

PORTFOLIO

PROJEKT «ABSTRACT PINHOLE PHOTOGRAPHY»

ROLAND BÜHLMANN



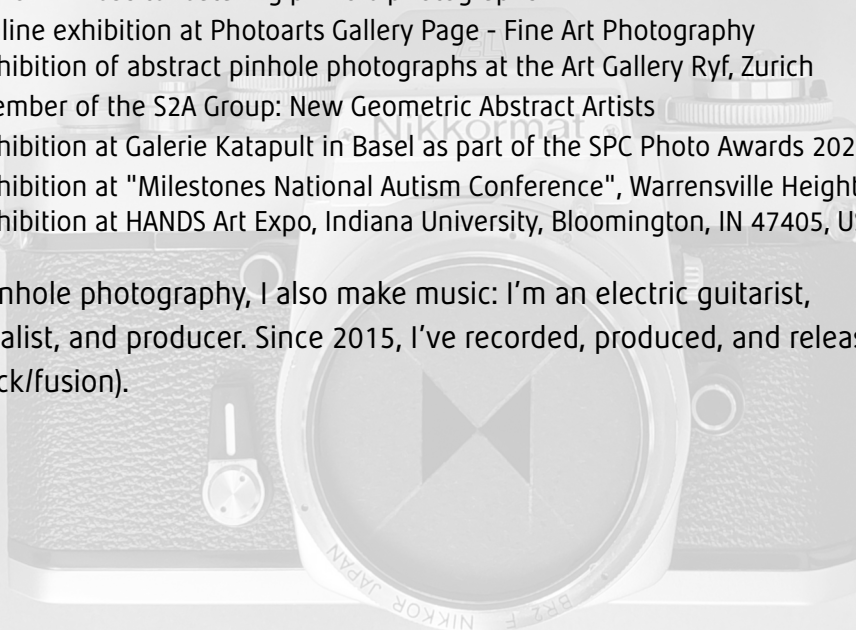
«Abstract Pinhole Photography» is a sort of «work in progress»; whenever I have the time and feel like it, I take abstract photographs using pinhole cameras. For me, photography means experimenting, trying things out, playing around. It's about the joy of creativity. It's not simply about copying or recreating what I've seen, but about creating something new; or at least putting a new spin on what I've seen.

I carried out my first experiments with abstract camera obscura photographs in the mid-1980s. From 1992 onwards, I adopted a more intensive and structured approach, creating a pinhole with several holes and using it to photograph various light sources (lamps, liquids in glasses, reflections on various materials, through glass spheres, etc.). Photographing in this way begins in the mind. Seeking out possibilities, preparing them in thought, and then using these conceptual frameworks as a basis for experimentation, for «play». This is how the present photographs came about: first the idea of the camera obscura, the possibilities. Then experimenting with various pinholes. A process is set in motion: through trial and error, new ideas and new possibilities emerge. Specifically, for example, the design of the pinholes – not simply a round hole, but multiple holes, or triangular, square, slit-shaped openings; almost anything is possible. This type of photography isn't tied to a specific location; it's all about ideas for how to “capture” light.

I had discovered a technique that allowed me to create abstract images! I now have around 40 different pinhole lenses that I mount on Nikon camera bodies. In the images taken this way, the original subjects are barely recognisable. I prefer to use analogue film, with the exception of a brief period when I used a digital camera. As soon as I have a sufficient number of photographs that meet my standards, I send them off to be digitized.

