

# Not Another Pandemic Zine

Miles Silvagni



In February of 2020, after being hired for a new job I was very excited about, I found myself relocating from my sleepy town of Voorschoten to the city of Rotterdam, moving in with my sister. Having been born and raised in Miami Beach as a child and young teen, I was eager to return to an urban setting, and make use of the photographic opportunities it would offer. I had started working on a new photo project, created out of appreciation for the city's diversity, architecture, and excitement for the new city lifestyle I was planning to recapture.

However, only a month into my new setting, the city, and country as a whole, was impacted by the COVID-19 virus, which had very swiftly developed into a global pandemic. The city almost immediately seemed to close down, and life seemed to halt indefinitely. While I had never intended to take part in the pandemic-centric photo projects I \*knew\* would come, I couldn't just stop taking photos. The degree to which it had impacted everyone made me feel like it was worth documenting and maybe reflecting on one day. Thus, after a quick adaptation of my original idea, this is how this project came to be.

In the end, I do not feel like I created a project about the pandemic, but rather a project about attempting to live life as normal and to continue to develop my skills \*despite\* it.

-Miles

04 May, 2020







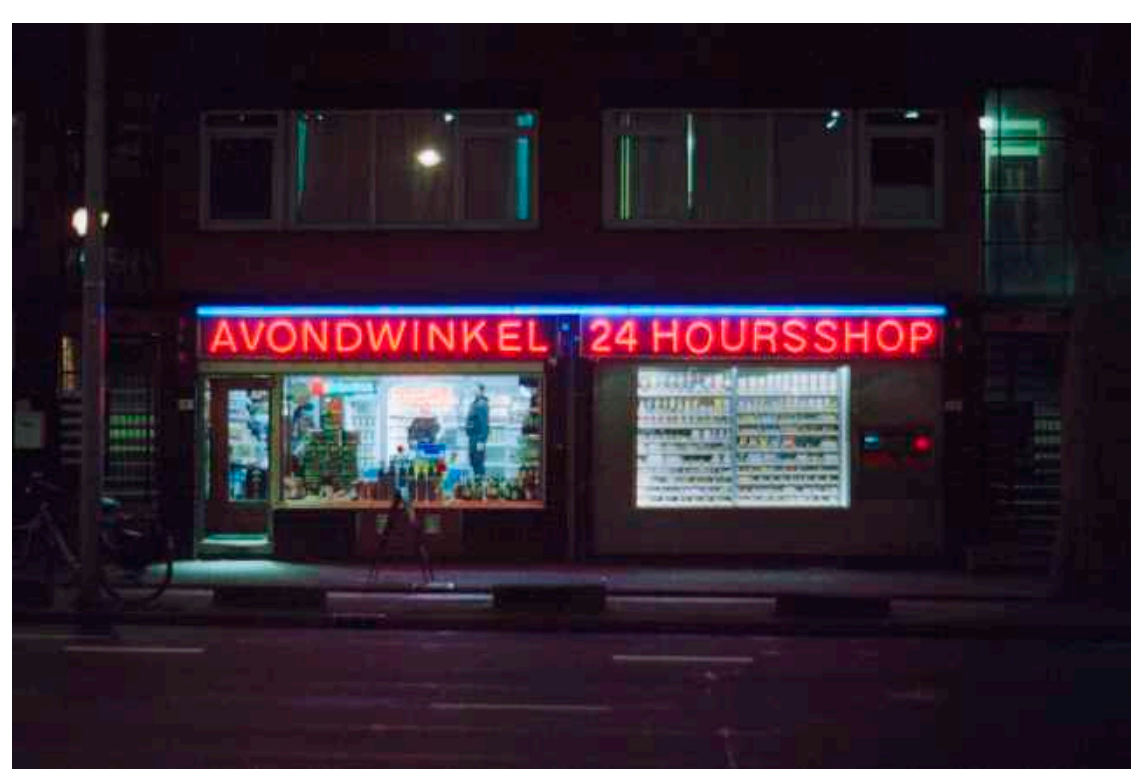
The Markthal (Market Hall), a giant horseshoe-shaped building with an array of food stands inside.



