



PORTFOLIO

KAIBO ZHANG

Watching the world through the small lens on the backside of my cellphone always brings me significant joy.

I am perfectly aware that I am not an expert photographer who systematically has taken instruction on professional knowledge such as light, shadow, exposure, lens type, and composition. Still, I do so enjoy the moment when I raise up my camera as it is indeed an integral part of me.

I like to walk in the alleys of the city, on the slopes of the mountains, under the roofs of ancient buildings, beside lakes and rivers, and then integrate all these eclectic sceneries into my camera. This is a part of my way to document my life. The breeze blows through the bamboo forest into the window sill; the leaves rustle, singing the carol of their comfort. Standing in the palace at the Forbidden City in Beijing, watching the sun shining through the window lattices forming beautiful patterns on the ground, I use the camera to replace my eyes and press down the shutter. I'm not sure about what meaning this habit may have, but I know it is already an indispensable part of my character.

At the moment I take these pictures, the world freezes in time; the distance between the nature around me and I has diminished; these optical time capsules become part of who I am. This indescribable feeling always evokes a faint smile on my face. As time goes by, the images will slowly begin to emit their unique light. Little by little, they flow into my memory, like drops of water flowing down to streams and converging into the ocean, becoming the most precious treasure in my life. They consist of my troubles, my happiness, my hometown, and everything that is me.



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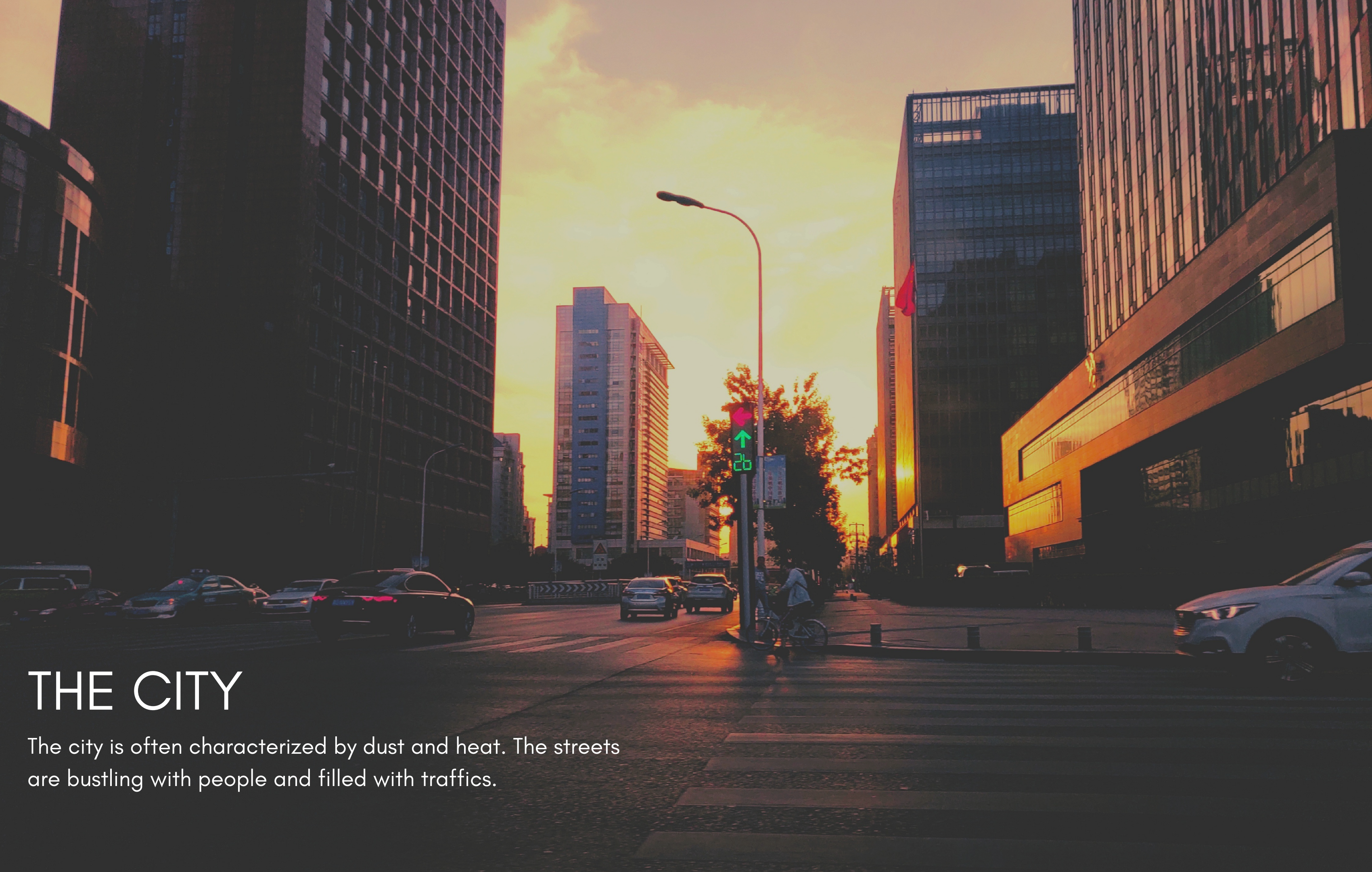
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THE CITY

The city is often characterized by dust and heat. The streets are bustling with people and filled with traffics.



