

Volume 1 Dec-Jan Issue

BOKEH

FOCUSING ON WHAT IS OUT OF FOCUS

BY VISTA

THE PHOTOGRAPHY SOCIETY OF MAITREYI COLLEGE

LAL QILA PHOTOWALK
romancing history

DARK ACADEMIA
books, art, fashion, and photography



EDITOR'S NOTE

After what seems to have been a long time, we are finally back with the 3rd issue of Bokeh! As much as we would have loved to publish issues as regularly as possible, the university exams had clashed with the supposed publication for our October-November issue, hence we skipped it. To make up for that gap, our team has worked hard to present an interesting array of photographs, its themes ranging widely.

Like we had announced earlier, our magazine from hereon will have two versions- online and print; this issue will be the online edition that will be released prior to its print kin. In this online edition, we have included two themes out of the five that will be featured on print: Dark Academia and our Lal Qila Photowalk. Here in Vista, with our shared love for photography, we also share a similar affection for pages and inks. It was only meant to be for us to finally do a theme based on that- books, art, photography, romance.

I hope that this edition will resume your ride through Vista's magic and enchant you further to explore the remaining three themes in print.

MANNA PHANJOUBAM

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

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Photo credit: Poorvi

LAL QILA PHOTO WALK

BY ARIBA FALAK

Strolling through the streets of Old Delhi, we girls wandered amongst those red walls, peeping through the latticed screen, the exquisite work of art and calligraphy covered the crimson lustre of Red Fort. In the broad daylight of winters, the warm apricity of the Sun reflecting on us beautified us a dozen times over.

The Fort's massive red sandstone walls, standing 75 feet high, enclose a complex of palaces and entertainment halls, projecting balconies, baths and indoor canals, and geometrical gardens, as well as an ornate mosque. Among the most famous

structures of the complex are the Hall of Public Audience (Diwan-i- Am), which has 60 red sandstone pillars supporting a flat roof, and the Hall of Private Audience (Diwan-i-Khas), which is smaller and has a pavilion of white marble.

Like at any other photowalk. we had immense fun shooting together, capturing different perspectives and meanings of the same subjects. We had originally planned for the photowalk to happen at Jama Masjid, but the masjid was still closed for the public in the early morning. That's when our plans diverted to its monumental neighbour, the Red Fort. The fun in Vista is this- no matter what hiccups in our plans leads us to take a different path, the mirth of the group is never deterred.

HAUNTING HALLS



Photo credit: Nidhi Yadav

Picture above: I noticed this view out of a quick glance I took while walking towards the water cooler. The gates were too mesmerising not to click.