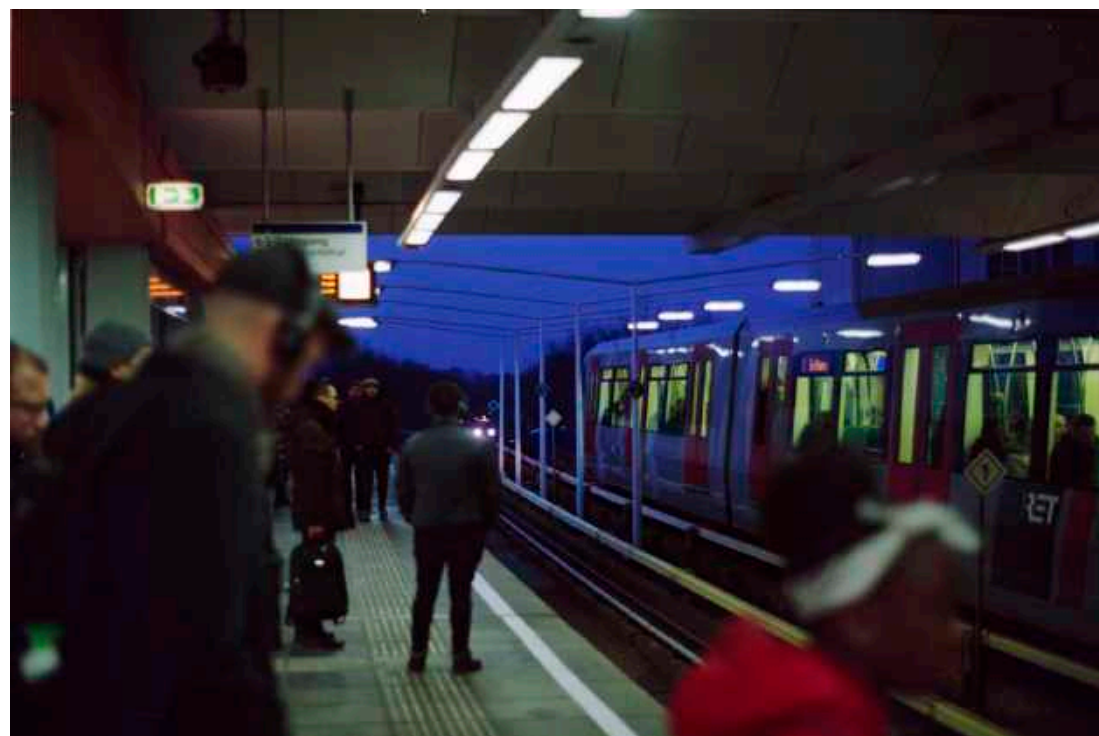
I always loved coming here.



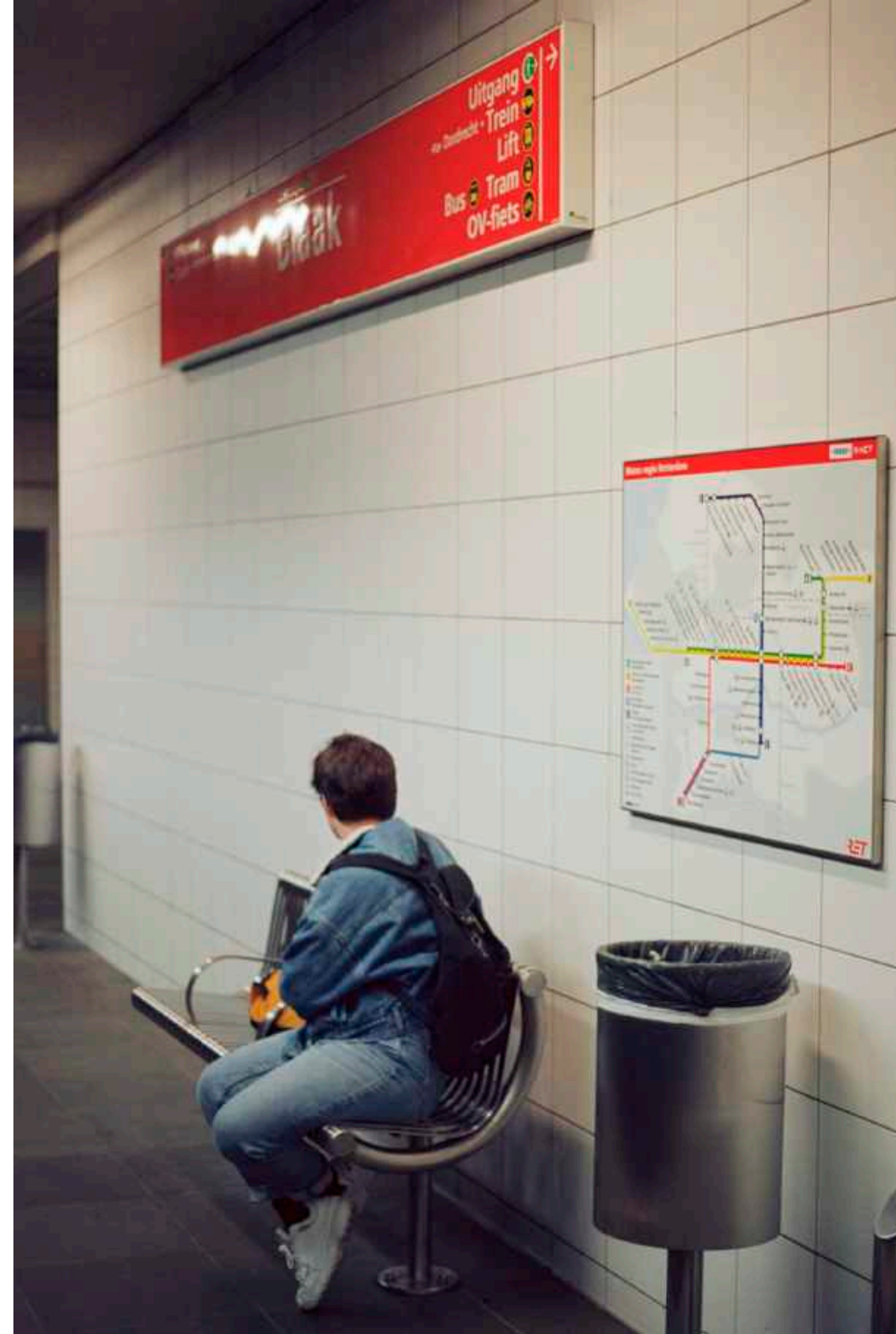
The city's Central Library, a.k.a. my loitering spot of choice whenever I'd wait for my lab to develop my negatives.



