

# Wabi-Sabi Photography



# What is Wabi-Sabi?

- Wabi-sabi comes from Japanese philosophy:
- **Wabi:** Simplicity, humility, and connection to nature
- **Sabi:** The beauty of aging, wear, and impermanence
- **Together:** Finding beauty in the imperfect, the impermanent, and the incomplete.
- **Wabi-sabi** teaches us that nothing lasts, nothing is finished, and nothing is perfect.



# Embracing imperfection and the transient nature of things



# Why Wabi-Sabi in Photography?

- We already know too much about creating flawless, sharp photos.
- Wabi-sabi reminds us that perfection isn't the goal.
- It's about seeing the world as it is—raw and real.
- The cracks, the rust, the peeling paint? They tell a story.
- The worn-out leaf or the faded sign? They have a presence, a history.
- **Imperfection is perfection.**



**Let go and let life flow towards you**



# How to Photograph Wabi-Sabi

- 1. Set Your Camera to P Mode (or Macro Mode):
- Stop overthinking and let intuition guide you.
- 2. Focus on the Details:
- Worn leaf, puddle, textures on a faded wall.
- 3. Notice the Human Presence:
- Scratches on a bench or a rusted hinge—evidence of life and time.



# Live your everyday life and bring the camera for the ride

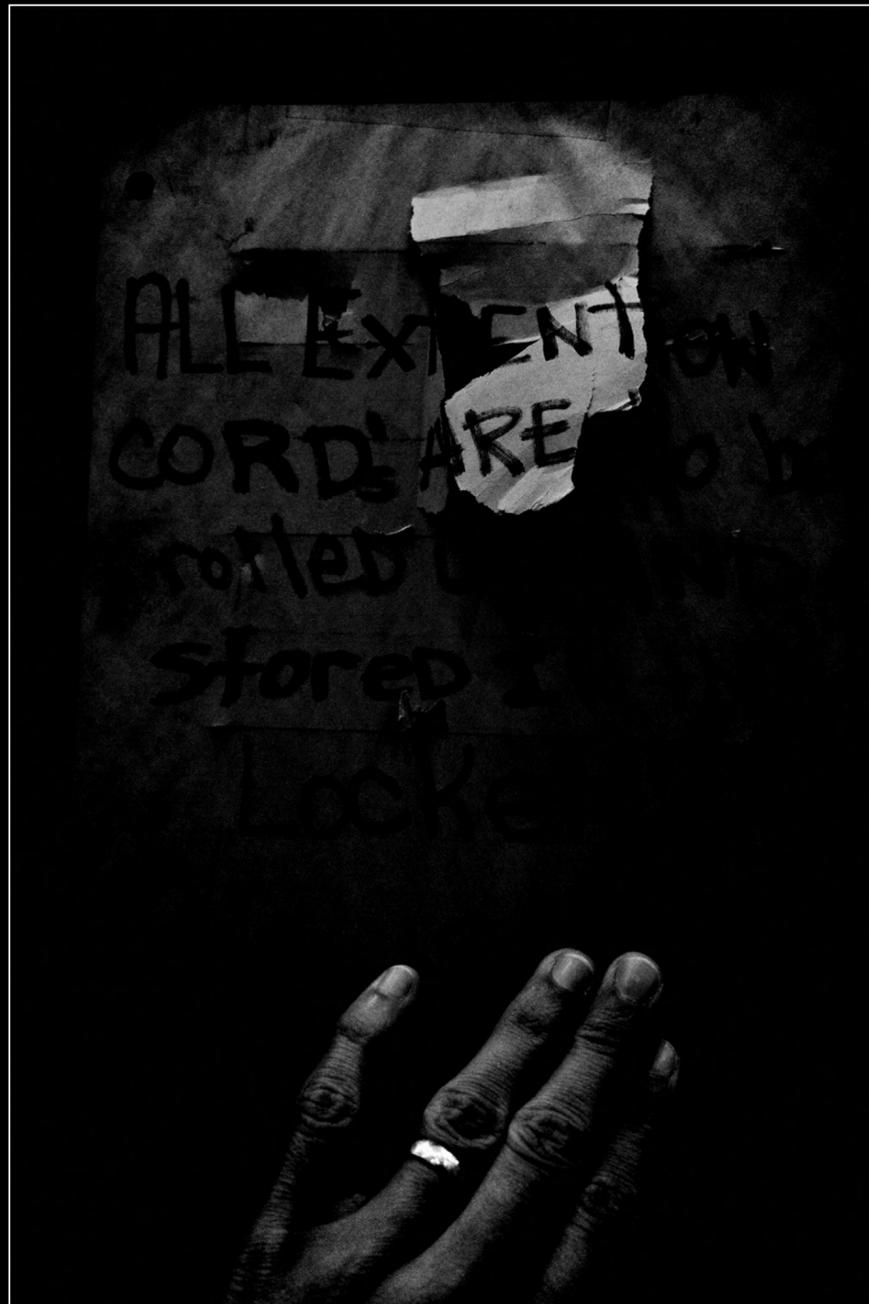


# High-Contrast Black and White

- Crank the contrast to the max.
- Strip away distractions and highlight raw textures.
- I love using the Ricoh GR III.
- Macro mode captures details like cracks or faded text.
- Small JPEG files are all you need—keep it simple and raw.



