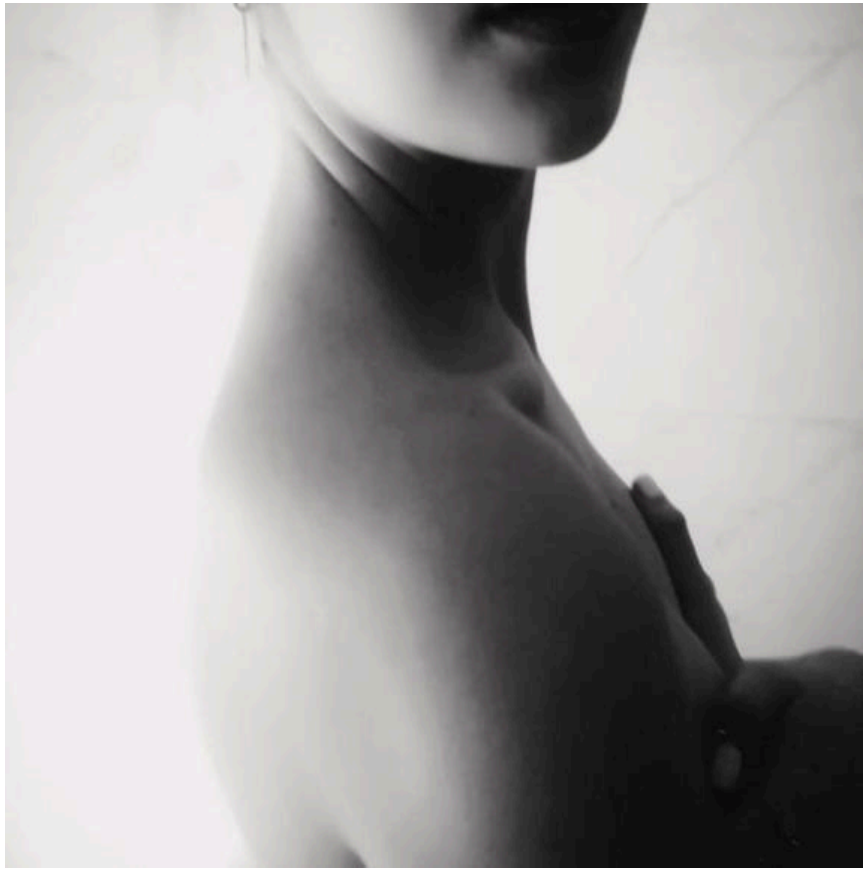
SOLIVAGANT

ADJ. WANDERING ALONE

SOLIVAGANT -

Wandering alone is what I have been doing since I was very little, and I am not doing it on purpose and it can be very difficult. I cringe when people talk about this subject and say 'I am different' or 'I am unique'. Of course you are different than other people, everybody is different but you should not point it out like that in my opinion. But I do want to talk about how I think because I never speak about it . I do not like to express why I feel like I do. But it is how I have been feeling since I was very little. I am a 'lone wolf' and feel like an outsider in some situations. And that is fine, some of us are creative, smart, sporty or something else. So many times I heard people say ' You know, actually you are a really kind person'. I would ask them why they would think I was not a kind person and then they would say I looked kinda intimidating because I was always on my own and had my own style. It troubled me a little that many people judge so easily and I think that is also the reason why many people feel misunderstood or misjudged or have the feeling that they have to make sure people see them in a special way to say 'hey look at me I am different'. I have been thinking about this subject for years and I really believe everybody is their own 'religion'. People who are believers follow the rules of their religion and I think that everybody has their own rules. That is why you are reading this bible right now. It is like reading my bible to explain my own religion.



LITTLE -

Ever since I was little girl I have had my own will. I was calm and always oberservating everything but if I disliked something you would be the first to know. I knew exactly what I wanted and what I did not want. I remember that when I was like 5 or 6 years old my mom and I would go to H&M to get some clothes for me. She knew that if she chose clothes for me I would not wear it. So she would let me walk around the store and pick everything I liked and after I inspected the whole store we would together choose the clothes that were going home with me. I think this is where 'being myself' began. I was 5,6 years old and could already choose what I wanted to wear. I am very thankfull that my mom let me do this because that is how you form your own style and 'religion'. I learned from a young age that you can wear what you want even if people do not like it as much as you do because my mom and I would always fight about the clothes I wanted to wear. She did not like it but I would still wear it. It was like my 5 year old brain was already trying to find herself.