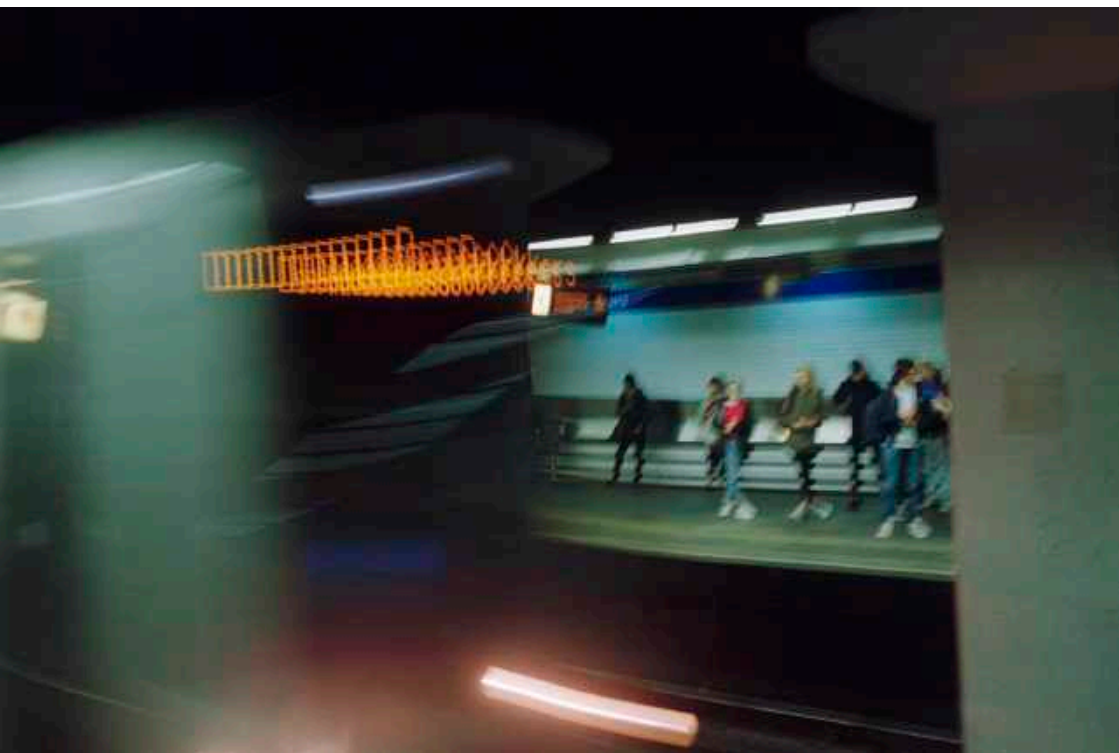




I had a few chances to bring my camera on my commutes to work.







The subway was by far my favorite way to get around.





