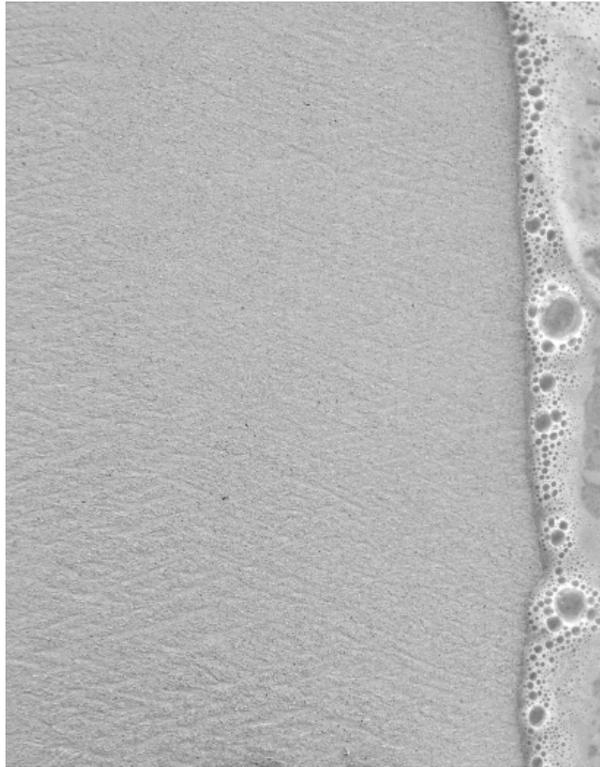


**"Why are there trees I never walk under but large and melodious thoughts descend upon me?"**

Walt Whitman/Song of the open road

**\$250**  
**11"x14"**



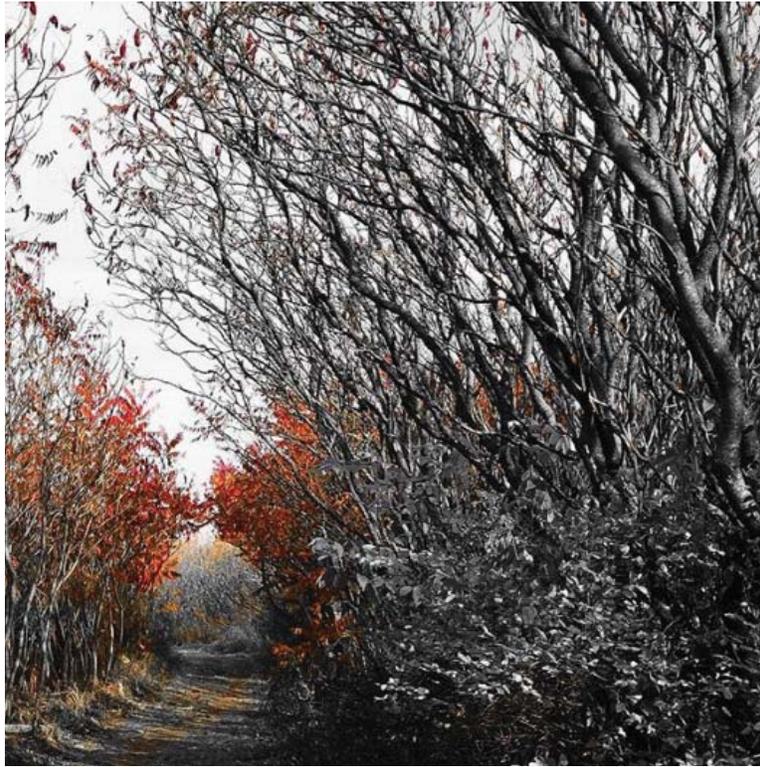


**“Life consists of these little touches of solitude”**

Roland Barthes/Camera Lucida

**\$250**  
**11”x14”**





## **Falling for you**

All the measured steps  
And calculated risks  
Fell short  
When that lunatic heart of mine  
Knew no boundaries  
falling for you.  
Reza Eslami - Solitude - 2017

**\$250**  
**12"x12"**

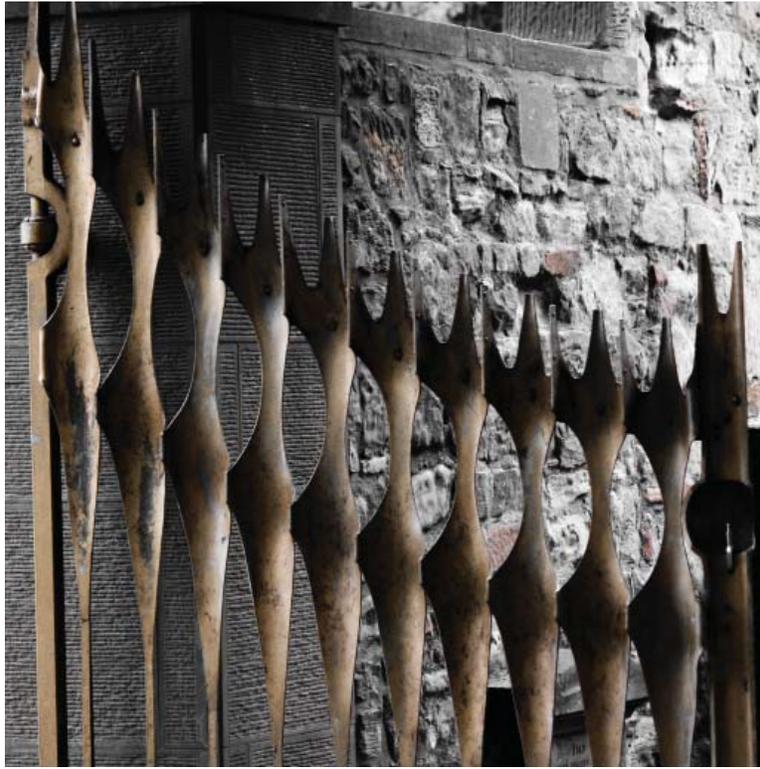




**The dead-end alley**

**\$380**  
**16"x20"**





**Enter at your own risk**

**\$250**  
**12"x12"**





**Snow over the muddy water**

**\$380**  
**16"x20"**





**“From a certain point onward there is no longer any turning back. That is the point that must be reached.”**

Franz Kafka, *The Trial*

**\$380**  
**16"x20"**





## The thin ice

“Don’t be surprised,  
When a crack in the ice  
Appears under your feet  
You slip out of your depth and out of your mind  
With your fear flowing out behind you  
As you claw the thin ice”

Pink Floyd

**\$380**  
**16”x20”**





**Amber motif**

**\$380**  
**16"x20"**





## **Kill to get crimson**

“When it’s pop goes the weasel, let go of the easel  
You don't want this rickety rackety life  
It's seat of the trousers, it's all sink or swim, son  
I'd kill to get crimson on this palette knife”

Mark Knopfler

**\$250**  
**12”x12”**





**Kingly drain**

**\$250**  
**12"x12"**