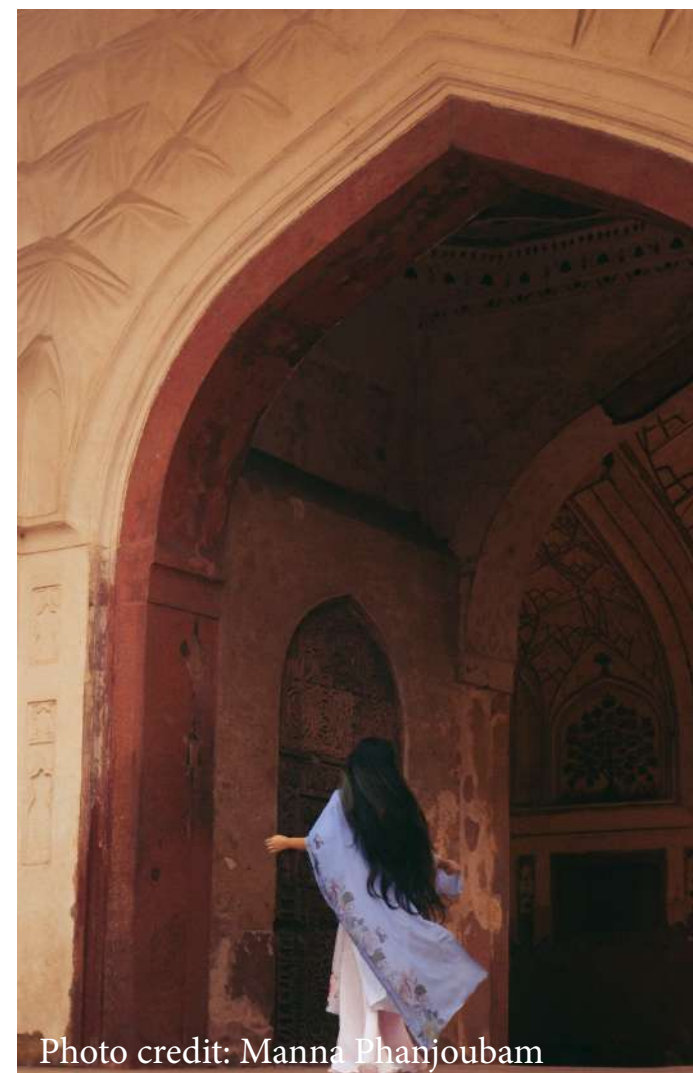


Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

Picture on the left: The enormous regal entrance arch felt like a good element to include in my photo to make for a fairytale mood. To get that mood, I had my model twirl around to get some movement of her hair and fabric.



Photo credit: Khushi Vats

Picture on the left: The geometry is quite appealing, and this click according to my perspective negates his loneliness and a massive baggage he is carrying around with him.

Picture below: Looking for the perfect jewellery is always a huge task but when you look from afar, it all very subtly looks like the most beautiful moment of life.

PERSPECTIVE



Photo credit: Nidhi Yadav

JUXTAPOSITION OF EAST AND WEST



Photo credit: Shivangi

Picture above: At Mumtaz Mahal, Lal Qila, I realised how beautiful it is that we admire the amazing architecture and the stories behind it, leaving all of it behind to move onto new places in pursuit of more stories. I wanted to capture this in a frame that shows the architecture and also a path.



Photo credit: Ankita Kalita

Picture on the left: This building holds the British architectural style which was once an army barracks during the crown rule of India.

Picture on the right: Morning breeze, cold winters of Delhi with a little sunshine and a bond of friendship meant to be captured as memories to cherish.

MORNING GLORY

Picture below: Lal Qila is very close to my heart because of the memories I hold of this place. On the day of this photowalk, it was the first time I had brought my camera there. Ariba modeled for us, I was observing her and tried to capture her natural elegance.