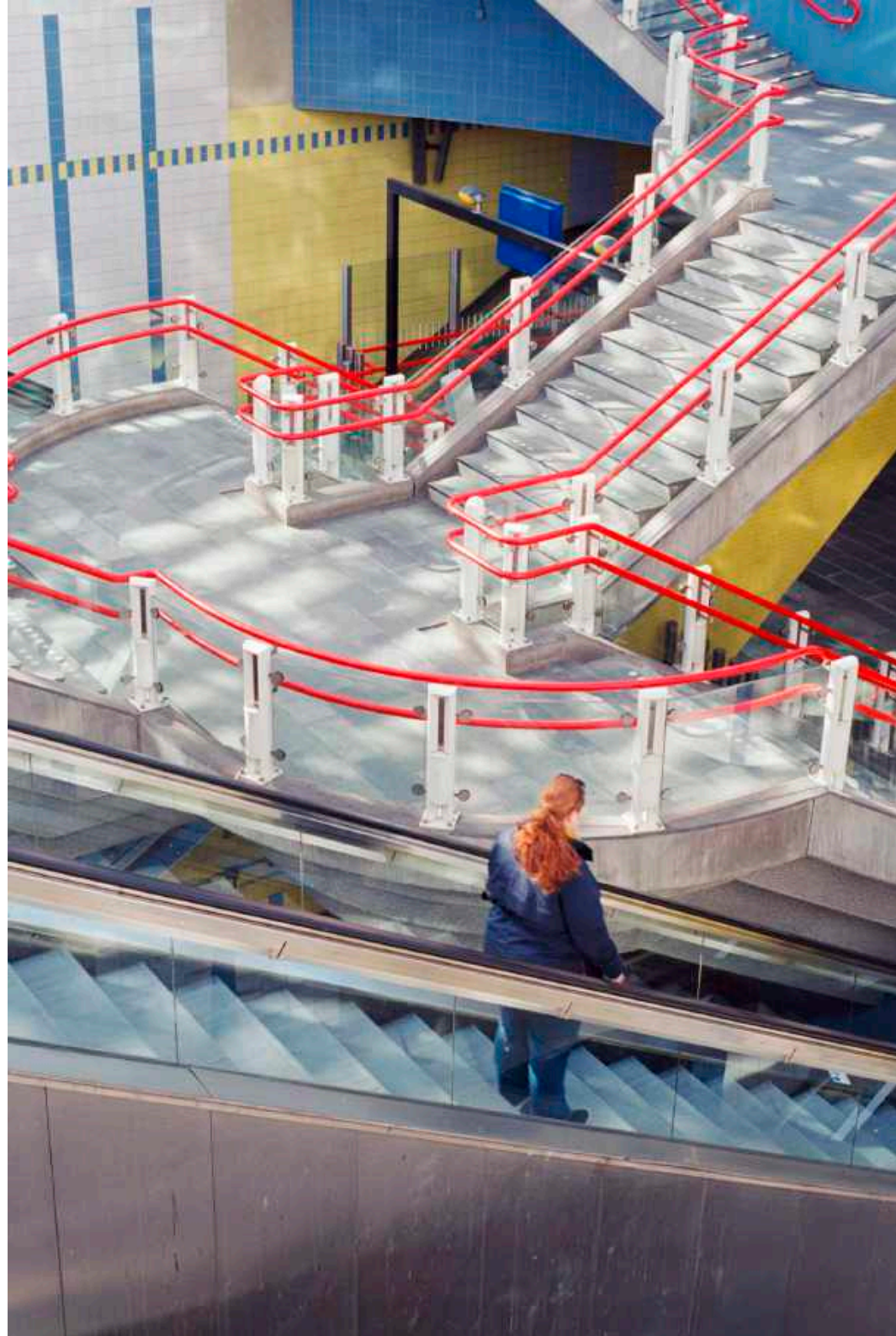






Ahoy Rotterdam, the city's main venue, with all shows cancelled until further notice as it undergoes conversion to act as a field hospital. The 2020 Eurovision Song Festival has been postponed to next year.