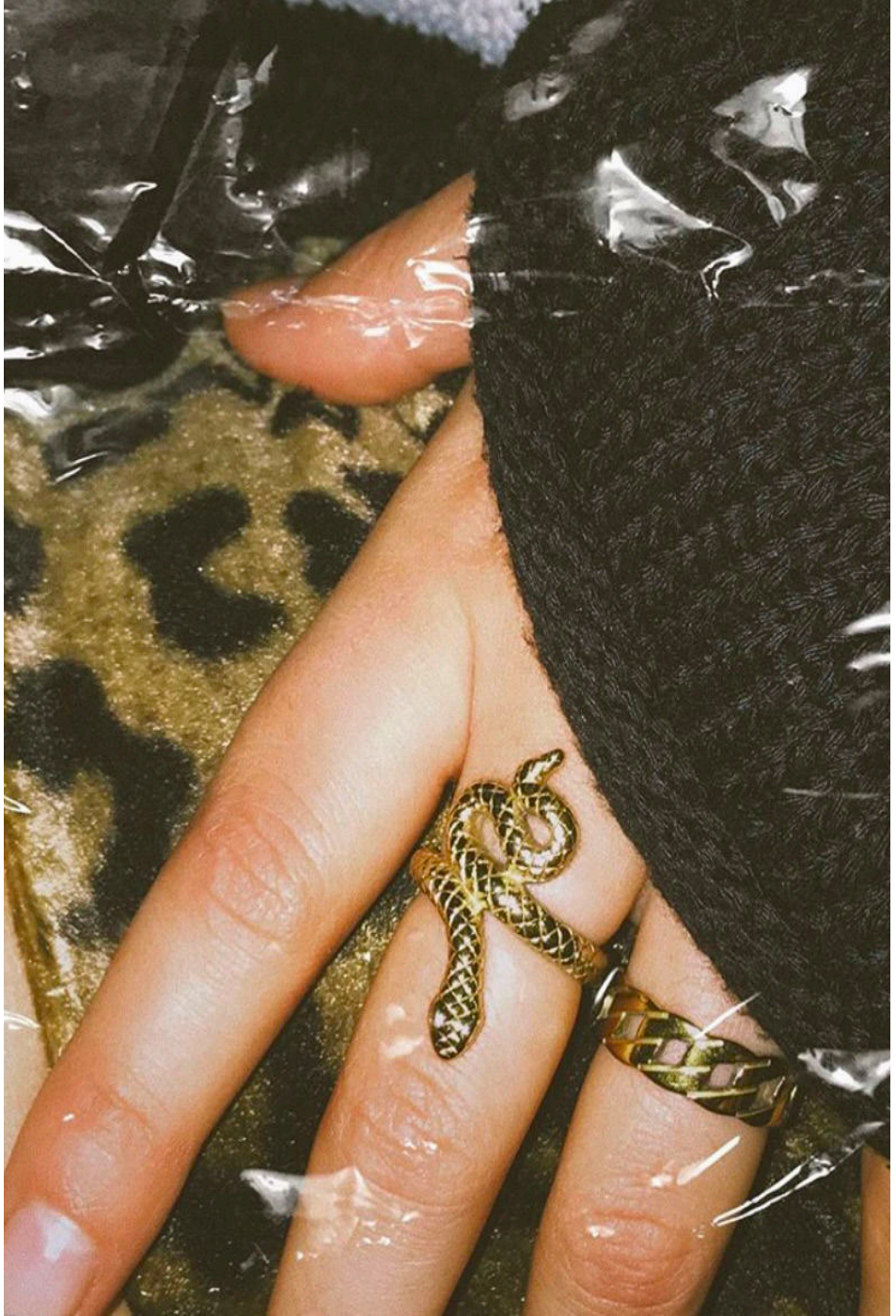
BECAUSE WHO ARE YOU WHEN NO ONE IS WATCHING?

Mom and me

JUDGEMENT -

I made these photos for a project of mine. I wanted to show them to random people and ask what the girl in the photos was doing for a living and how you would think her life is. I also asked my parents the question: What do you think about her if you did not know it was me? Their answer was exactly the one I wanted. They said she looked like she is using drugs, got kicked out of her house and is homeless, actually everything I am not. I wanted this answer because now I can say that people do really judge based on looks because everybody knows that I do not use drugs and I am not homeless but based on how I look in these pictures people asume all kinds of things while this is not the case. And that is how it goes in general. You see someone and unintentionally you think something of someone and that is not a bad thing but it is more important what you are going to do with that opinion. Are you going to keep it or are you going to see if your opinion is wrong?

“Too glam to give a damn”