1961	Born in Solothurn
1974	First attempts at photography with a pocket camera (self-taught)
since 1980	Photography with a 35mm SLR Camera (self-taught)
1982-1983	Mainly black-and-white photography, processing and enlarging film (self-taught)
1984	First pinhole photographs taken with a 6x9 cm folding camera (self-taught)
since 1992	Abstract pinhole photographs taken with Nikon cameras and various pinhole lenses
1992-1994	Publication of Photographs in Professional Journals (Photographie 3/92 and 5/94)
since 1997	My own website featuring pinhole photographs
2006	Online exhibition at Photoarts Gallery Page - Fine Art Photography
2007	Exhibition of abstract pinhole photographs at the Art Gallery Ryf, Zurich
since 2010	Member of the S2A Group: New Geometric Abstract Artists
2020	Exhibition at Galerie Katapult in Basel as part of the SPC Photo Awards 2020
2021	Exhibition at "Milestones National Autism Conference", Warrensville Heights, OH, USA
2026	Exhibition at HANDS Art Expo, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405, USA

In addition to pinhole photography, I also make music: I'm an electric guitarist, multiinstrumentalist, and producer. Since 2015, I've recorded, produced, and released eight solo albums (prog rock/fusion).





Meltdown (2026)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikormat EL, pinhole, on Kodak Ektar 100, digitized.



Monochrome Composition (2026)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

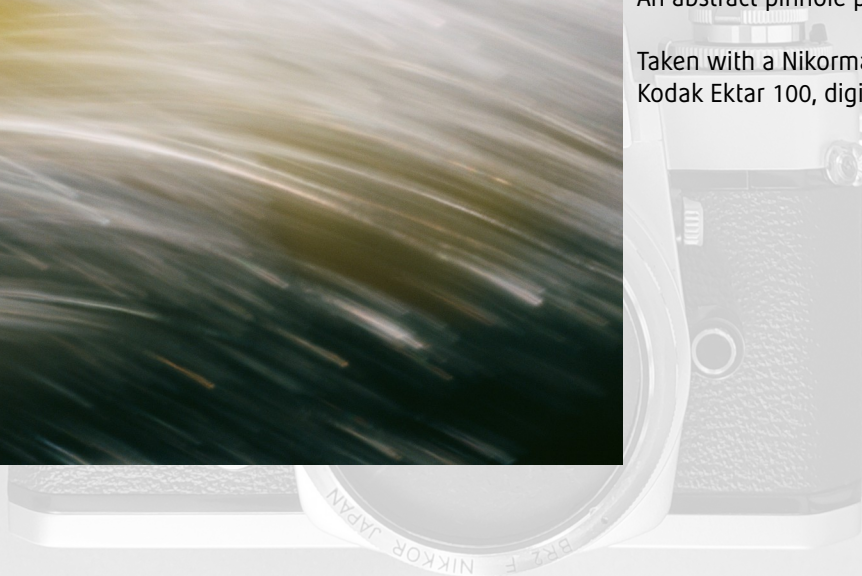
Taken with a Nikormat EL, pinhole, on Kodak Ektar 100, digitized.



Epainos (2026)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikormat EL, pinhole, on Kodak Ektar 100, digitized.





Light Circles (2026)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

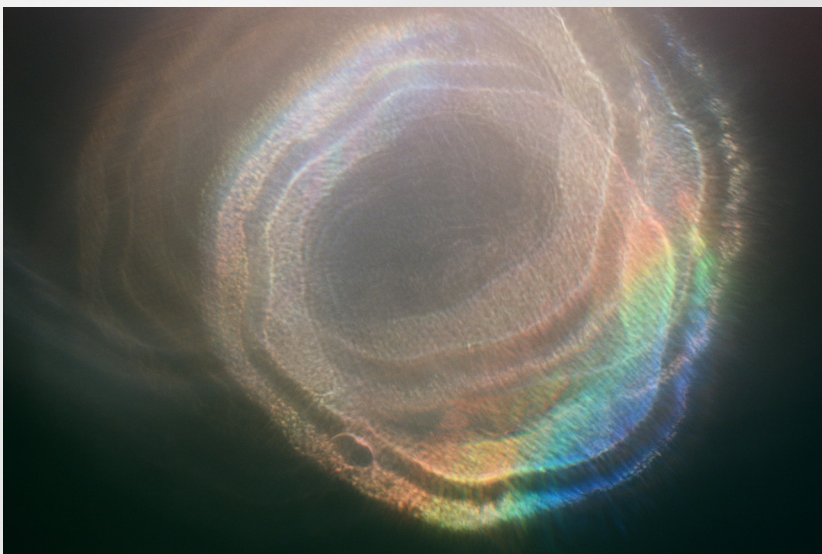
Taken with a Nikormat EL, pinhole, on Kodak Ektar 100, digitized.