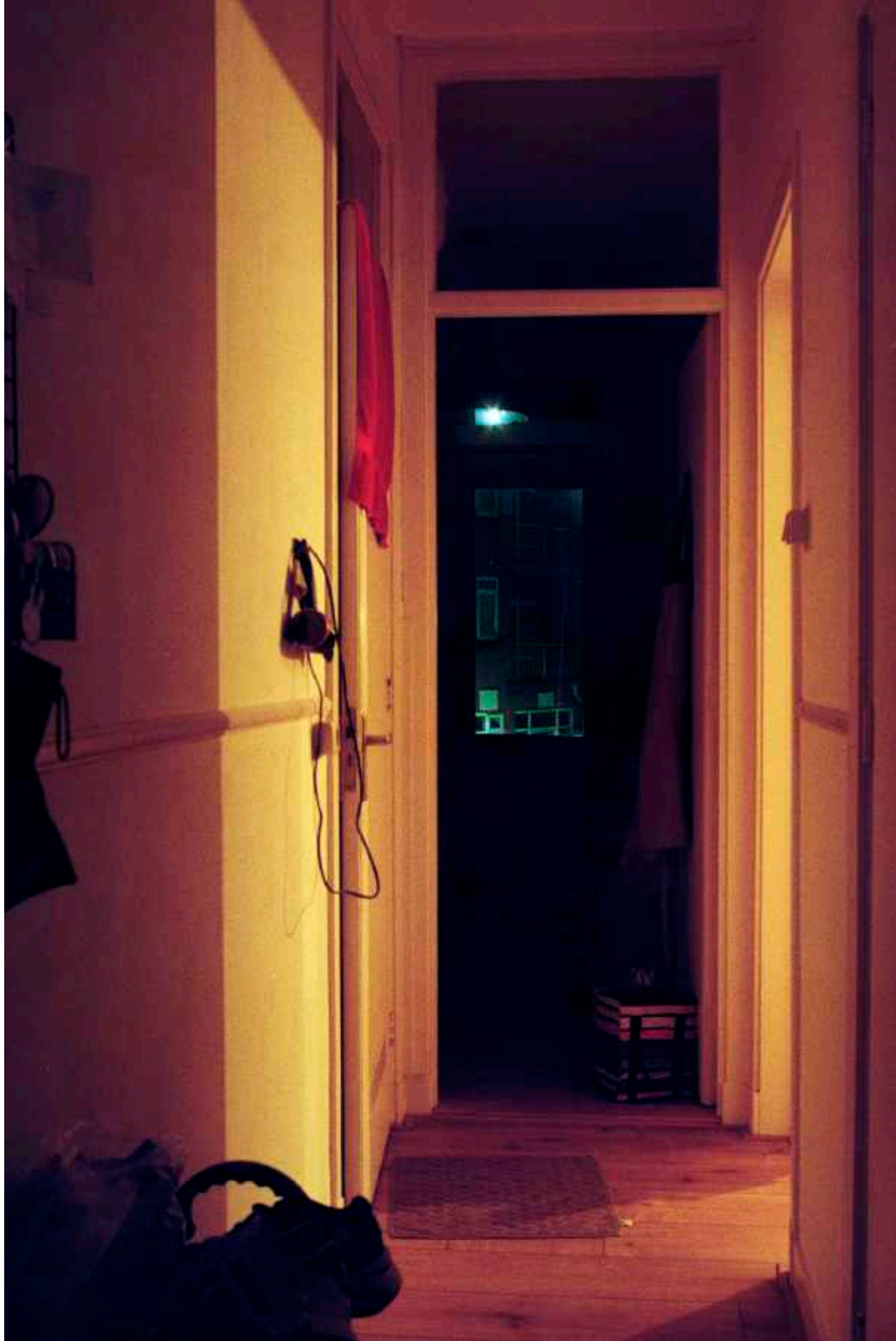












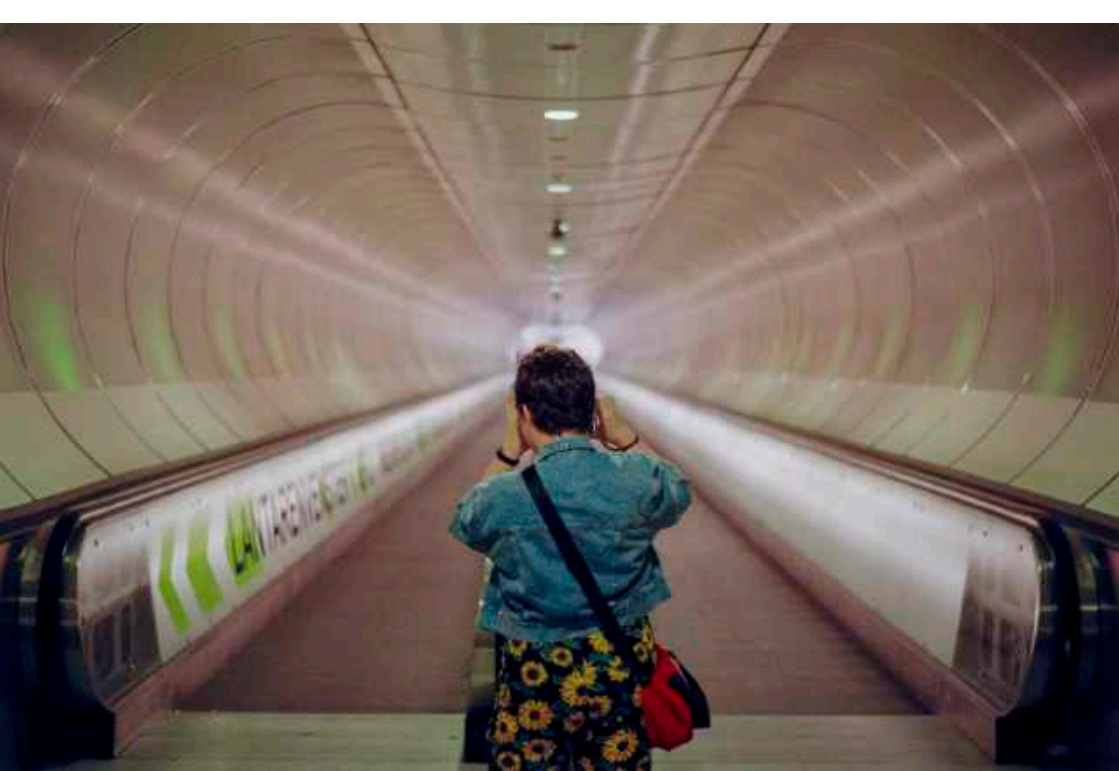
Doing what I can with what I've got.



