

BERT DANCKAERT

SIMPLE PRESENT



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Bert Danckaert drew the eighty-six photographs in this book from eighteen cities on four continents between 2007 and 2013. Depending on the spectator's empathy, Danckaert's photographs may be read on formal or documentary levels, or both. He turns ordinary, often unrecognizable fragments of urban reality into extraordinary works that reveal a profound knowledge and understanding of the history of modern art, especially its painterly, narrative, conceptual and constructivist currents. Inge Henneman, former curator of the Museum of Photography in Antwerp and professor of the history of photography at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in the same city, wrote of his work:

"Bert Danckaert's bizarre cityscapes deal with the paradox of non-figurative simplicity, as well as with the complexity of meaning and metaphor. His 'urban still-lives' breathe a kind of strangeness that can only emanate from the familiar. 'Found' sidewalks, walls, and street furniture refer more to minimalist art than to the conventions of documentary photography. In his absurd compositions, a recognizable and banal reality appears as a stage set, props and trompe-l'œil included, while the actors are absent."

Danckaert (b. 1965) lives and works in his native city of Antwerp, where he studied at the National Higher Institute of Fine Arts (NHISK) and the Royal Academy of Fine Arts (KASKA). He now teaches photography at the latter. Danckaert also writes on photography. His texts are published regularly in several reputed periodicals. Bert Danckaert's work is represented exclusively by Roberto Polo Gallery, Brussels.

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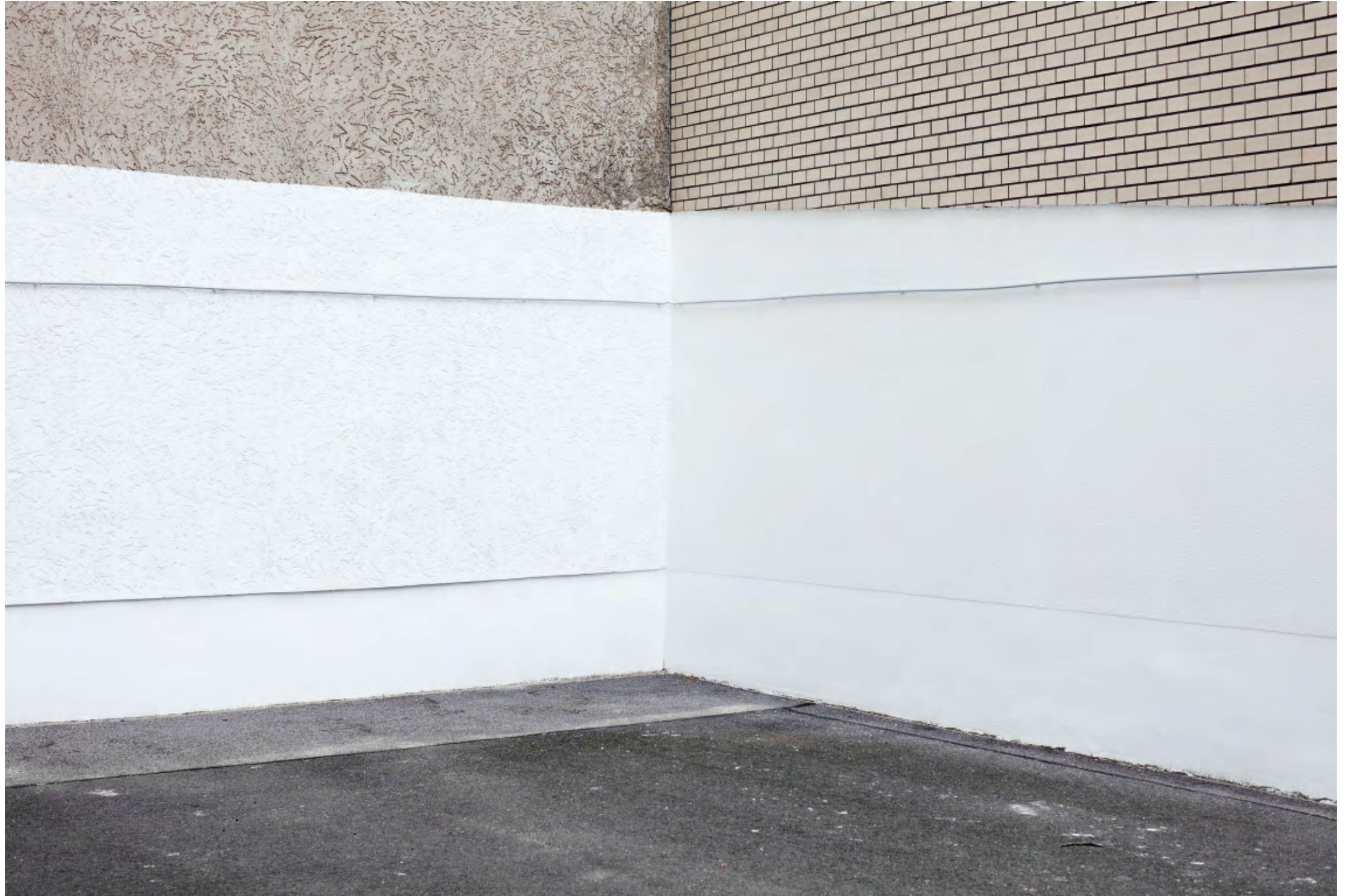






