Obscured (2026)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikormat EL, pinhole, on Kodak Ektar 100, digitized.



Idiosyncrasy (2026)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikormat EL, pinhole, on Kodak Ektar 100, digitized.

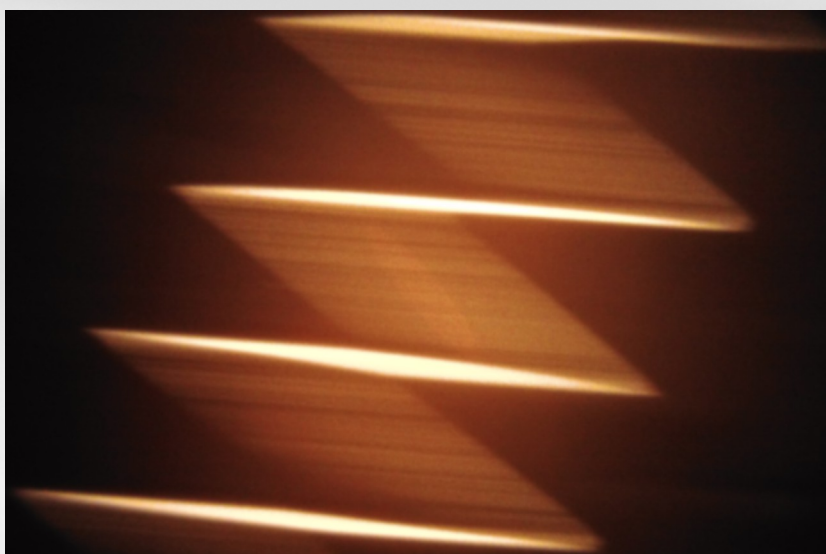




Icicles (2024)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

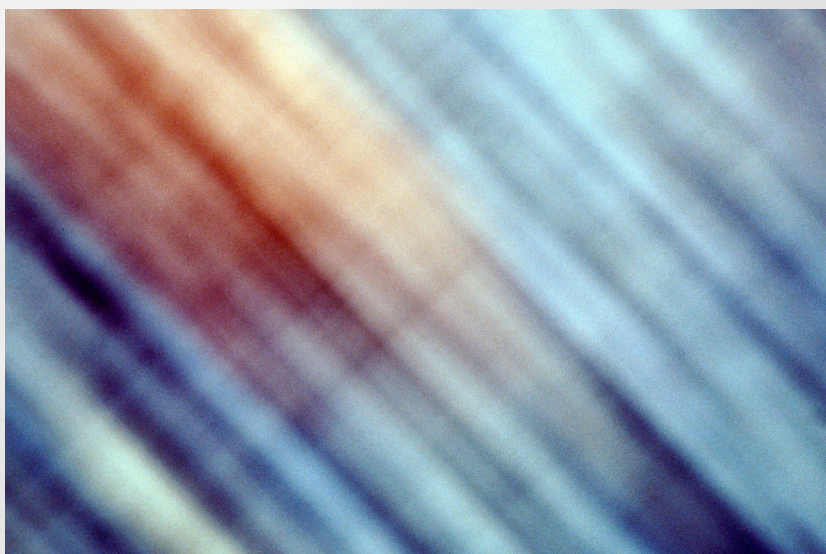
Taken with a Nikon Zfc, Nikon Ftz II adapter, pinhole.