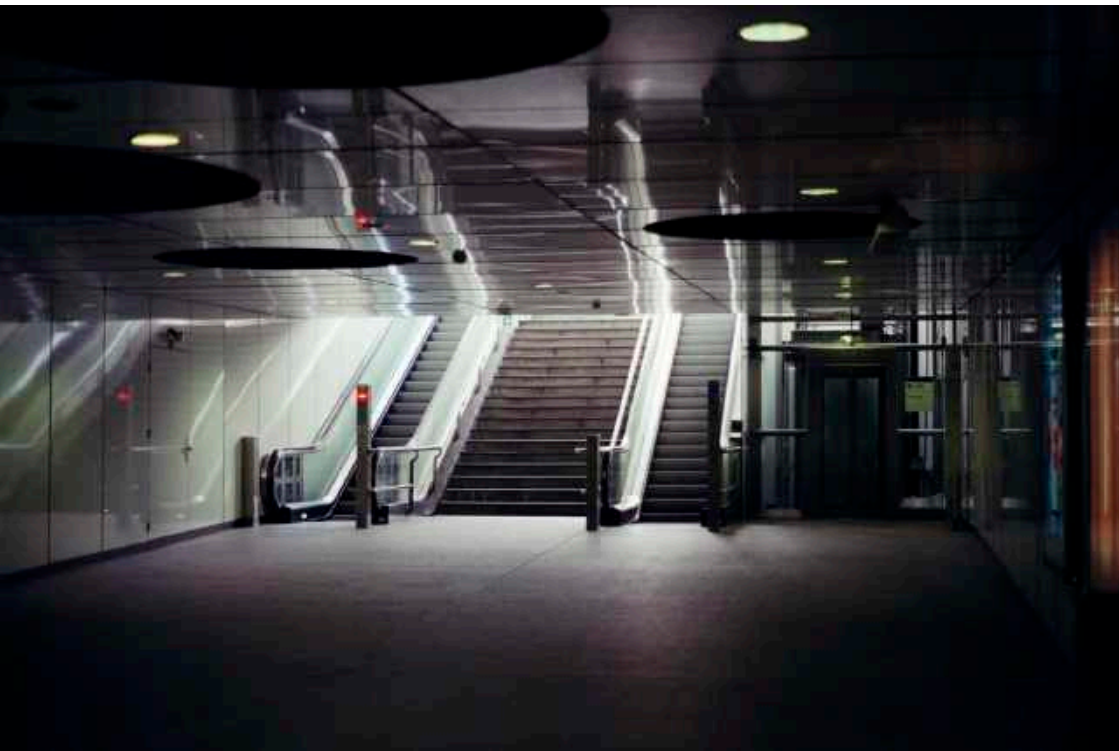
We went on plenty of walks whenever we could, to wherever we could.

