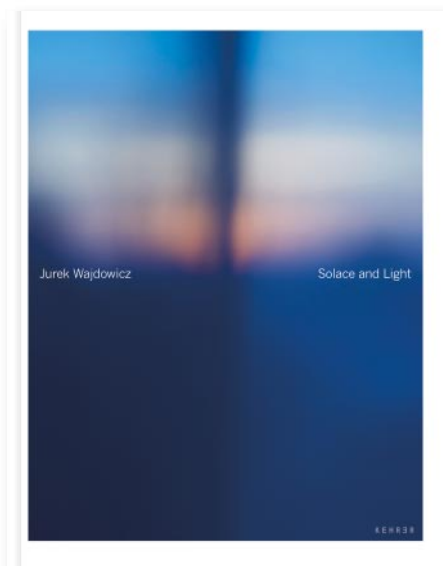




NEW RELEASE 2026

Jurek Wajdowicz *Solace and Light*

Texts by Kelly Doe, David Alan Harvey, Carole Naggar, Elliott Sharp, Mariusz Szczygieł, Jurek Wajdowicz

Poems by Wisława Szymborska

Designed by Emerson, Wajdowicz Studios (EWS Design)

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Between photography and painting: turning the mundane into the extraordinary

In his new publication, *Solace and Light*, Polish-born American lens-based artist Jurek Wajdowicz brings together images made over more than a decade. His work occupies an elusive territory between photography and painting, transforming fragments of the familiar into images of color, light, shadow, and ambiguity. Often abstract and enigmatic, the photographs are meant to be felt before they are fully understood, leaving space for memory, association, and the viewer's own imagination. A reflection, a passage of light, an indistinct landscape, or an ordinary interior can become difficult to locate precisely, hovering between recognition and abstraction and allowing the visible world to become mysterious again.

From the text *Between Presence and Pause* by **Jurek Wajdowicz**
I'm often searching for liminal space, that mysterious threshold that embodies the dichotomy of what is seen and what is felt. This ambiguity is critical, as I hope to provoke the transcendent effect of turning the mundane into the extraordinary.

The photographs are not constructed afterward. They emerge through a rigorous practice, guided by intuition, close observation, and an orchestration of circumstances as the image is made. Wajdowicz uses the camera less to record what is in front of him than to transform the visible world beyond its literal appearance. Precision exists alongside intuition and something less controllable: the fleeting, sometimes accidental moment when the familiar becomes strange or unexpectedly beautiful.

From the text *Reflections* by **David Alan Harvey**

What lingers, finally, is not analysis but experience. These are images that stay with you, the way a song does, returning unbidden, always with something new to give.

Selected poems by Nobel Prize-winning Polish poet Wisława Szymborska appear throughout *Solace and Light* in a quiet dialogue with the images. Her poetry shares with Wajdowicz's art a close attention to the familiar, and to the subtle shifts that can make what seems known newly resonant.

Jurek Wajdowicz (b. 1951, Cracow, Poland) is a Polish-born American visual artist based in New York. He holds an M.A. from the Academy of Fine Arts in Lodz.

For decades, Wajdowicz has also worked in photojournalistic design, much of it concerned with human rights and social injustice. As co-founder of the New York design office Emerson, Wajdowicz Studios (EWS), his design practice stands in striking contrast to the quieter, more interior world of his art.

Wajdowicz's work is held in the collections of the Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg; the Museum of Art, Lodz; the Book Art Museum, Lodz; the European Institute for Art History, Munich; and the U.S. Library of Congress, as well as private collections in the United States, Europe, and Japan. *Solace and Light*, published by Kehrer Verlag in 2026, is his latest monograph.

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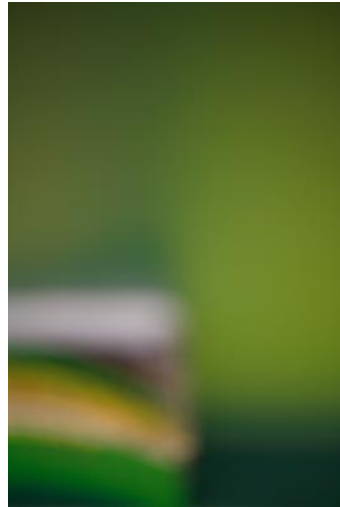
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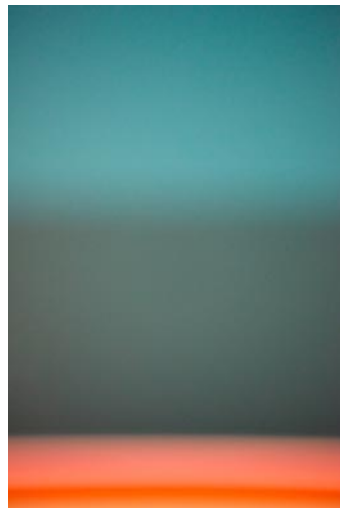
o1_Without Warning ... Everything I Feared Began to Look Beautiful, 2020
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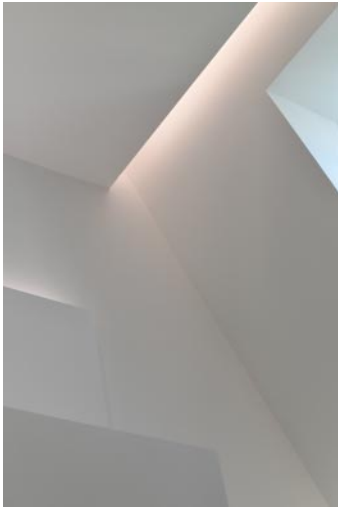
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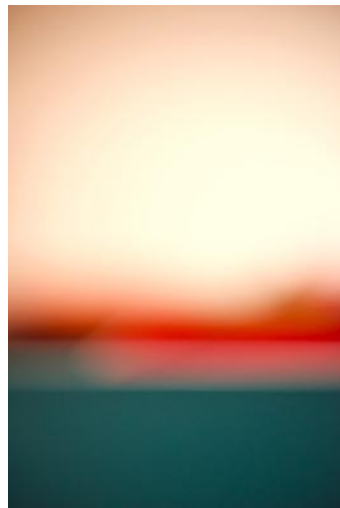
07_Untitled, 2024 © Jurek Wajdowicz



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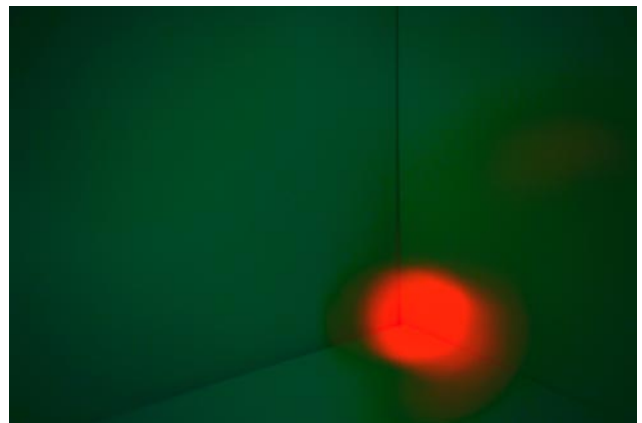
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