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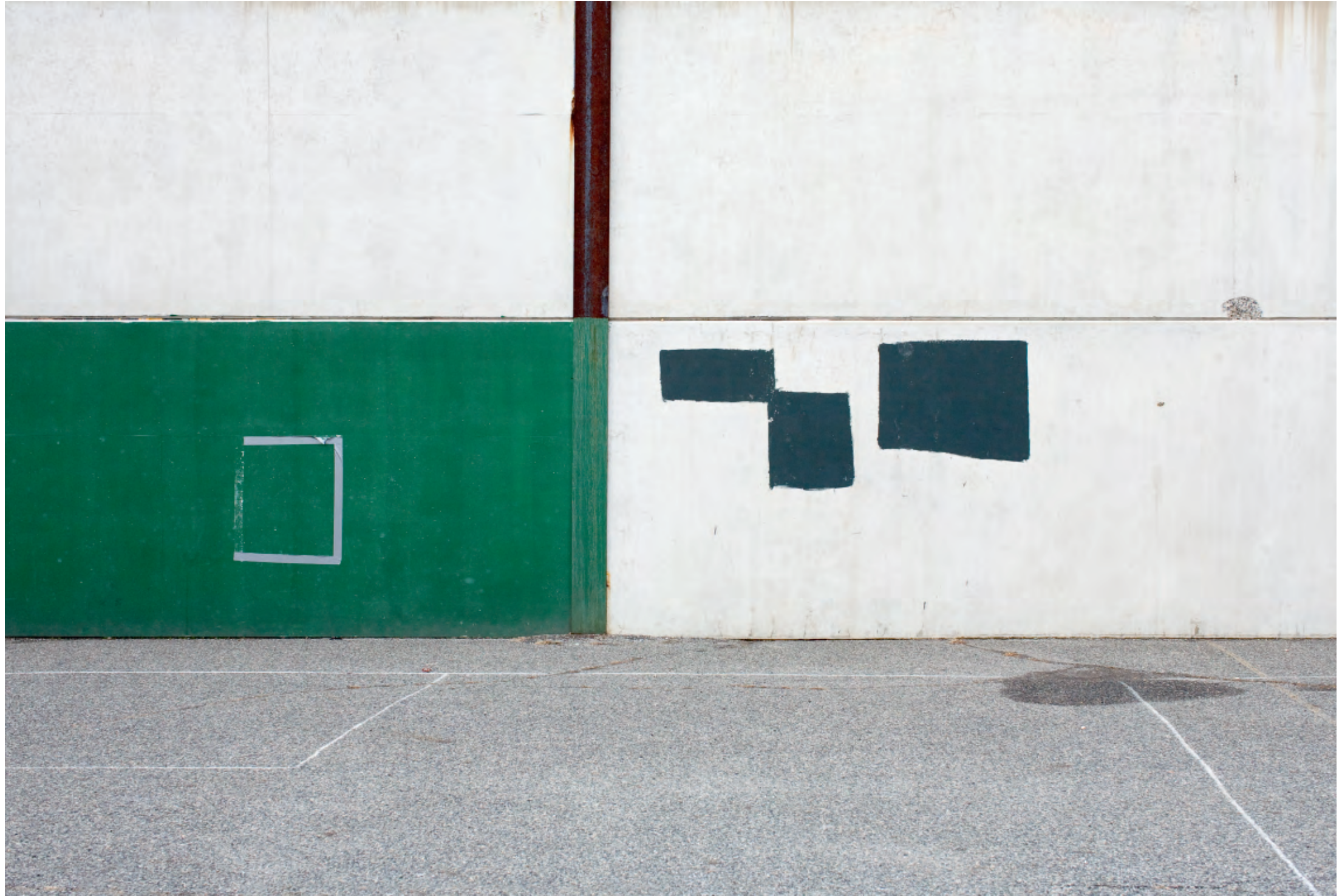