Light Vision (2023)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

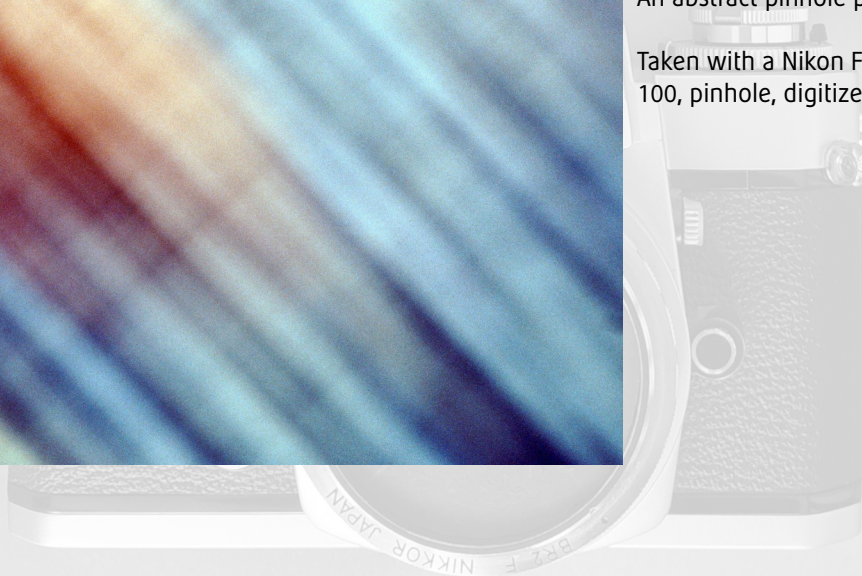
Taken with a Nikon FM2, l'm back digital back, pinhole.

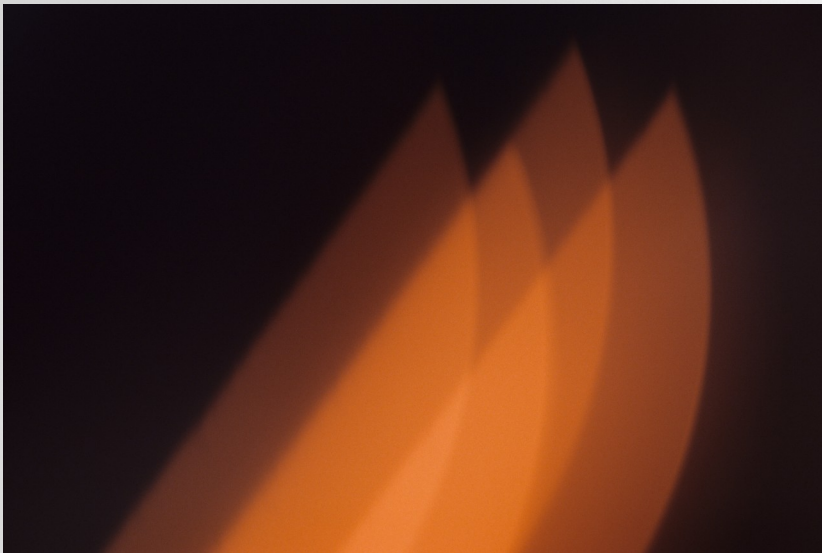


Rithnái (2021)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikon FM2, Fujifilm Provia 100, pinhole, digitized.





Shape In A Shape (2019)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

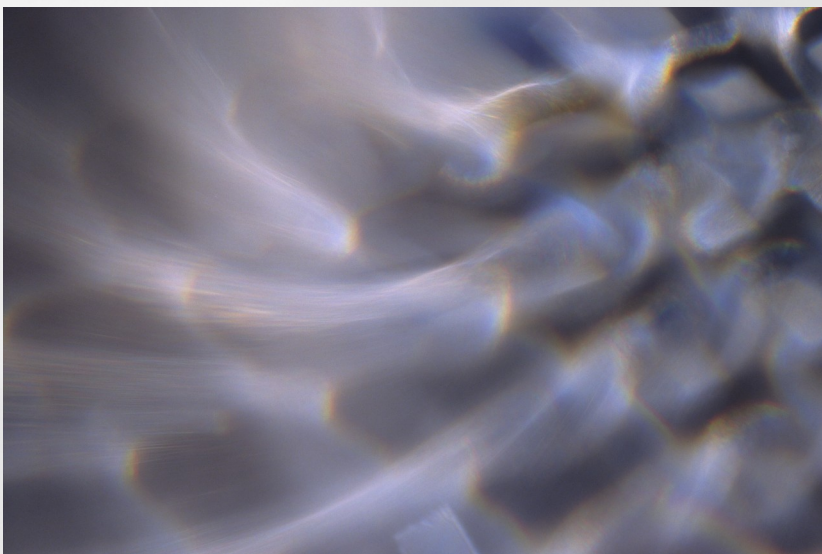
Taken with a Nikon FM2, Ektachrome 100, pinhole, digitized.