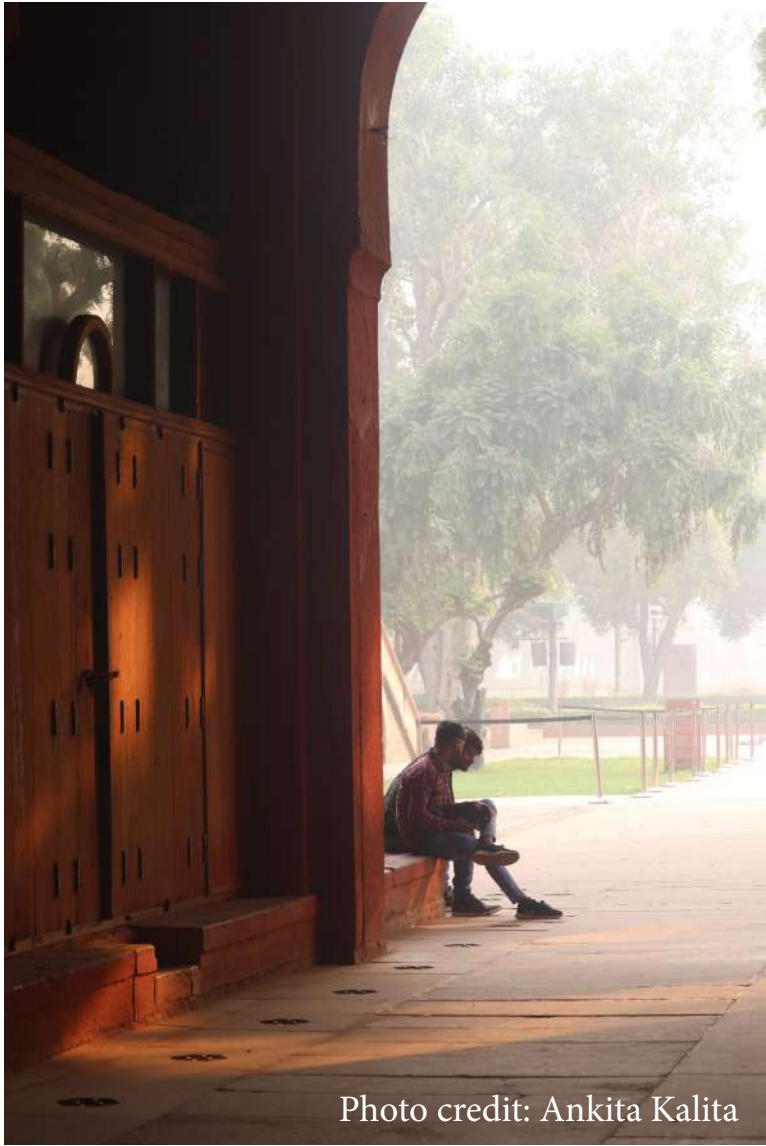


Photo credit: Ankita Kalita



Photo credit: Shivangi

SOLITUDE AND LONGING



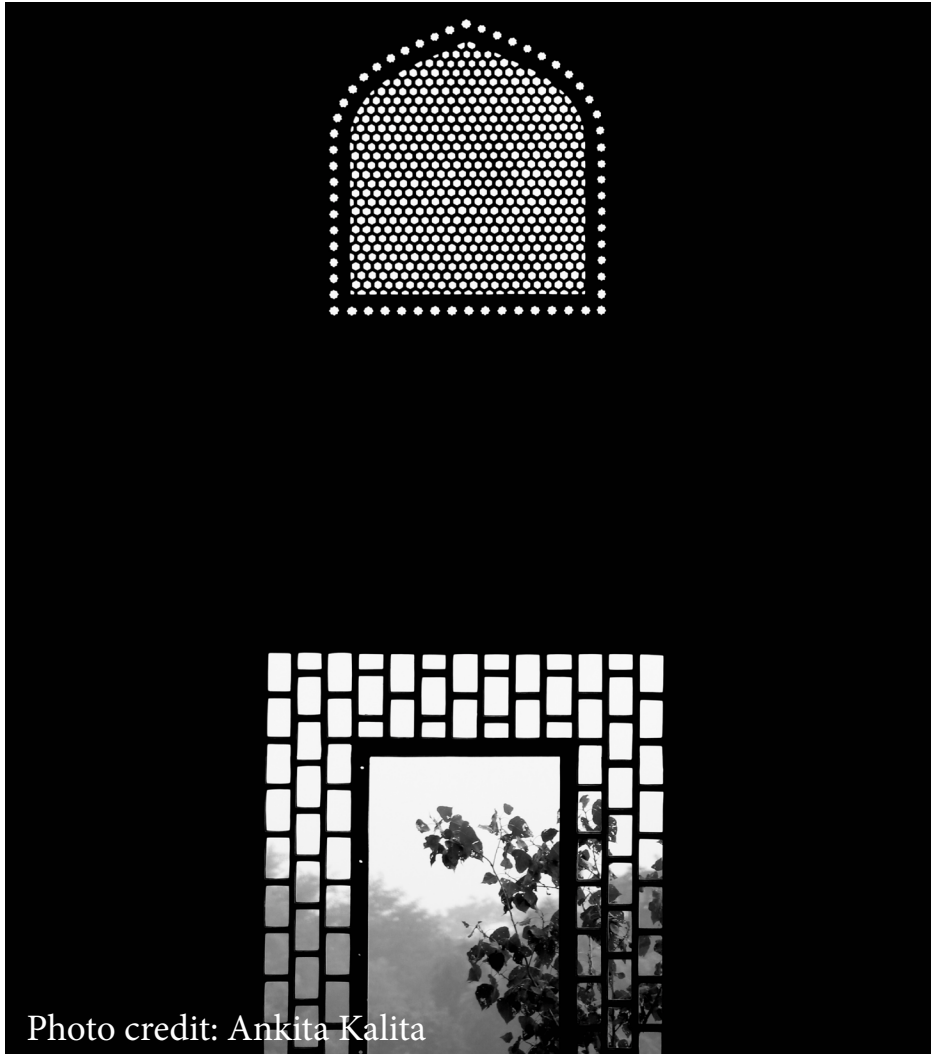
Photo credit: Poorvi



Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

Picture above: Took this one in the Diwan-i-aam, and just loved the details on this. I think it perfectly portrays the culture and the history of this place, and I just love it so much.

Picture on the left: For some reason, these gigantic wooden gates always inspire feelings of longing in me. And so, could not help recreating it with the model and the blue tones.



Picture on the left: Snapshot from the windows of the mahal at morning hours looking for flock of pigeons.

Picture below: Loved the details on the dramatic doors of this place (also had impulsive thoughts to break into that place), so this is one of the pictures that I took.

Photo credit: Ankita Kalita

DRAMA THROUGH DOORS AND WINDOWS



Photo credit: Poorvi



Photo credit: Shivangi

Picture above:We were roaming in the Meena Bazar and I decided to preserve that moment of exploring beautiful jewelry there.

BLACK AND WHITE BEAUTIES



Photo credit: Ankita Kalita

Picture on the left: Saw those flock of pigeons sitting at the dome of the Moti Masjid quickly captured in the lens.



Photo credit: Khushi Vats

Picture above: it's a bit more on the dramatic side, wanted to bring out the natural colors.



Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

Picture on the right: With the sun shyly stealing glances from the horizon, the trees in this part of the fort felt like they were waking up from their slumber. Just had my model walk towards that scenery for a voyager's feeling to it.

BREAKING DAWN



Photo credit: Nidhi Yadav

Picture above: I really wanted to capture something which reminded me of how the moonrise would have looked back in the days.

