

colophon

essayEdition #24

a picture essay by Mathieu Bruls architect

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first print 2020

fourth print 2024-04-02

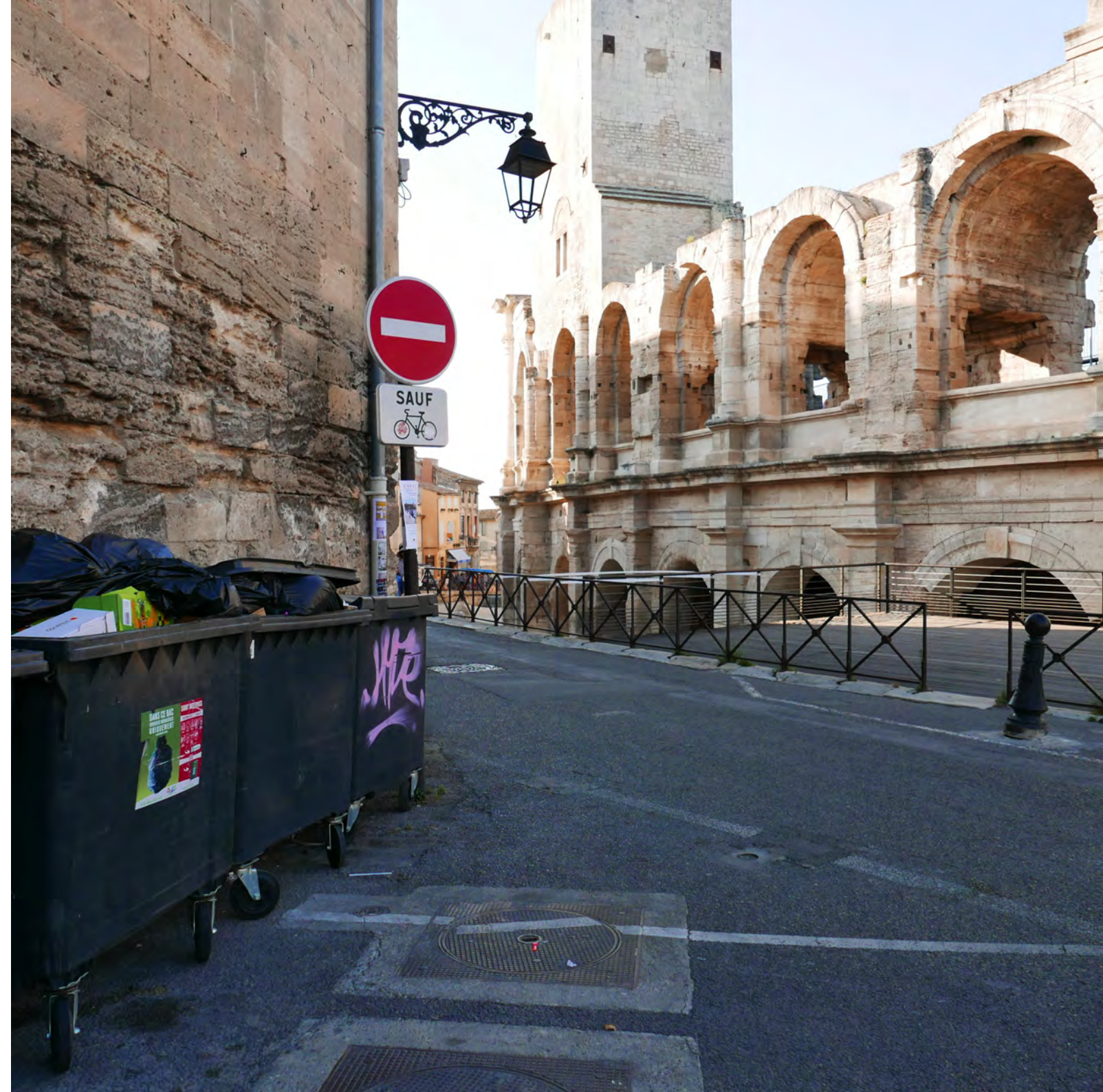
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a photo essay by Mathieu Bruls architect

his eyes on Arles







Place de la République



Avenue de Stalingrad



Rue du Dr. Fanton



"Les Invisibles"

Photograph by
Samuel Gratacap
2018



Cloître Saint Trophime



Place de la République





Rue du Dr. Fanton

his eyes on Arles

Obviously, Arles became his city after navigating this small town into contemporary art history. Many buildings still hold the impact of his glance and some streets may be slightly eroded from his restless, wandering gait. Although, due to circumstances, he must have gradually avoided crowded ones.

I even imagined he was close by when I visited the Les Alyscamps park and church. Coming in from the warm sun, the coolness of the abandoned building's interior seemed to condense his presence.



It also seemed obvious that I could recognise his great great-grandchild when a red-haired girl jumped into my view.

I wonder how Vincent van Gogh would have judged the prints shown at the 50th Photo Festival Arles in 2019.

Many amongst them considered 'proof of real life'.

For sure, he would have agreed with photographer Samuel Gratacap when he enlarged his portrait of a group of African refugees just saved from the Mediterranean Sea to poster size.

Anyway, my visit to the Photo Festival Arles, documented by the snapshots I made, will bear the judging eye of our historical master. At least, that is what I taught myself while visiting his surrogate Japanese refuge.

Subsequently, I pressed my nose right on the scene when I shot what was meant to be seen. Just as Van Gogh would have done it?

Or liked it; I hope.



Eglise Saint Honorat, Myscamps