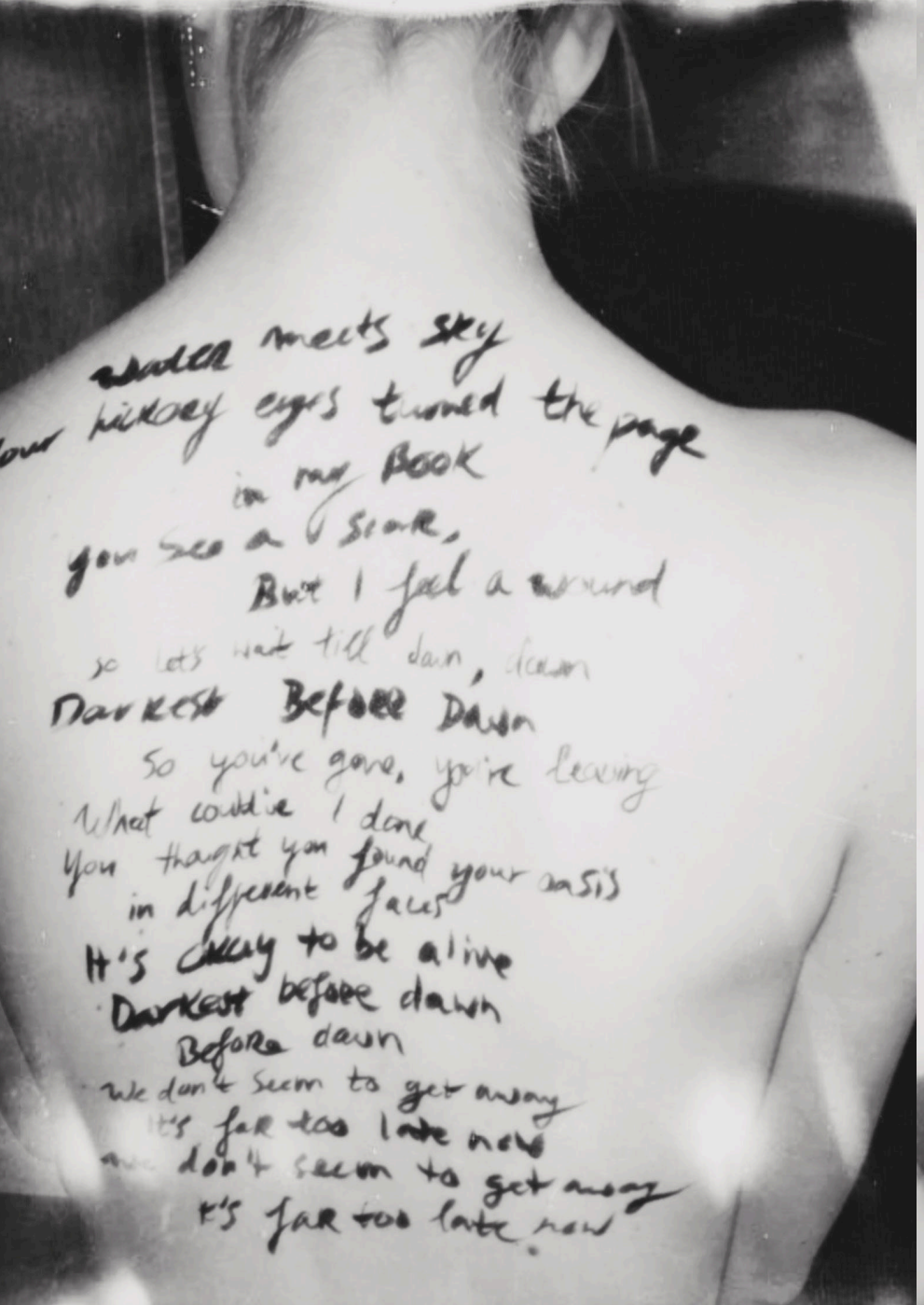


VULNERABILITY -

I love it when I can see that people are vulnerable. It means that you are not scared to show your feelings or thoughts and that is very important to me.

I made a serie of photos called vulnerable. It shows vulnerability as how I see it. For me being vulnerable means being naked but not physically naked but mentally naked.

I lost both of my grandmas at a very young age and they were really important to me, I had a special bond with them and actually needed them a little longer in my life. The moment they were not in my life anymore everything got difficult because I would only talk about problems and feelings with them. That is why being mentally naked is my vulnerability. I had to over come the fear of feeling emotions and talk about it with other people. And in the end my fear brought my mom, dad and me closer to each other. Before I would never talk with them because I did not feel as comfortable with them as I did with my grandmas. Because we did not really have that special bond. But now we do have that special bonding and that is forever.


water meets sky
your hickory eyes turned the page
in my BOOK
you see a stark,
But I feel a wound
so lets wait till dawn, dawn
Darkest Before Dawn
So you've gone, you're leaving
What could've I done
You thought you found your oasis
in different faces
It's crazy to be alive
Darkest before dawn
Before dawn
we don't seem to get away
It's far too late now
we don't seem to get away
It's far too late now

An ODE that will be forever for....

O for my Oma's, Opa's.

D for my dog, Diesel

E for my parents, Esther, Erol.

I do not have a lot of pictures with my grandma because she never wanted to be in photos but this picture always makes me remember the best and funny times with her.

I lost her in a weekend, 25 of november in 2013. She just went for a health check in the hospital on thursday. They told her everything was fine and we celebrated that with pizza and watching old photos with my grandpa too. But the day after, friday. she got a call that it was not okay after all. She had acute leukemia. I last saw her on that saturday and I felt like it was the last time I was going to see her and I was right. I was going to visit her again on monday but it was already too late, she died on monday morning. This made me you do not get to choose when it ends, it can end tomorrow or over 50 years. So make the best out of it.

I have a lot of pictures of my other grandma but this one is my favourite, we are sitting in a very special spot, the balcony of my opa and oma, where I would always be sitting, dreaming and drawing. Actually it is the place where I was the most creative.

She had a tumor in her brain as big as a tennis ball. She was the most energetic person I knew. She and I would always go into the most crazy rollercoasters together so it was really weird for me to see how she slowly lost control of everything. Slowly losing control over her body. Slowly losing control over what she thought and believed. She would wake up in the evening and believe it was morning and not eat the pizza we made for her. As stubborn as me. My mom took care of her for four months, I always went to her after school so I saw everything happend. I was 10 and sometimes I did not understand what was going on but when she died I knew that I was not going to see her again.