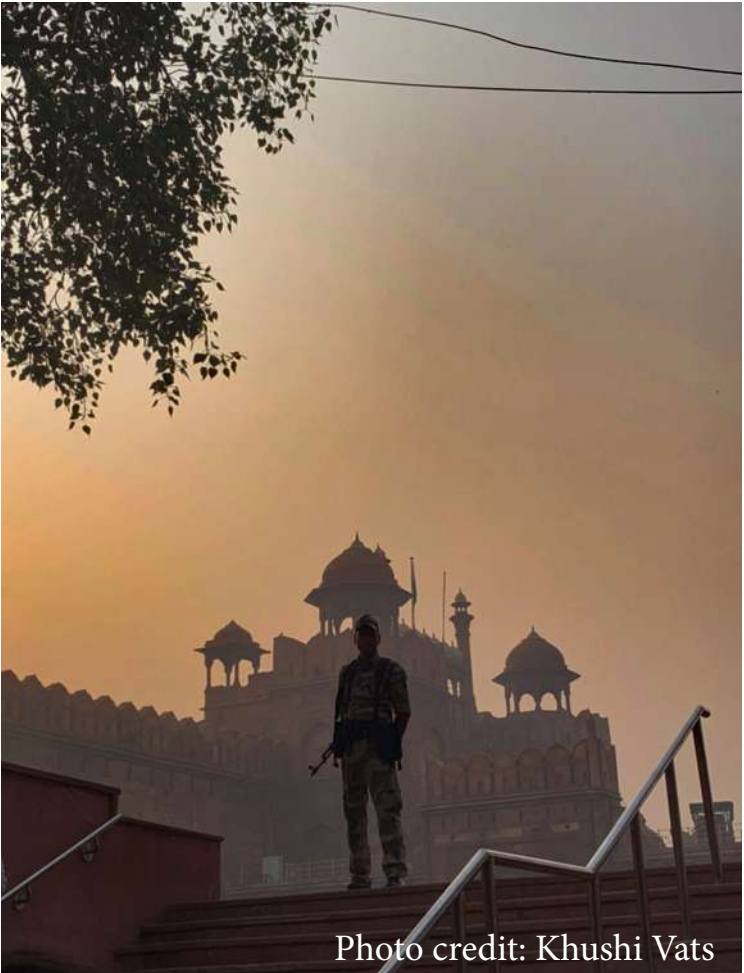


Photo credit: Khushi Vats

Picture on the left: I tried to depict a story of how an army officer protects his nation by Over-shadowing the background and highlighted the main attraction- the uniformed soldier!

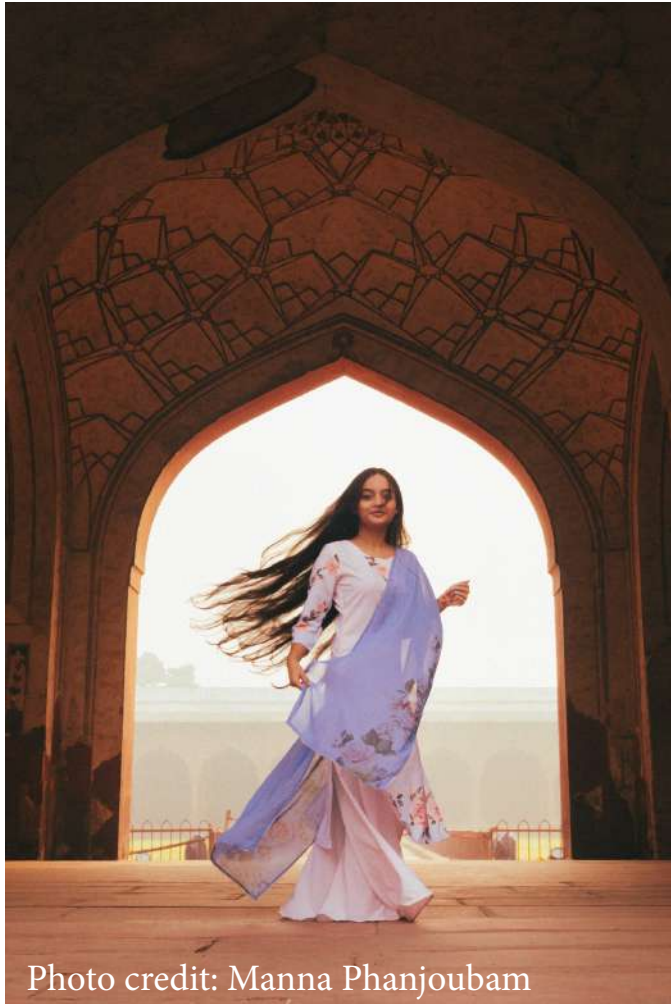


Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

Picture on the left: When the Diwan-i-aam was peeking through the mist in the background while the sun beams are also seeping through, I absolutely wanted to capture that ethereal angle. My model's serene look only helped to deliver that vision that I had.

Picture below: Highlighting the exquisiteness of the dome structure while ensuring its vibrancy.



Photo credit: Khushi Vats

GRANDEUR OF THE MUGHAL EMPIRE

YAWNING DAWN



Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

Picture above: Right as we entered the fort and the Chhatta Chowk loomed over our heads, it felt like we were Alice entering into Wonderland. The dark passageway added to that mood, and I hope I was able to capture that lore in the picture as well.