Surreptitious (2018)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

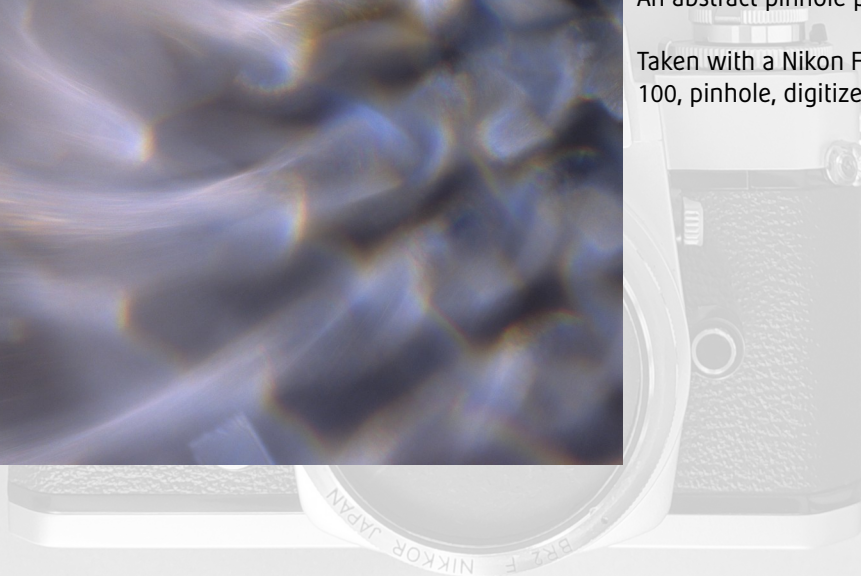
Taken with a Nikon FM2, Ektachrome 100, pinhole, digitized.



Raa'tso (2017)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikon FM2, Ektachrome 100, pinhole, digitized.





L.F.P. (2012)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

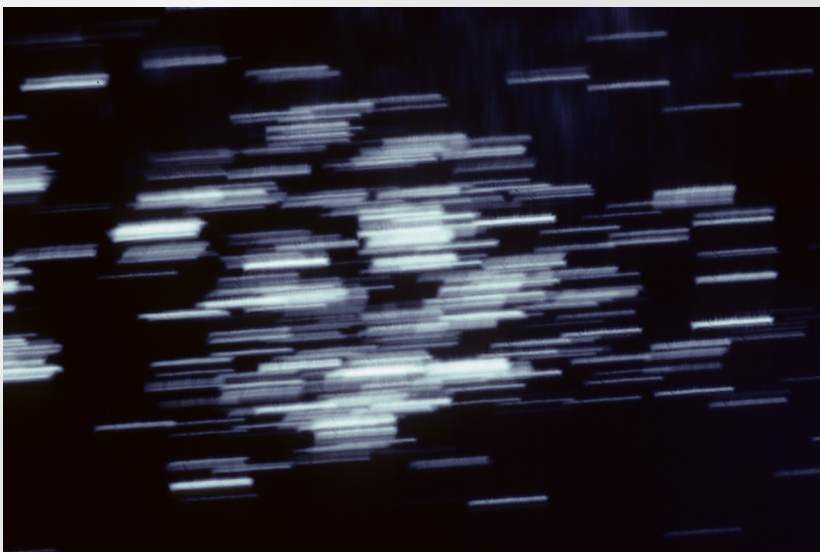
Taken with a Nikon FM2, Ektachrome 100, pinhole, digitized.