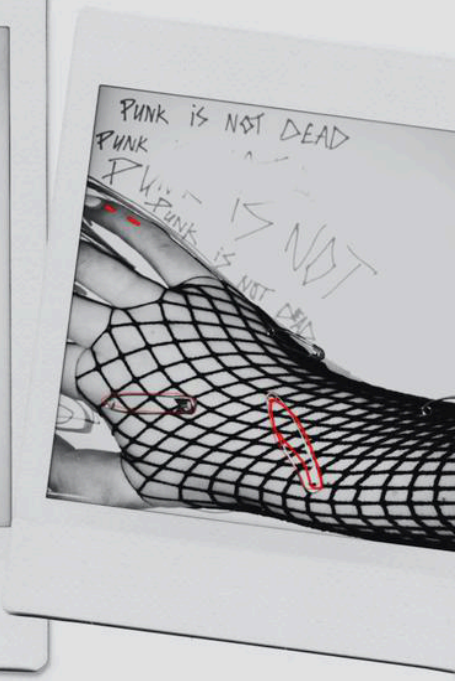
INFLUENCES -

I think one of the biggest influence in my style is the band KISS. I was like 7 or 8 years old when my grandma showed me their music video for 'I was made for loving you'. And I was sold. I loved the fact that they wore make up and I loved their customes because it was kinda scary and really weird. I had never seen anything like that before and I was in love with them! Me and my grandma could never get enough of that video clip.

I have always been into bands. When my grandmas were not around anymore I started to listen to Black Veil Brides. It is a really intense rock band who kinda looked like a punk/metal version of KISS. So that was already a reason why I loved to see their music videos! Also where my rawness began! I liked their music because it was so angry, sad, dark and intense and these were the emotions I felt when my grandmas were taken away from me. Their videos were also really dark and almost satanic but at that moment I did not believe in any god and I still do not but for me it felt more like their was a devil who was controlling my life instead of a god. I had this thought for a long time. I felt like I did not matter anymore and I wanted to be with my grandmas again. I wanted to grieve alone because I did not want anyone to deal with me and my grief. I thought I could do this alone but when I was 14 I felt that I could not do this alone anymore and got help from a psychologist. I created walls around me that were so high that I even locked myself out. So I learned a lot from that and I was pretty young when all of this happened but somehow I am happy that it did happen because I think about things different now and try to see it from more than one perspective. Emotions are also a big influence for me because now I want to show emotions and vulnerablity. But back then I did not want to show any emotions or feelings, I was totally blank.

Around the age of 10 I was into all kinds of bands but never a band from my own country. It were always band from Australia that took my eye.That is when my biggest dream was created! Leave the Netherlands and go to Sydney. It took me 10 years to achieve it. Many people told my parents things like do not worry! Whenever she is older she will not want to go anymore but they were wrong. When I finished high school I went to Sydney. To just leave the place I did not like at all, Waalwijk. Sydney will forever have my heart. Every insecurity I once had was gone, every little thing I hated about our community was not there at all. Sydney felt more like my home than Waalwijk ever did. I also found an artist there named YUNGBLUD. He looked like a punk rockstar with fish tights and bright coloured hair. When I saw him I instantly thought of the quote 'punk is not dead'. I did not like his music but I loved how he inspired the people over there. I went to his show for only 5 dollars. I saw a lot of people who openly struggled with just being themselves or struggled with problems and had no clue how to get help. He was as important to them as how my grandmas were to me. It warmed my heart to see that there was someone for them who would support them. I am pretty sure that if I was their age he would also be as important to me as he is to them. It is like I feel how strongly YUNGBLUD's inner self is and how bad he wants to let people know that everything you are feeling right now is okay. That is how he inspired me. Just being there for the ones that need someone. Someone that will tell you it is okay to feel different than your friends or family do. That is what my grandmas did for me and what I missed so much when I grew up. Surely my parents supported me but they never understood me the way they did. That is why I think YUNGBLUD is so important.

PUNK IS
PUNK IS
NK IS NOT DEAD
PUNK


PUNK IS NOT DEAD
PUNK

PUNK IS NOT DEAD

Go where you feel the most alive.

Bondi, Sydney NSW, Australia
28/01/2020

Tom Pallant, photographer of YUNGBLUD, met him in a cafe with the rest of the band while waiting for my roommate to return with my lost keys!

Newtown, Sydney NSW, Australia
03/02/2020

Saddest sun in the most happy place.