The city represents opportunity and the pressure that comes with it. When we dedicate everything we have to our pursuits, many of us lose ourselves in endless struggles and competitions.



This page is showing the opposing side: the gifts that nature brings to our city. When the hustle and bustle of this city are frozen into eternal tranquility, they may possess the ability to awaken the purity and loveliness in our hearts.





THE PLANTS

Plants are the most diverse elements in the painting of nature. Beauty sleeps in their elegant appearance, making them bold distinctive, and clear to the eye.



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Just like humans, different plants have different personalities in different environments. I guess this is why poets have been keen on using plants to express feelings since ancient times.



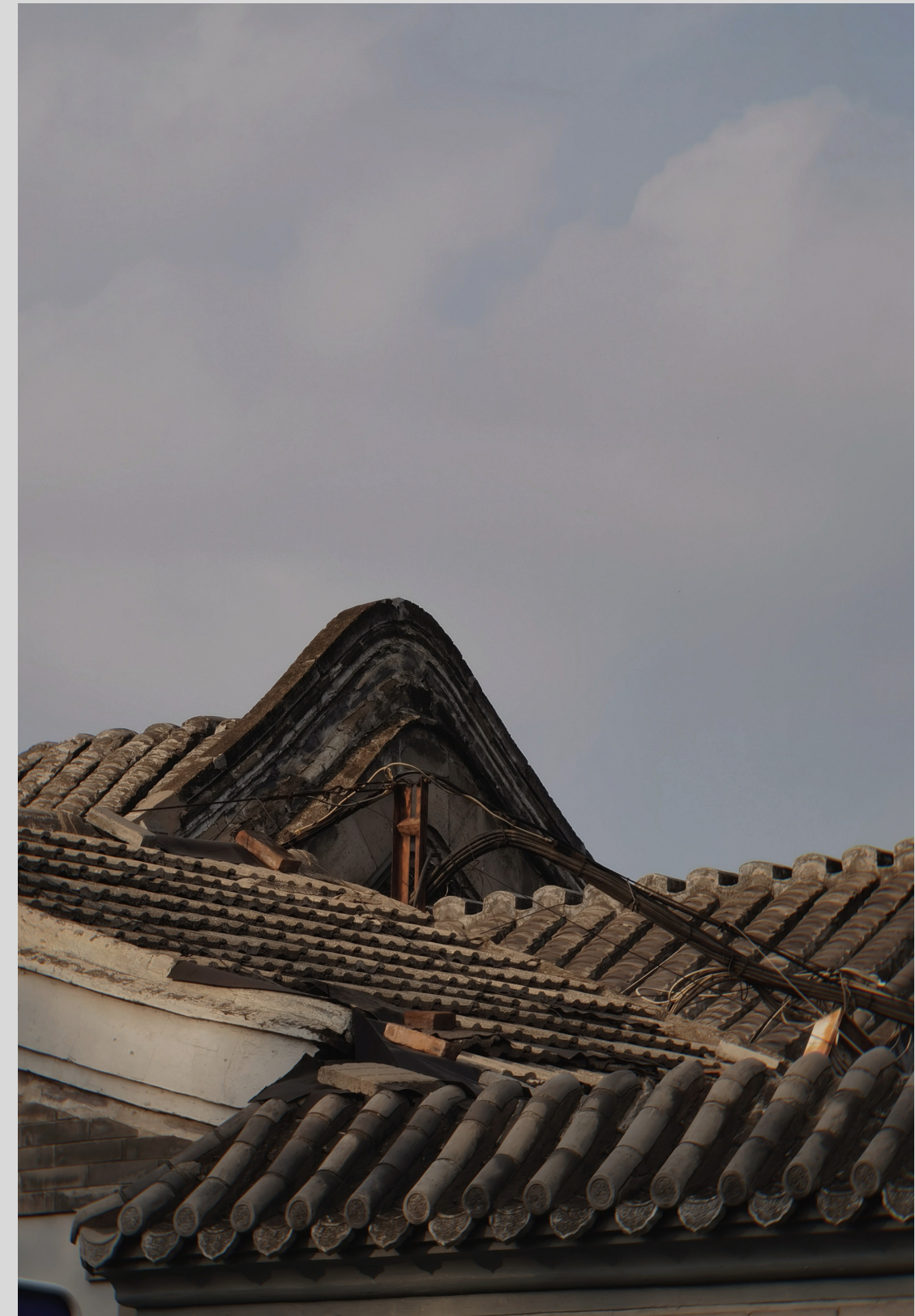
Recording these glittering moments in their lives in the pictures is also a way for me to narrate my own poems of life.