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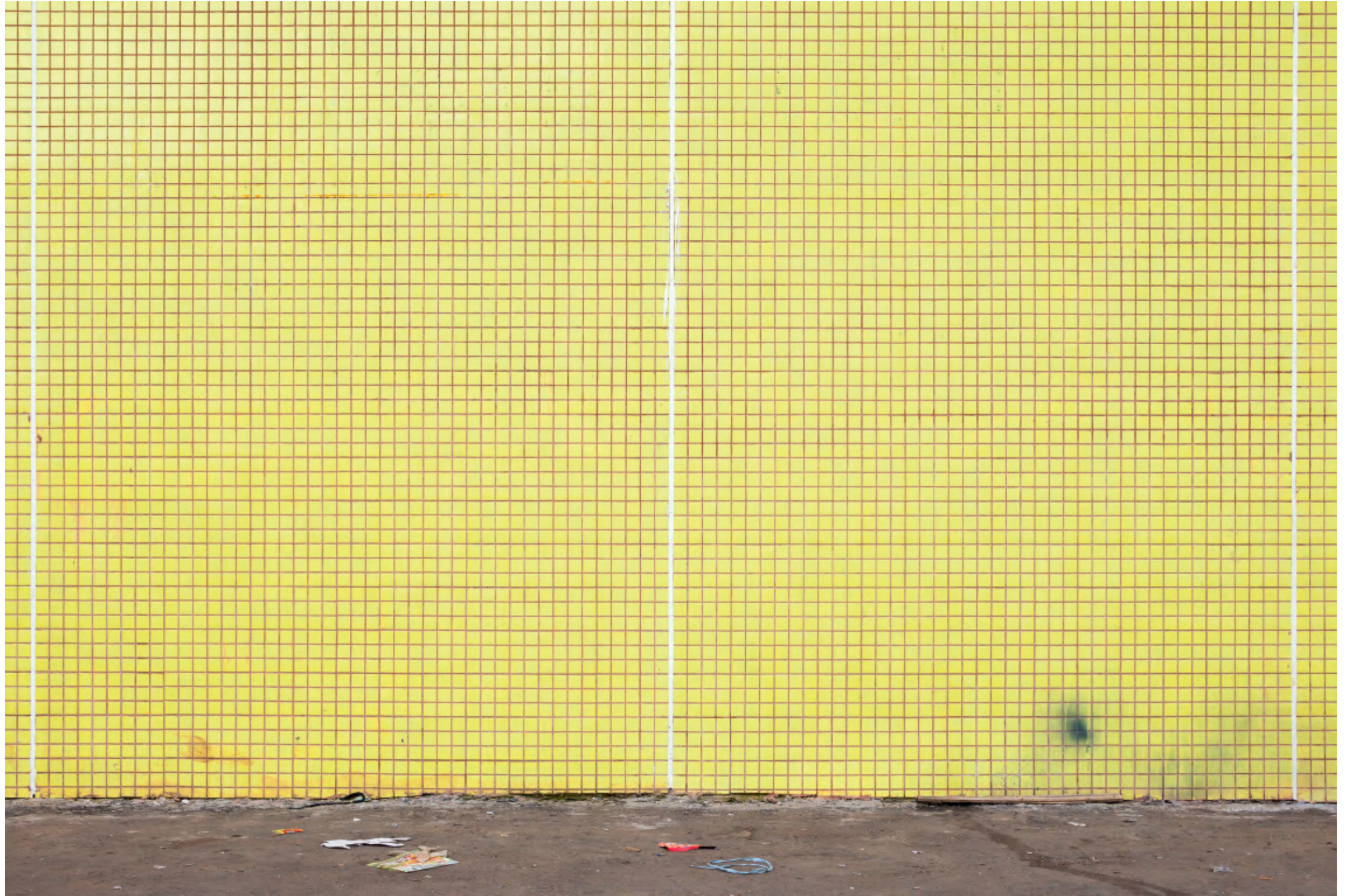




