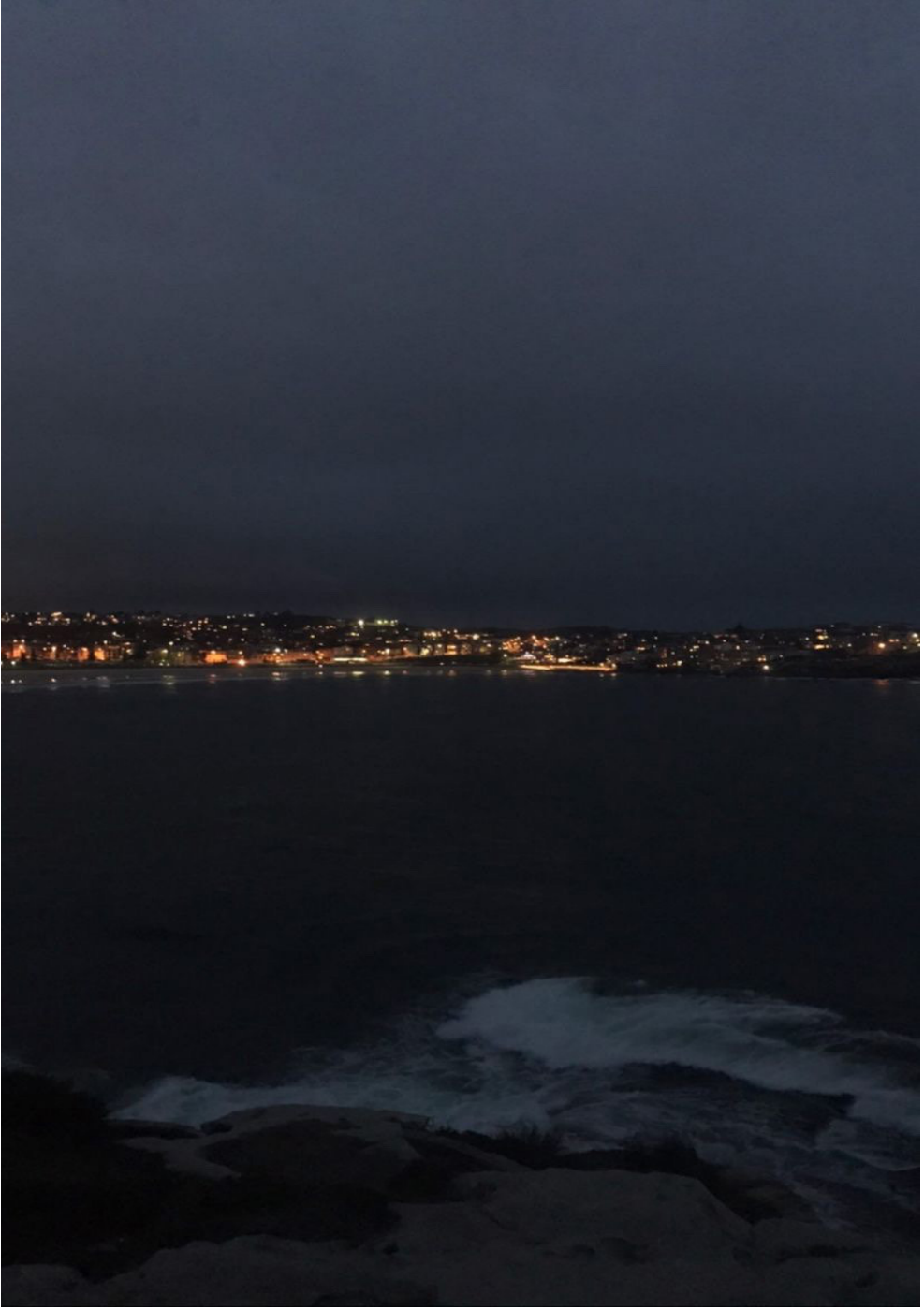
Bondi beach, Sydney NSW, Australia
24/12/2019

ANALOG -

Analog vs digital work. Analog is what I like the most because it is more real. It has more emotion and feeling than digitals will ever have. I love how raw analog work can look!

I usually print my digital work and edit it with scissors, glue, fire, tear it apart, water and everything you can create something with.

I made some analog edits with work I did not like as digitals because I thought it was too boring and did not show the feeling I wanted it to show.