We also took this mirror home.

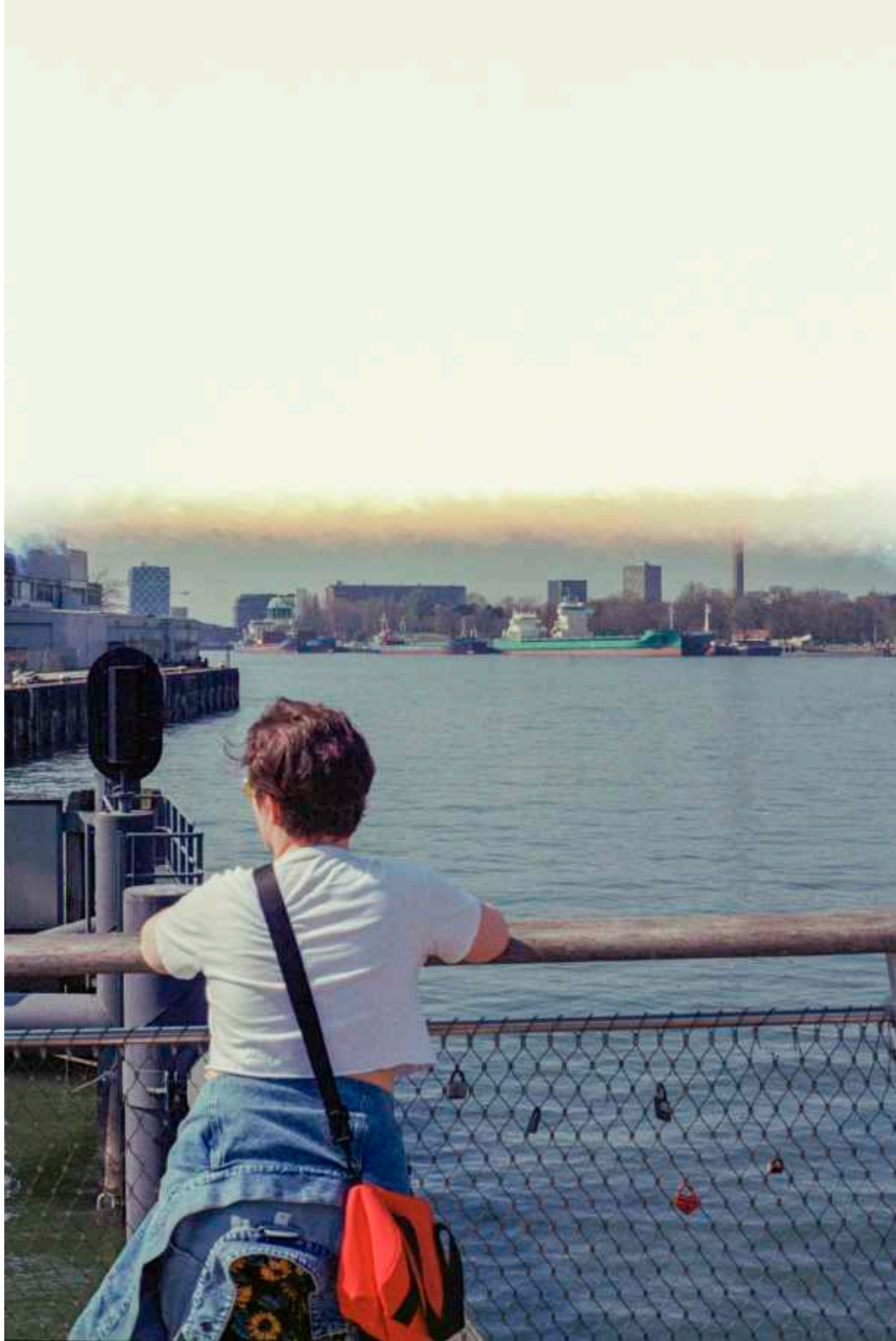




Packed up and headed for the docks

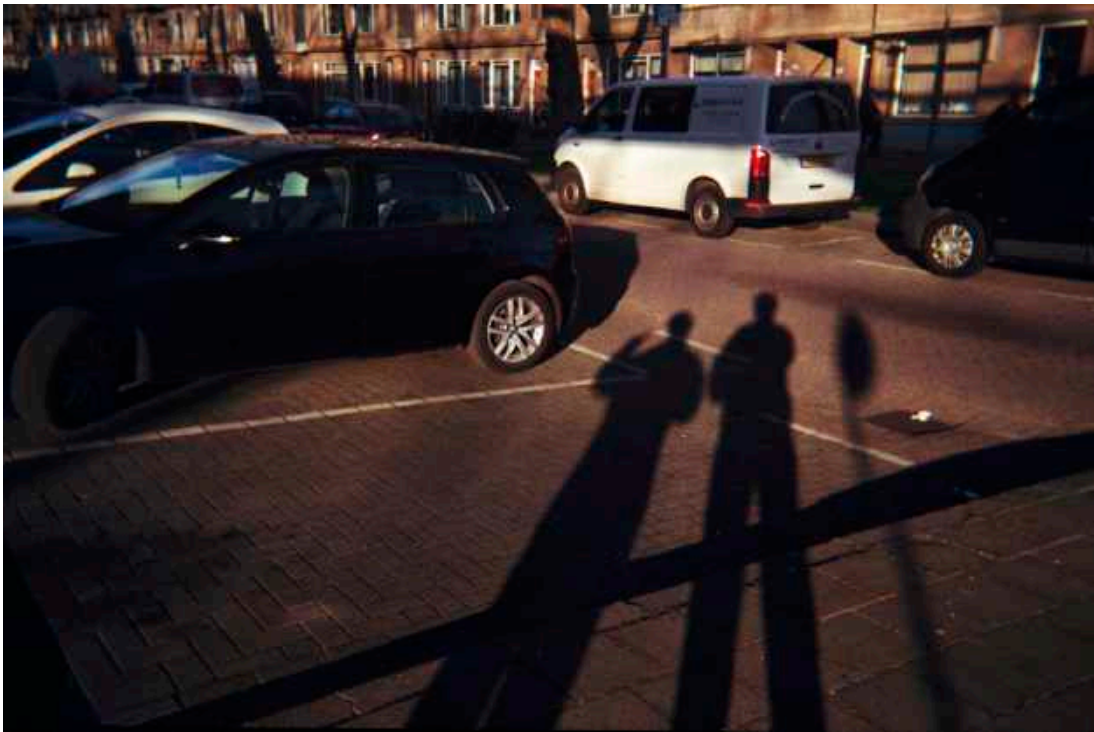






“Keep 1.5m apart. Give each other space. Minimize your time here. Wash your hands when you get home.”









The Saturday markets are cancelled, so there's plenty of space to skate.