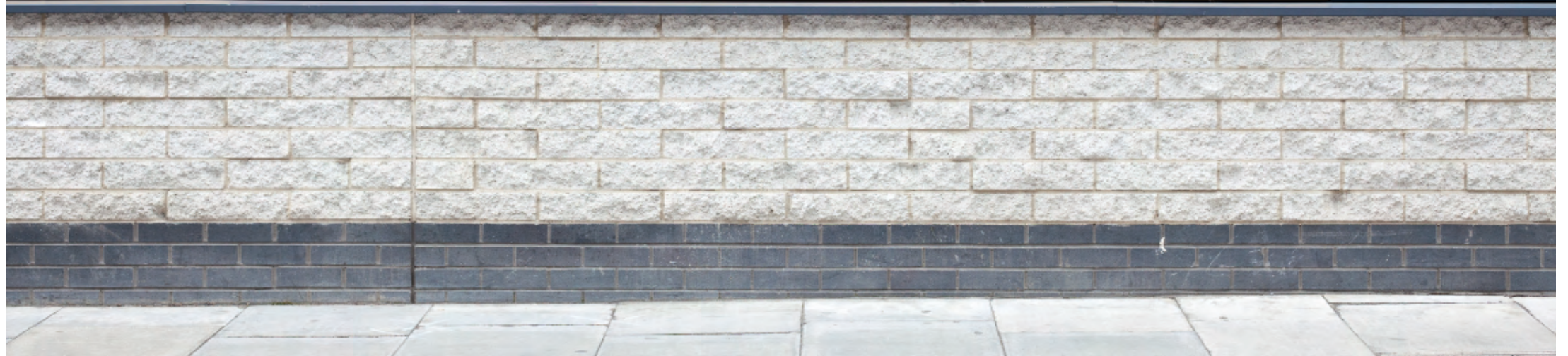
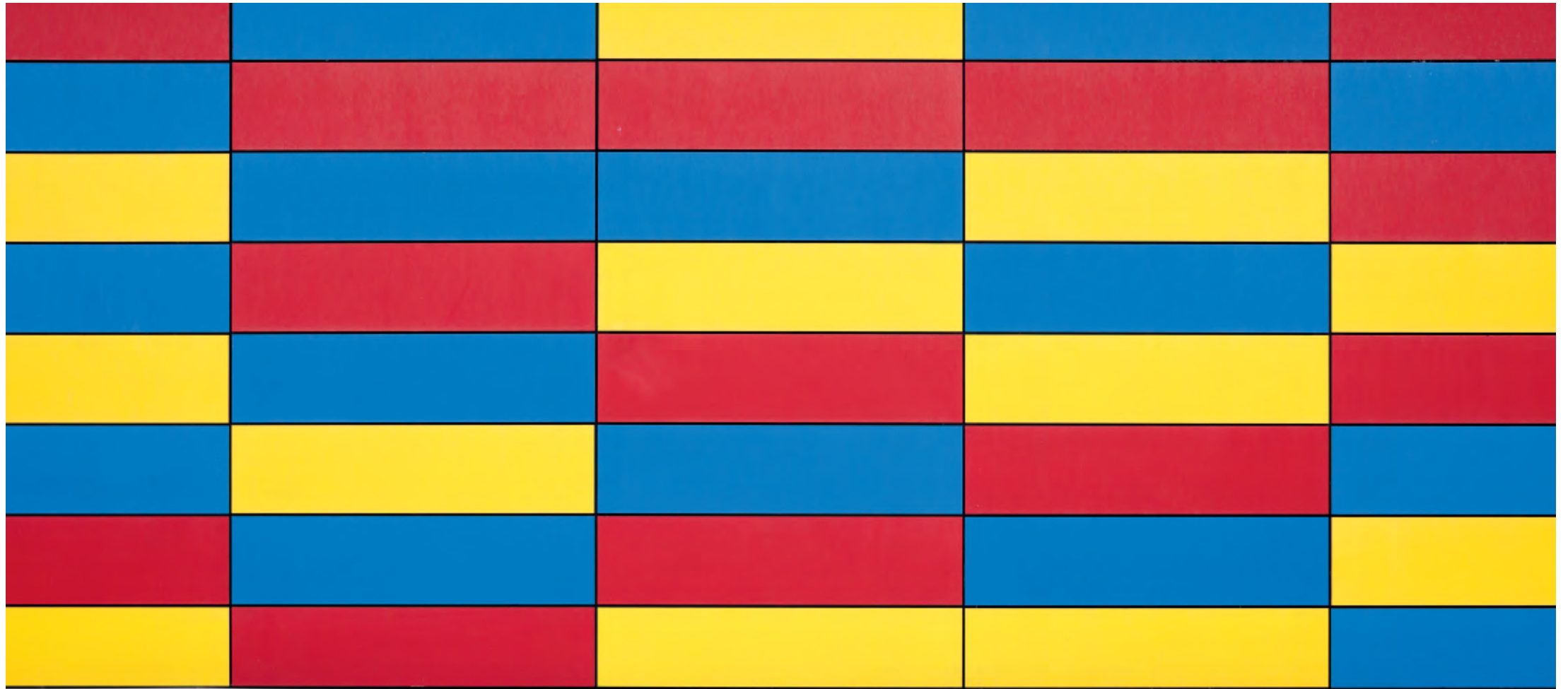


















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All the photographs illustrated in this book are archival pigment prints on fine art paper and measure 39 x 58 cm, except for those on Pp. 7, 27, 37, 51, 75, 105, 113, 141, 153, 161, 163 & 177, which measure 18.7 x 28 cm.

We hereby express our gratitude to the following organization and persons for making this book possible: Peter Bialobrzewski, Jan Blommaert, Peter Boelens, Lynne Cohen, Thomas Crombez, Ellen Danckaert, Simon Danckaert, Els De Bruyn, Karin Hanssen, Inge Henneman, Andrew Lugg, Johan Pas, Christian Patterson, POC (Piece of Cake), Roberto Polo, Marc Ruyters, Eric Ubben, Jos Van den Bergh, Lucas Vandervost, Adinda Van Geystelen, Kurt Vanhoutte and John Van Oers.

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www.ap.be/academie
www.robertopologallery.com

A complementary book in the form of a novel titled 'De extra's', by Bert Danckaert, published by EPO, Antwerp, is also available.

Bert Danckaert is a member of POC (Piece of Cake), a European network of contemporary photographers,
www.pocproject.com
www.bert-danckaert.be

www.lannoo.com

Register on our web site and we will regularly send you a newsletter with information about our new books and interesting, exclusive offers.

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