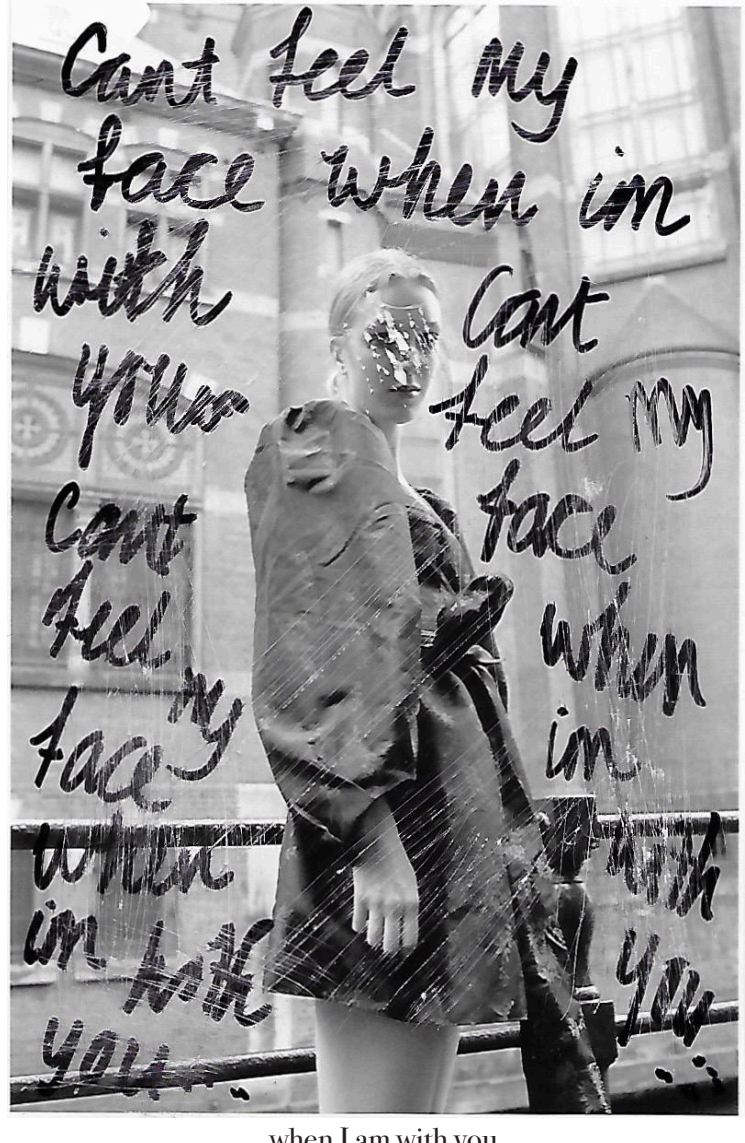


This must be the place... - Talking Heads

Bondi beach, Sydney NSW, Australia

24/12/2019

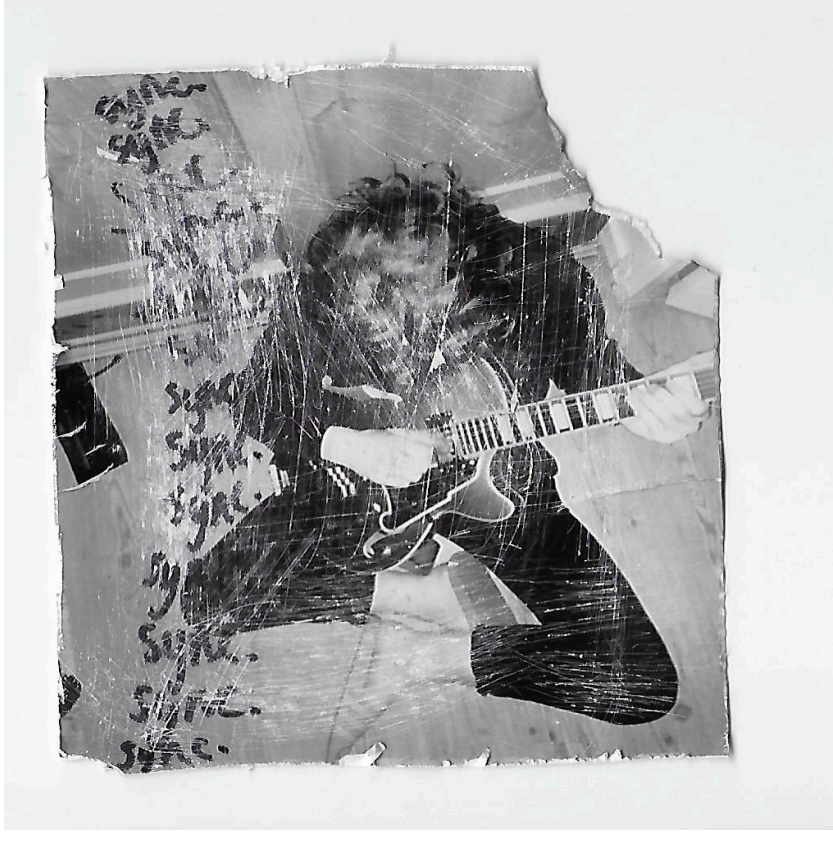
Can not feel my face



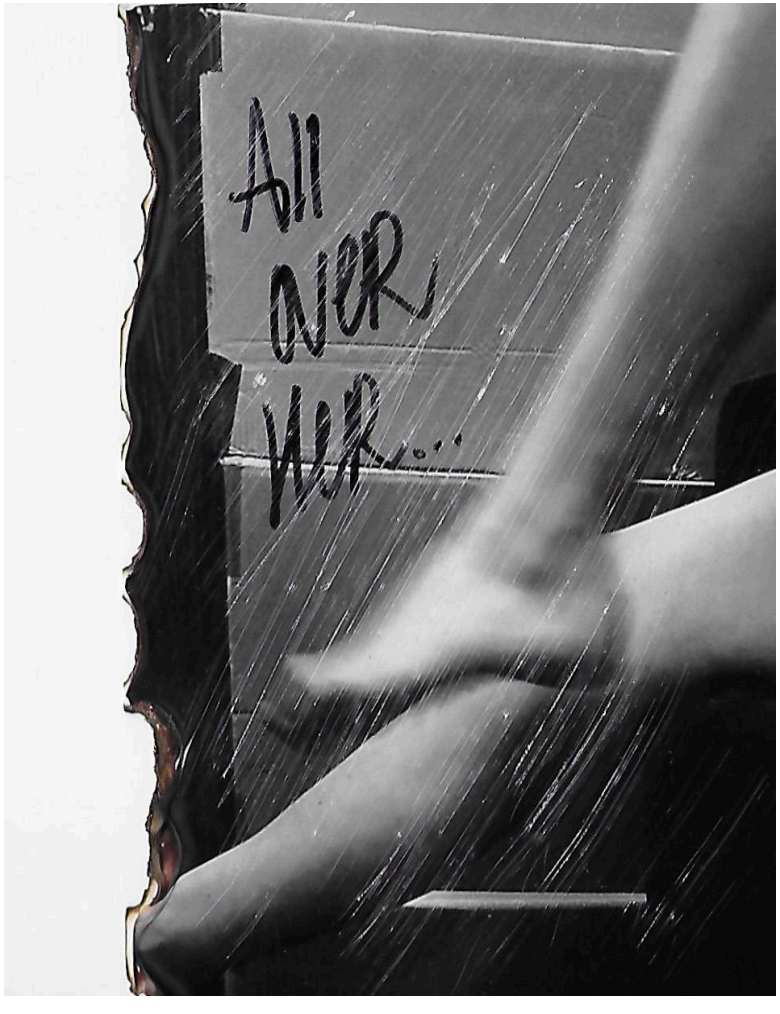
when I am with you.