A photograph of a narrow alleyway in a traditional Chinese neighborhood. The alley is flanked by traditional buildings with tiled roofs. In the background, a large, ornate pagoda is visible against a clear sky. The scene is captured in a cinematic style with a color grade that is predominantly blue and purple, suggesting dusk or dawn. A utility pole with many wires is in the center of the alley. A car is parked on the right side of the alley. The overall atmosphere is quiet and historical.

THE ALLEYS

The alley is the vicissitudes of living. It is engraved with time, moving forward, but is also unchanging at the same time.

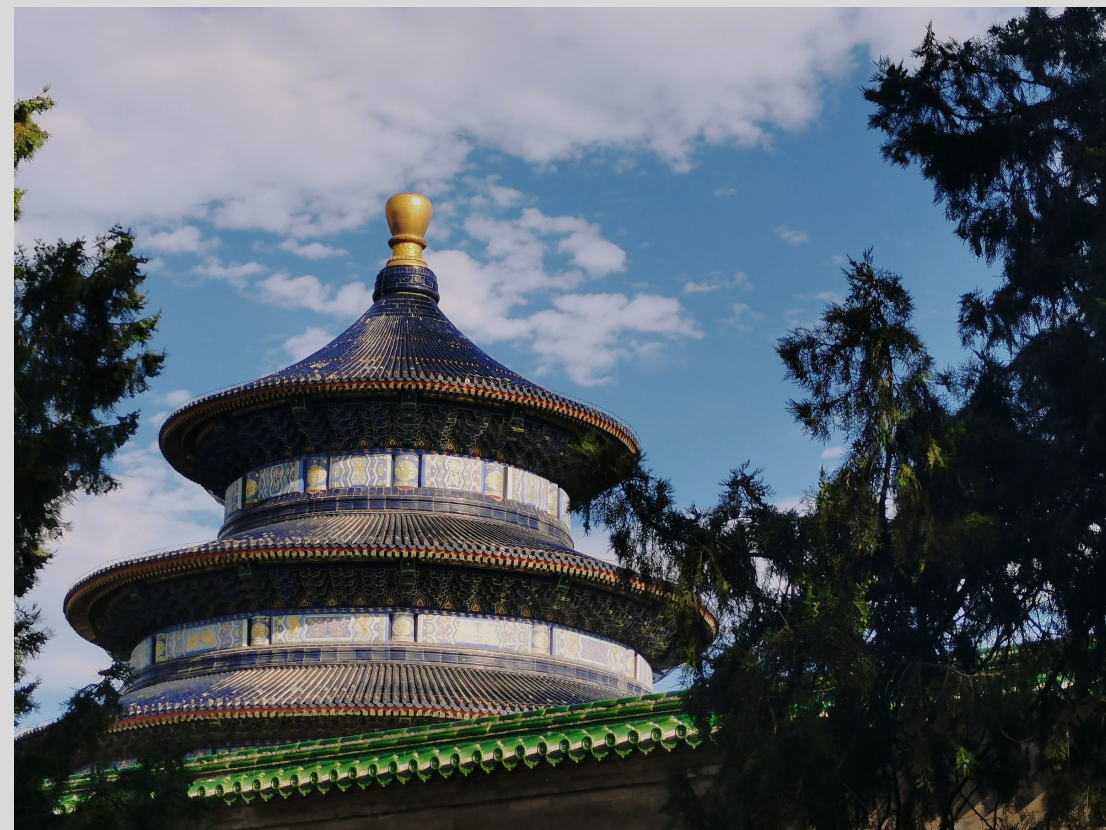
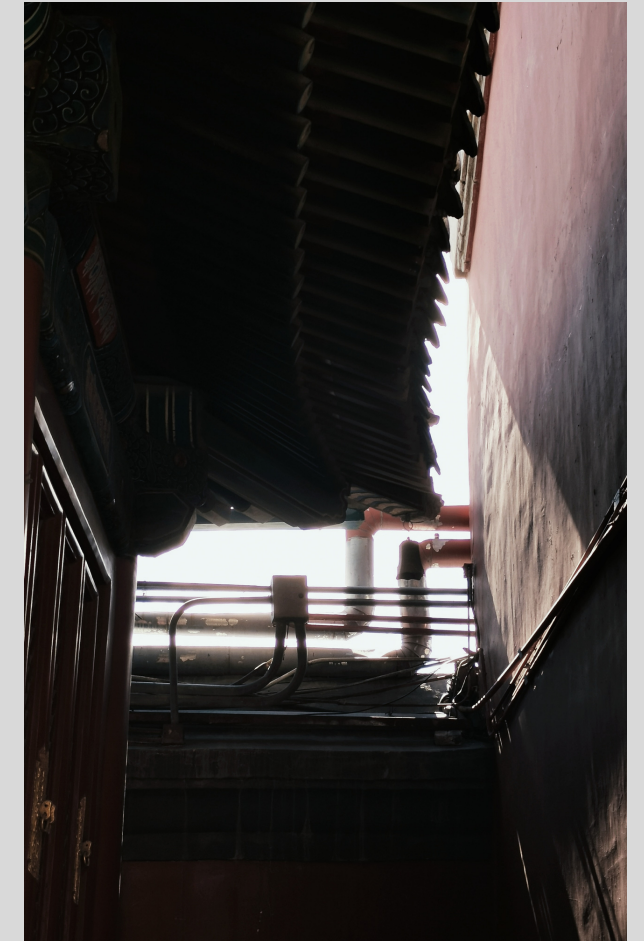
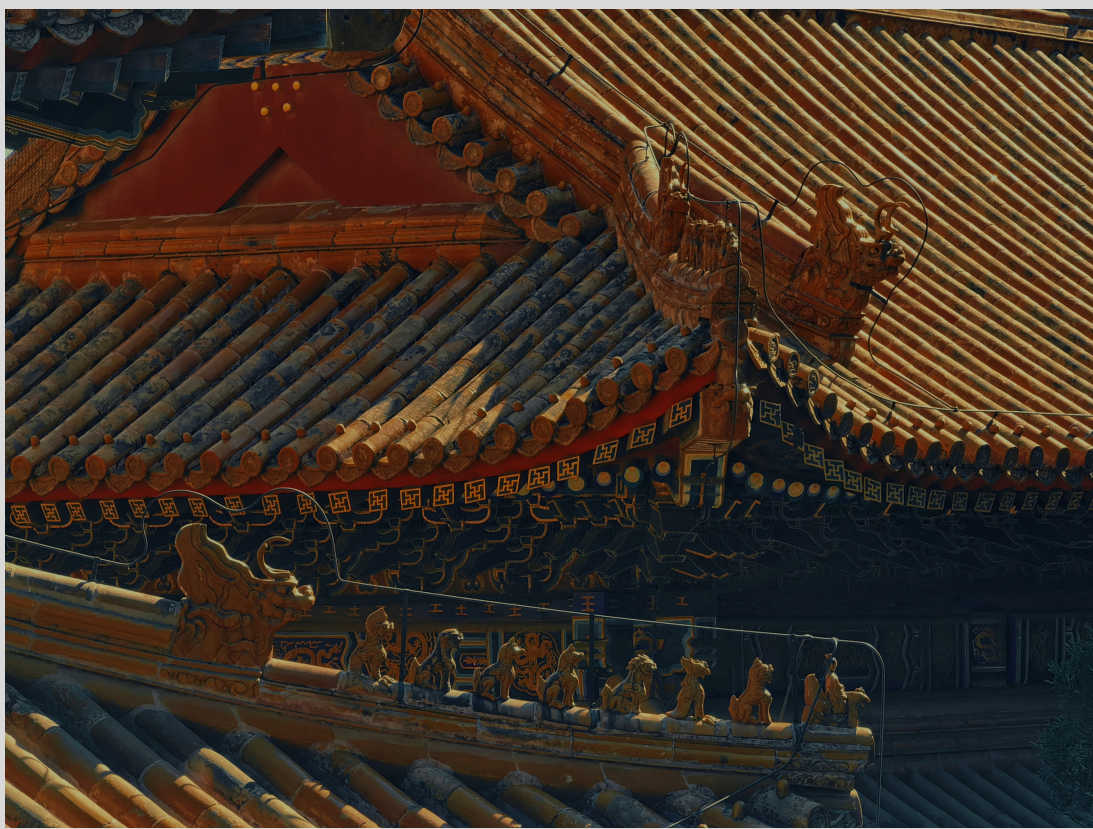


Walking into these narrow paths hiding under the shadows of the metropolis, you will find the dearest images of the people living in this land. In truest form, their cultures are fully displayed in front of your eyes. This page is trying to demonstrate this ordinary spectacle mainly through depth and perspectives and the contrast of shadows and lights.



THE WALL AND PALACE

Life is short, but it can also leave traces of existence in history. The wall and palace are memory, heritage, and proof of the integration of nature and human beings.



This page presents the unique harmony that can only be discovered when walking among ancient buildings.

From them, can we get enlightenments about the balance between nature and us?