# Wabi-sabi does not require you to travel

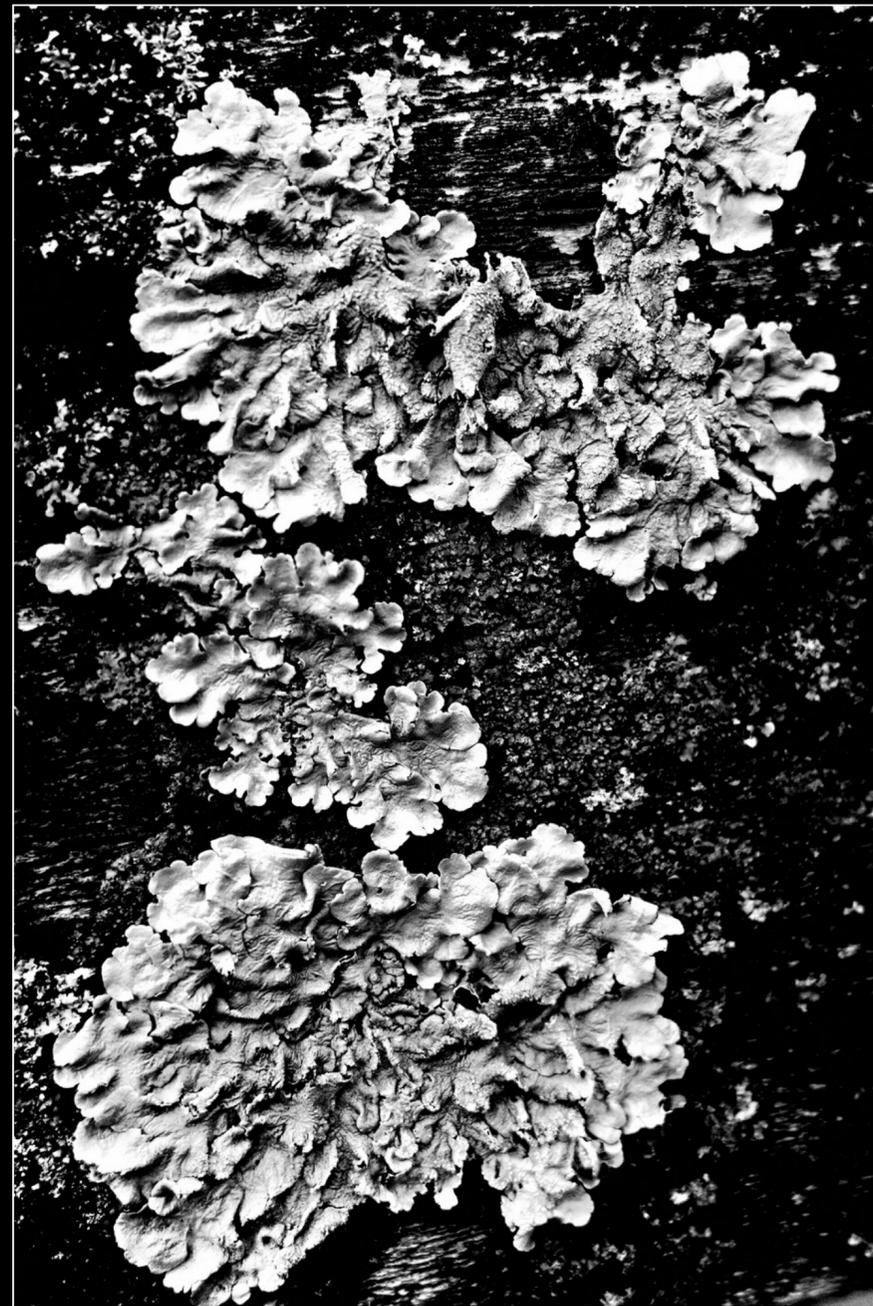
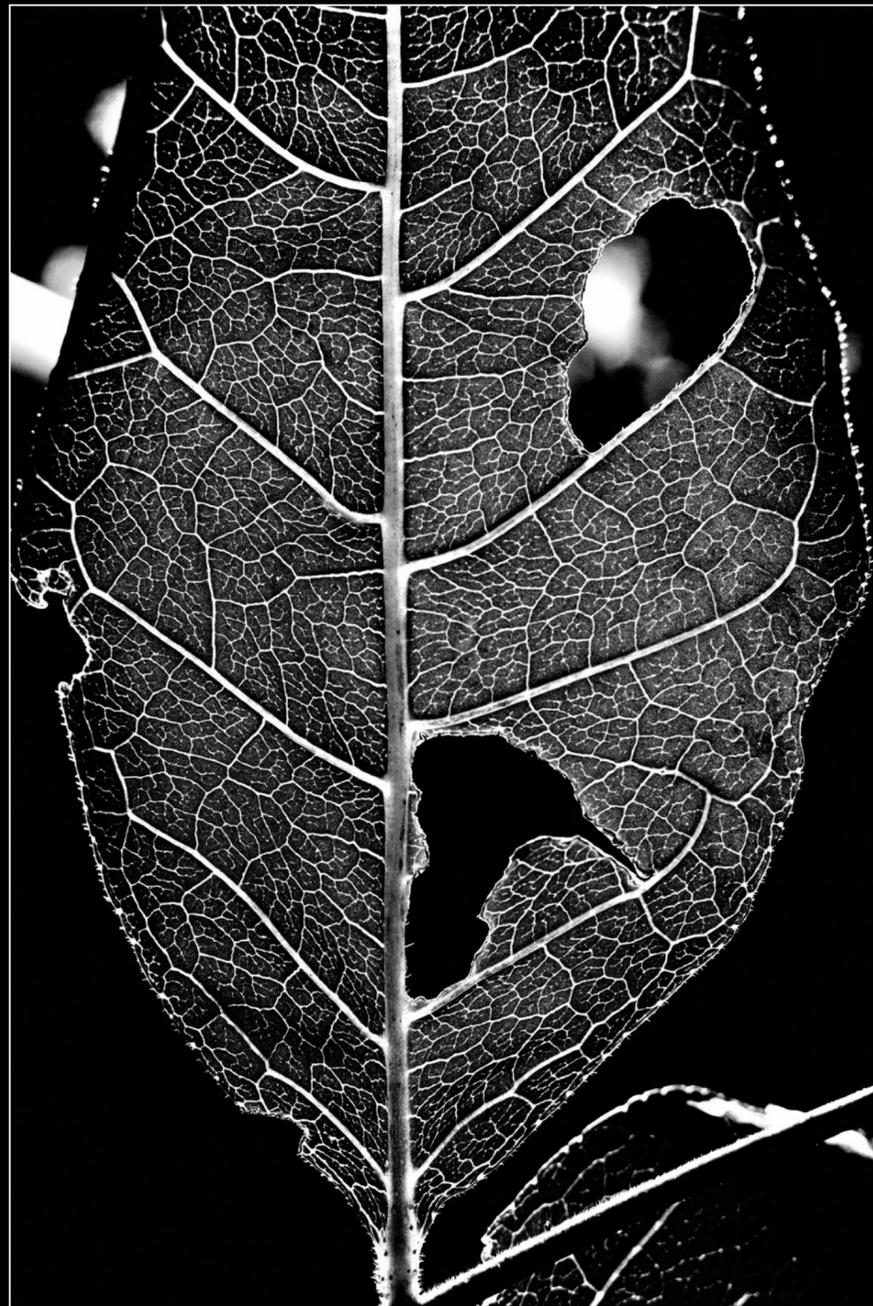


# The Beauty in Imperfection

- Wabi-sabi is a mindset. It trains your eye to see beauty in flaws.
- Faded signs
- Chipped paint
- Cracked pavement
- **Within the mundane lies infinite possibilities.**



# Street photography as meditation



# A Street Photographer's Perspective

- Street photography thrives on spontaneity and authenticity.
- Wabi-sabi fits perfectly:
- Find the beauty in the everyday.
- Let go of perfection.
- Embrace the moment.
- Every scratch, stain, or crack has potential.



Maybe you can't live forever, but you can make a photograph



# Final Thoughts

- Embrace imperfection.
- Let go of the idea that every photo needs to be perfect.
- Look for beauty in the worn, weathered, and overlooked.
- Imperfection is perfection.