Do not do it

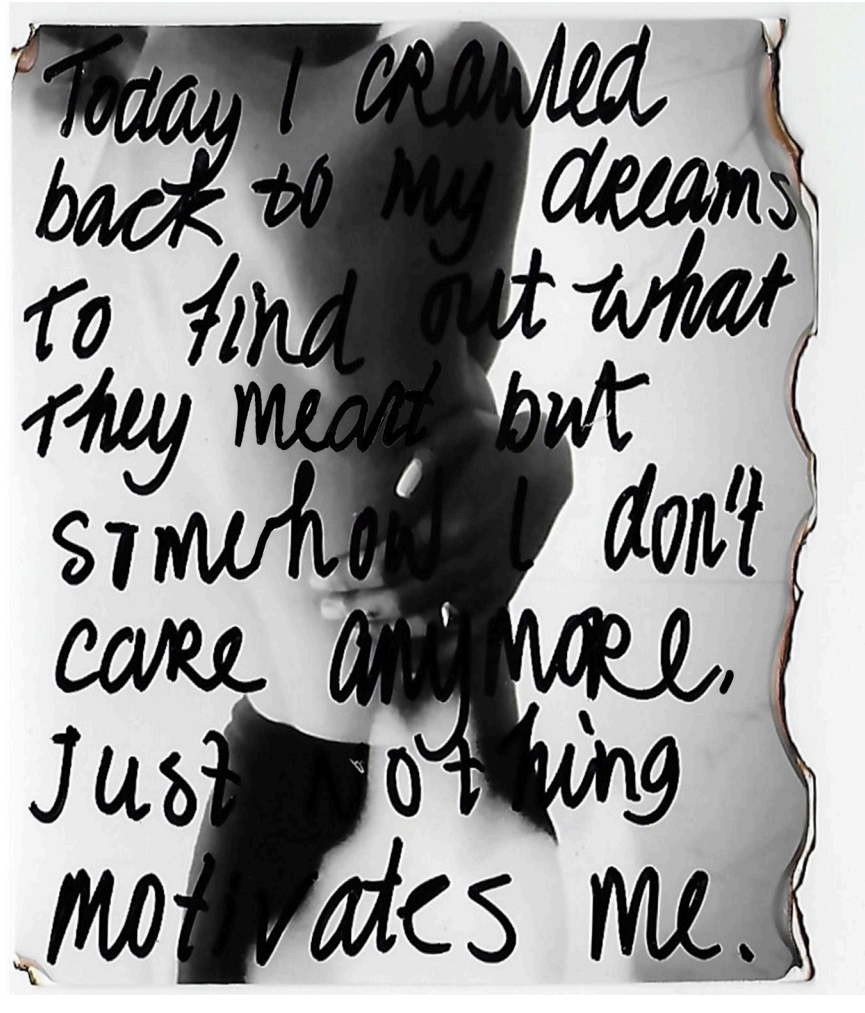
did it.



Synchronical



All over her...



Today I crawled back to my dreams, to find out what they meant but somehow I do not care anymore, just nothing motivates me.

Lose control never.

EDITORIAL -

This editorial is about falling and getting up again. About the strength you need to have to get back up or get through something. When I used to be in high school I always felt uncomfortable and at the end of the week I was so intensely tired that it felt like a group of people beat me up. School was kind of exhausting for me, and not because it was too hard for me or too much. It was exhausting because of the people. I always felt really awkward in school because I did not want to be part of the big group. I would like to be on my own or with 2 or 3 friends. I always obeservated everything and I did not want to be in the spotlight. I had a group of friends and we all were a bit different than the most people in my school and that was fine, I could talk to anyone in school because everybody knew everybody and that was a pretty good time, everybody could be who they wanted to be and that is also how it felt those 4 years. But after I got my VMBO degree I went to another school to get my HAVO degree. And there everything was different. People were more arrogant and full of themselves. It seemed that they were almost acting. Acting to be the be the most brutally and arrogant snob (in my eyes). This is also where people told me that I am actually a nice person even though I looked like I was not? Maybe it was just the age gap, at the time I was 17 and the most of the students were 15. I think that also played a big part.