Photo credit: Khushi Vats

Picture on the left: The white hues that negates a polite somber tone which compliments the innate setting.

IN THE BLUES



Photo credit: Nidhi Yadav



Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

Picture above: I was just looking for some motivation to click and while I was daydreaming my eye caught this pretty little bird and i thought why not capture her.

Picture on the left: This was taken towards the end of the photowalk. At that point, I was quite satisfied with the photos I had taken so far, but still felt an overly dramatic picture was missing. Saw this door near Diwan-i-khas and immediately had a vision of poignant melancholia. Thus, this picture came into being.

Picture on the right: A Quintessential 70s Bollywood Portrait : the vintage architecture of windows, the delicacy of flower printed suits and the perfectly winged eyeliner.

Picture below: There is something so serene about being awake as the first rays of the sun make their way to the earth- the world seems kinder, the colours seem calmer, the breeze is cooler- and then the rest of the world wakes up.



Photo credit: Vrinda Verma



Photo credit: Priyal Nanda

UNCHAPERONED WALKS

Picture on the right: Took this photo of Ariba; the early morning sunlight was beautiful and she fit right in with the surroundings!



Photo credit: Vrinda Verma



Photo credit: Priyal Nanda

ADORN MY HANDS AND FEET

WOODS TO MARBLES



Photo credit: Priyal Nanda

Picture above: While clicking a photograph, I try to include every single element of the entire composition, however different the texture might be. Shoutout to Ariba here, who manages to blend in perfectly with the softness of the leaves, the roughness of the trees and the rouge of Lal Qila's red sandstone.

Picture on the right: There's something about architecture from the past that always leave me in awe, just imagining the hard work it would have taken to carve & put together this beauty is mind blowing, and honestly no camera can do justice.



Photo credit: Vrinda Verma



Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

DARK ACADEMIA

BY SAMRIDDHI GUPTA

Dark Academia, a term which immediately fills up one's imagination with wide array of snippets from a lifestyle that's mysterious, elegant, creative and abundant in posh intelligence. Usually captured in unlit or low exposure to create a sense of gloom and 'dark-academic' surrounding, the theme can be identified through components such as arts, literature, poetry, Greek and Gothic architecture, books, sweaters, history, much more and often follows a winter color palette of blue, beige, brown, black and white. The subculture has been also described as maximalist and nostalgic.

Dark academia doesn't stay confined in its default understanding, but is rather being used anew in variation and modification under various lifestyles, one such example of which, is Indian Dark Academia which is an amalgamation of the original Dark Academia and Indian lifestyle.

It'd be smart to consider Dark Academia a way of living instead of a mere 'aesthetic' in upcoming times, considering the variations it has spread its meaning onto!



Photo credit: Anika Badola

Picture above: Though holding its very dark past yet bringing out the vintage color in the present world. The Rashtrapati Niwas, one of the british architecture holding a significant place for its amazing infusion of modern art.

WELCOME TO HOGWARTS

Picture on the right: The moon was looking mesmerizing so i clicked this picture in manual mode and in shade to give off the yellowish tint.