Hill Of Hope (2011)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikon FM2, Ektachrome 100, pinhole, digitized.

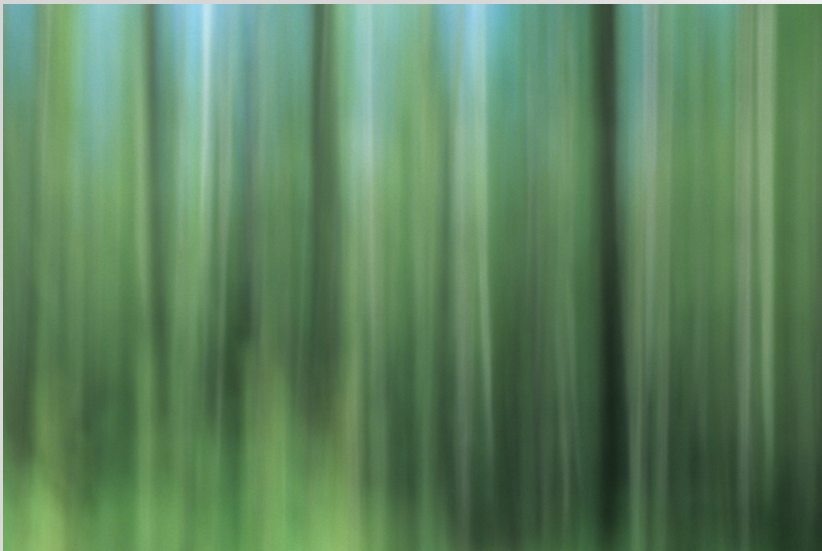


Lights On A Lake (2007)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikon FM2, Kodachrome 64, pinhole, digitized.





Greenish (2005)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikon FM2, Kodachrome 64, pinhole, digitized.



Prayer (1995)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

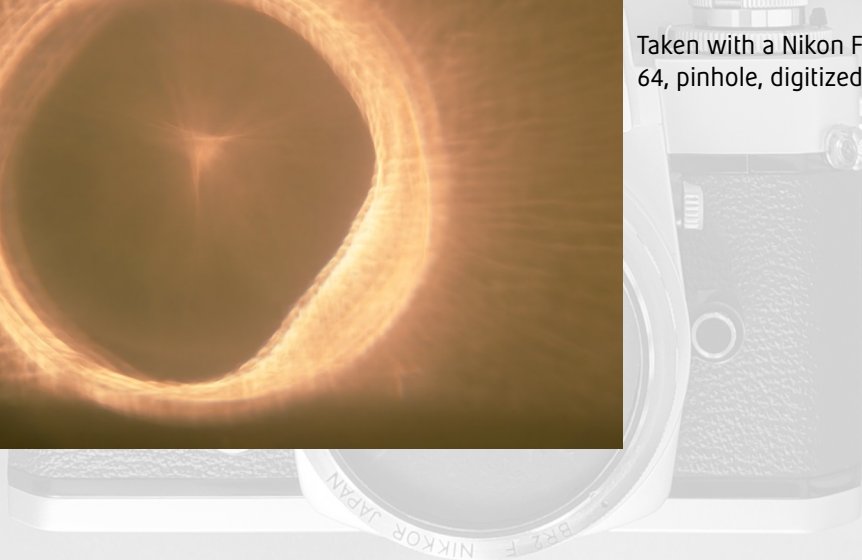
Taken with a Nikon FM2, Kodachrome 64, pinhole, digitized.



Sun Birth (1994)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikon FM2, Kodachrome 64, pinhole, digitized.





Grayish Forms (1993)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikon FM2, Kodachrome 64, pinhole, digitized.



Composition (1992)

An abstract pinhole photograph.

Taken with a Nikon FM2, Kodachrome 64, pinhole, digitized.