But these two years changed a lot in me. I noticed that people will judge based on how you look and that people can be so selfish and harsh. Not to me but I have seen people getting bullied in my class. I could never understand why you would want somebody to feel so miserable. The walls I build got very high again and I again needed help from a psychologist because I went crazy. I could not deal with myself because I did not like myself, I did not like school and I just wanted to leave the country. My mind felt like I was stuck in school forever and that I would never achieve what I wanted to achieve. It was so bad I tried to avoid every mirror and window I saw because I just did not want to be reminded with how I look. The inside was more important to me and it hurt me that a lot of people did not see that yet. I felt like I was surrounded with the most stupid people. School felt like a fight, I had to get through school to reach where I wanted to go, Sydney. Every day felt like a fight and sometimes I would win and have a nice day at school but sometimes the days were so bad it felt like I was so beaten up I needed to go to a hospital. And this editorial shows you how I felt. I felt beaten, like there were wounds all over me but I still would have the strength to go on and reach that goal. Falling and getting up. I think the editorial shows that perfectly, you see a lot of bruises and wounds but when you look into his eyes you see no pain because these wounds were never visible. They were inside me and not on the outside. It is very cliche to say but you really never know what somebody feels or thinks on the inside. Somebody may act really cool and all but might be the saddest person you will ever meet. I never looked at it that way but since my second high school I do look at it differently. Of course the outside plays a role in how you see somebody but I think the inside should also be a big role in how you see somebody. We did not choose our outsides but we can choose how we act and that is so important to me. I love it when somebody you do not know smiles at me because it is not something you receive every day. It is all about the way we look and the way we behave. We have to prove that we have the most perfect life and the most perfect instagram. But you can not win a war with a nice social media life. When the power of love overcomes the love of power the world will know peace.

666 or 669??

666 or 669?-

I do not believe in a god or something evil. But I am kinda inspired by satanic things. I think it is because satanist tend to be the total opposite of christians and all those who believe in a god or gods. They are 'loving' the evil one and not the good one. I was fascinated by the fact that they choose to worship something or someone who is so wicked in other religions. Those people were seen as bad or scary people while those people only are worshippnig something they see as their god. An other god than most people worship. When I was little I wanted to believe there was a god. I really wanted to believe there was something or someone that would be good to all the people in the world. But when I got older I always thought there can not be a god, there is so much evil in this world.

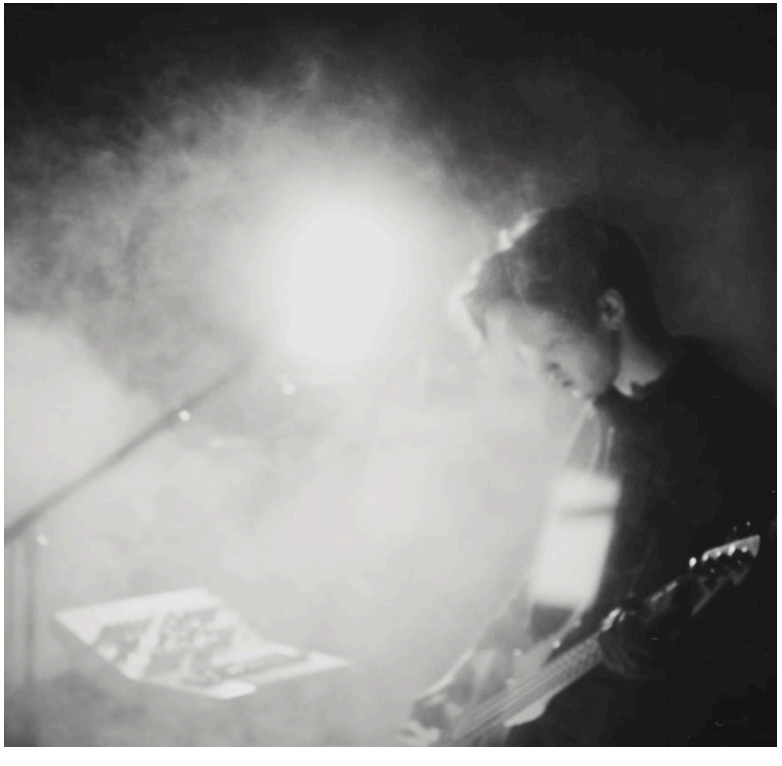
Believers were people I did not want to talk to. My 8 year old brain could not understand why they would think there is a god. Why would god take the people you love away from you? Why would god make war? If god is so good then why is the world so evil? And I still wonder why people tend to believe that...

Stockholm syndrome of the motherland series.

Stockholm syndrome, getting sympathy for the one that can make your life a living hell. Stockholm syndrome of the motherland...

Customize this clothing piece but I made a whole new outfit instead.

A shoot for the band
NOIR. in my style.



STUBBORN -

For me a cow is a symbol of stubbornness and curiousness. Also because they are like that but also because I have not eaten meat since I was 6 years old. I was in the supermarket with my parents and I was watching all the meat and I was thinking why does this chicken really look like one? Why is there fish laying around here? I asked my mom what meat was made of and she said of animals. From that day on I have never eaten meat again. My parents still ate meat but me being stubborn ate everything except the meat. I thought it was cruel to eat them. To control their lives because we want to have meat. I do not have a lot of heartbreaks but this was definitaly my first heartbreak ever.

As you might know I can be quite stubborn. I am thankfull for that because of my stubbornness I always make the most weird or bad decissions and it always ends in the most exciting things!

And yes making the wrong decisions is not always a bad thing. You learn from them and it makes you grow!

T H E C H A N G E -

It is really strange for me to see these pictures together because I feel so much difference between these photos. I can actually see how much I have changed. I see how much the walls I created have changed me. I hope with seeing these pictures and knowing some parts of my life you can see it too.

I have become so much more harder than I used to be. Because of the world, because of the way I think but mostly because I have always followed my intuition. I have followed the rules of my own bible and I am very curious where it is going to lead me...

“HOLD YOUR OWN”