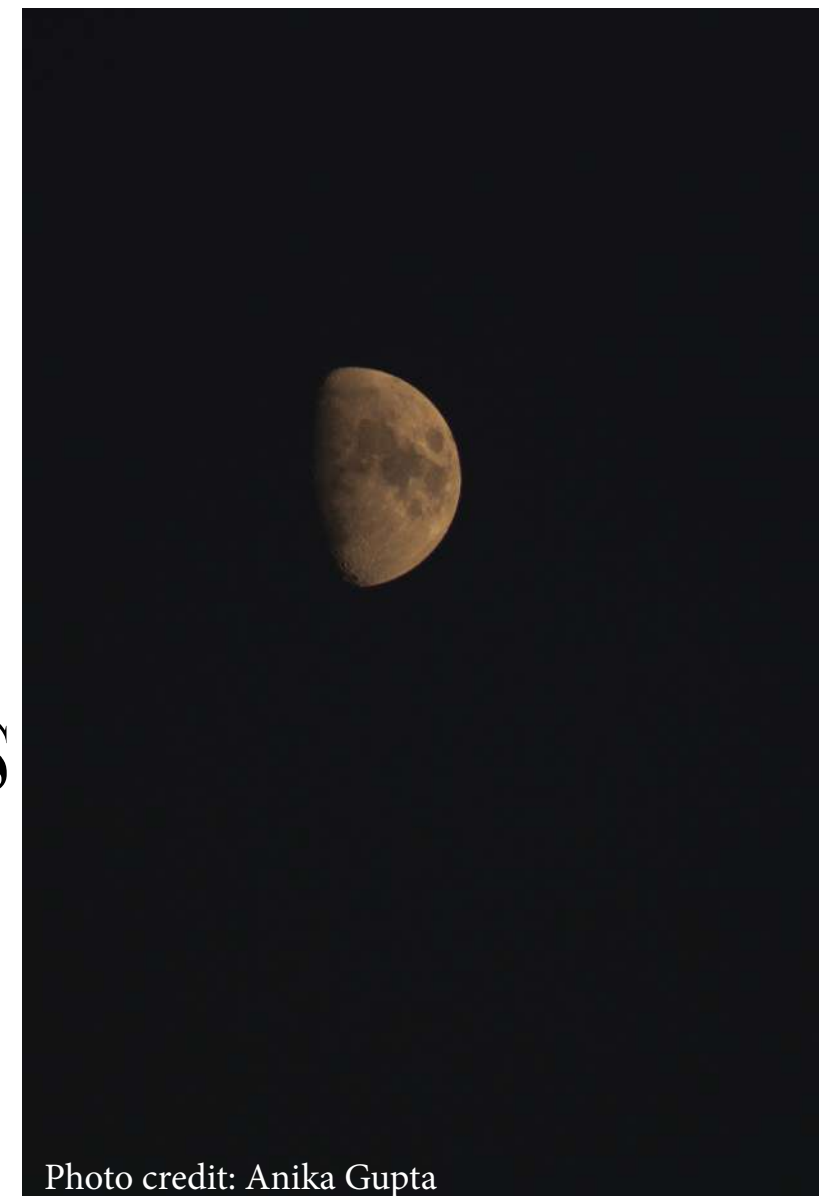


Photo credit: Anika Gupta

Picture on the right: My adorable twin turned into a pretty Annabella to fit my theme’s expectation.

CHANCE ENCOUNTERS

Picture below: I wanted to give the picture a vintage look, and used Lightroo for editing. I shot this at our college library, my friend helped me out for this theme.



Photo credit: Ankita Kalita



Photo credit: Khyati Sharma

Picture on the left: Hang(ing) around with books or with friends or both. I took this one in the park near our college and these two were just so brave to climb on the tree.

LETTERS ADDRESSED TO THE FIRE



Photo credit: Mimansa Tomar

Picture below: Took this picture in my backyard trying to capture the Desi Dark academia vibes while writing letters ‘anonymously’.