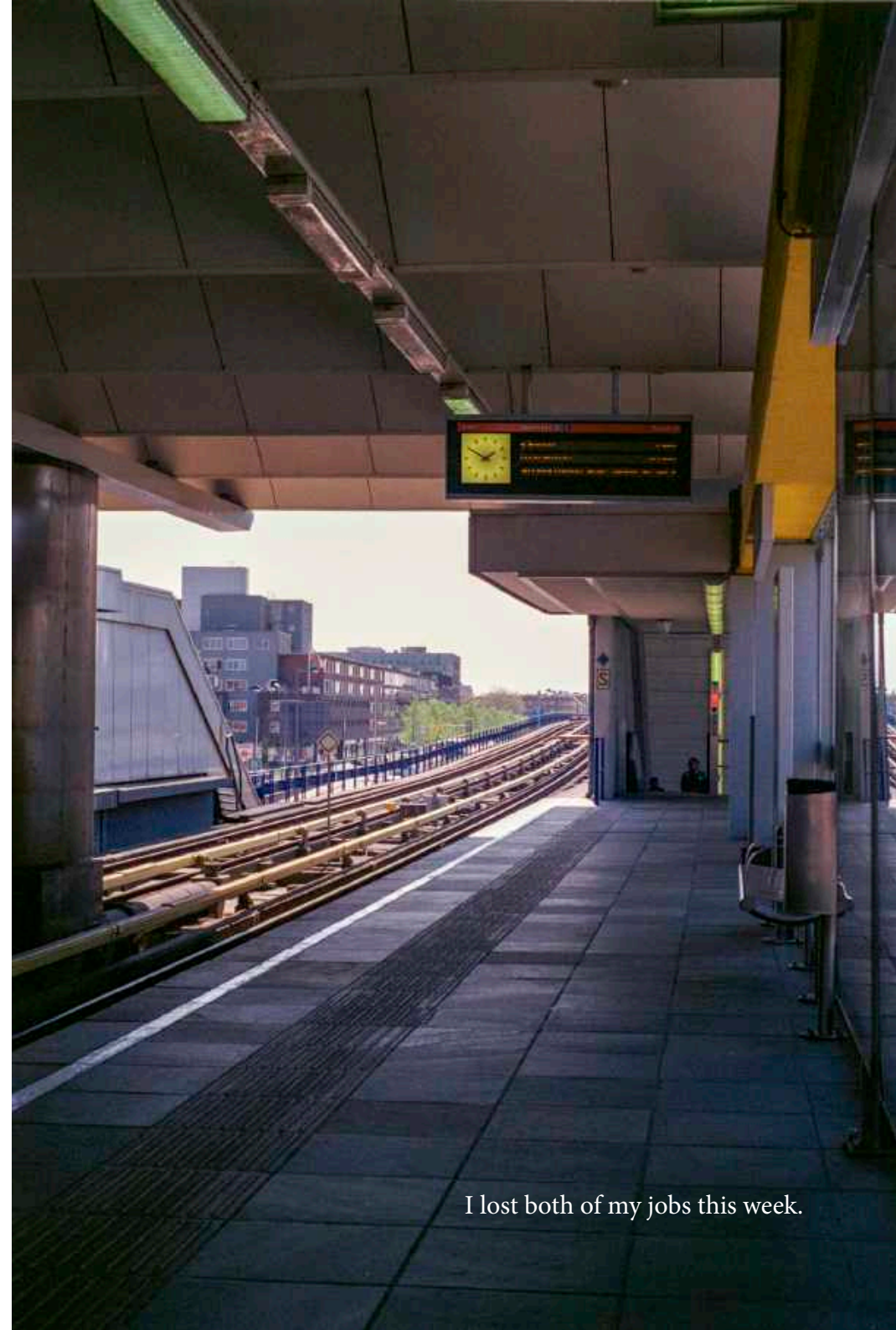
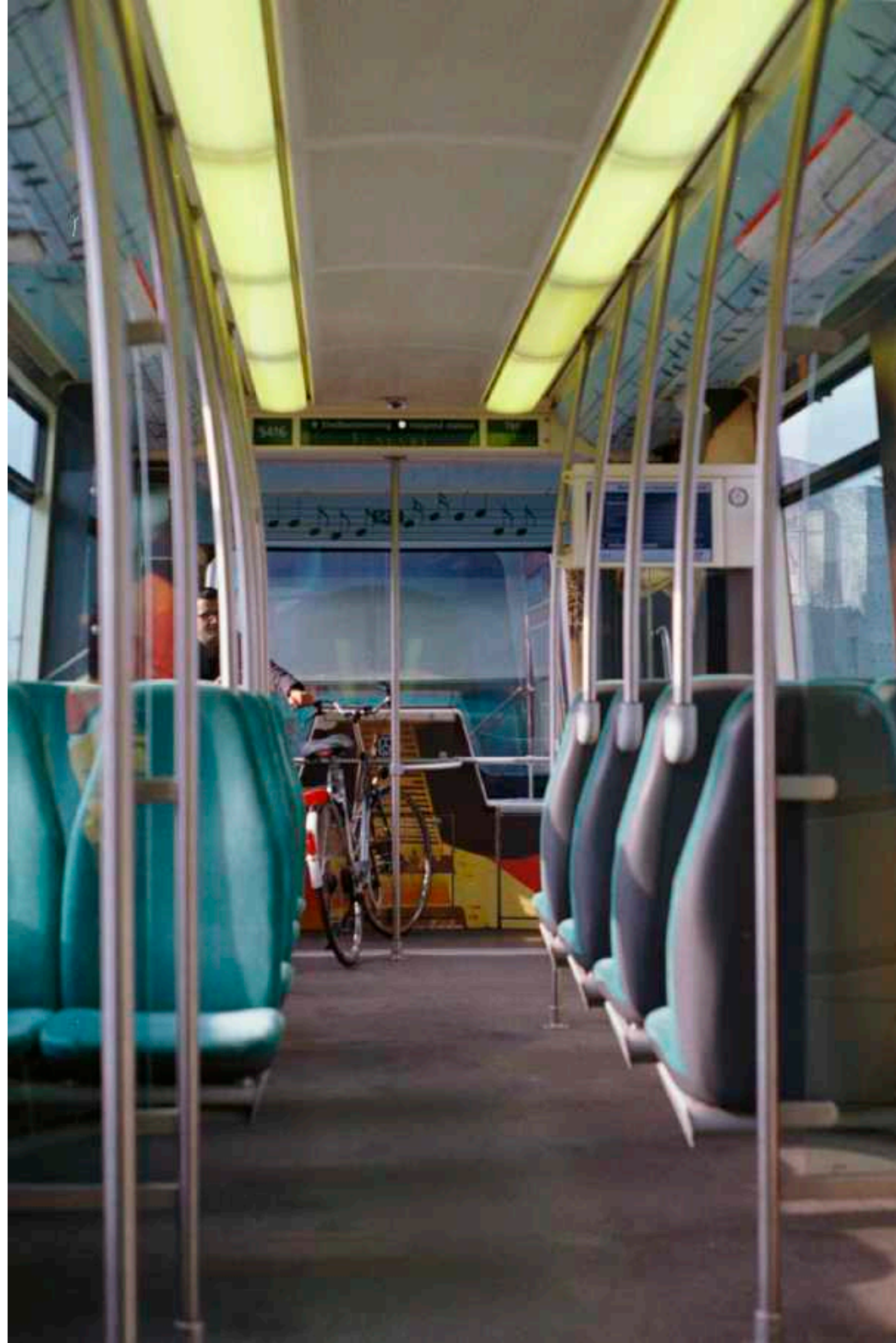












I lost both of my jobs this week.



This project was shot over a 3-month period, in the wake- and midst of the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

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