Photo credit: Poorvi

SHARED CARESSES THROUGH PAGES



Photo credit: Shavi Chaudhary

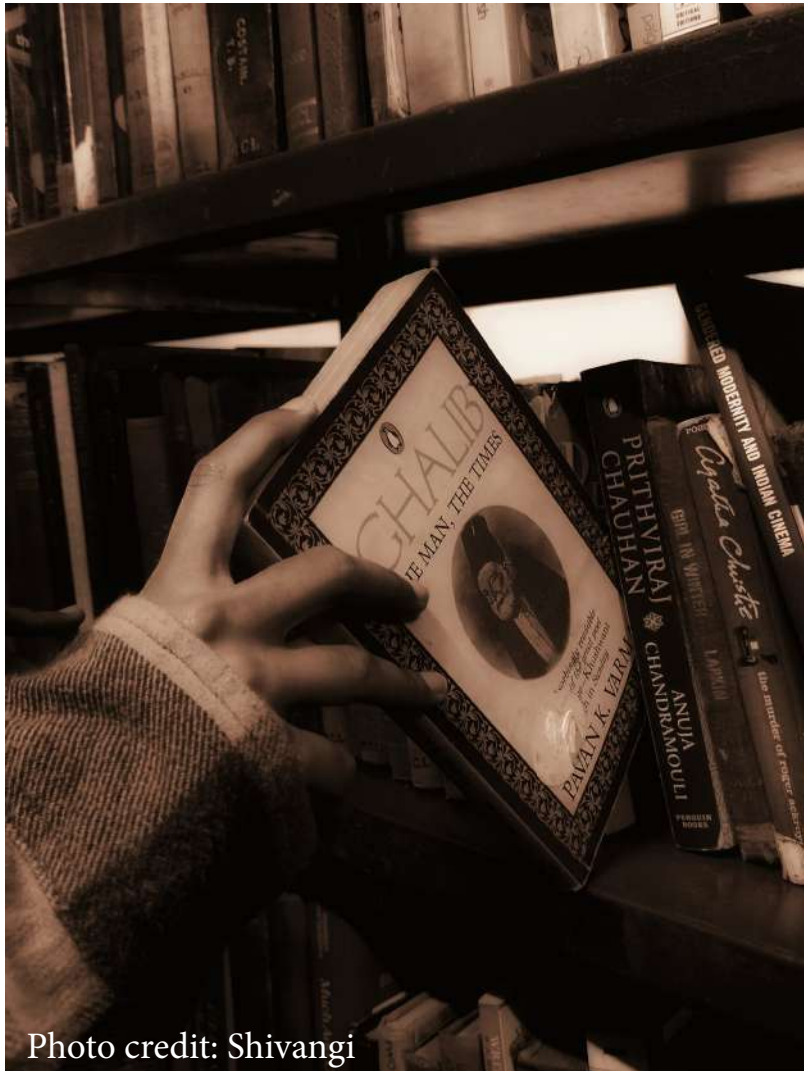


Photo credit: Shivangi

Picture above: Books always provide me with peace and warmth, their smell is enough for me to feel the comfort of what i feel seeing the rose petals, it's uniqueness.

Picture on the left: I went to the college library with Poorvi, we were exploring the library and suddenly this book (Ghalib) grabbed our attention.



Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

Picture on the left: I had borrowed my dad's white shirt and my mom's black skirt to assemble the classic dark academia outfit. Placed the ring light on my left to give some dramatic harsh shadows in the picture- a trademark Dark Academia move.

CHAPTERS OF A NOVEL

Picture below: My two favorite things in life are the camera and books. I clicked this picture thinking about how both give me a unique vision to look at how things are or how they can look in different situations.



Photo credit: Shivangi

Picture on the right: As the shadows are acting out a drama, the light dazzled my eyes. The extra drama element to this picture describes both my mood and vibe at that moment.



Photo credit: Ujwala Chowdary

Picture below: Light and dark, good and evil, right and wrong, everything comes in opposing pairs. The human race seeks daylight and yet paradoxically cannot survive without the night . This image has an unimpaired composition of light in dark, while perfectly hanging on the top guiding everyone to its path.

THE MYSTERY OF THE CHANDELIER



Photo credit: Anika Badola



Photo credit: Anika Gupta

Picture above: While clicking the picture, the fallen leaves gave me a hint of nature and the words felt beautiful, it was a peaceful feeling.

Picture below: I took this picture in our college library and asked my friend to pose for it. I had so much fun playing with a vintage vibe and filters.



Photo credit: Khyati Sharma

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Picture on the right: While capturing this i was thinking about me standing and reading a very interesting part of the book. If I had to capture myself when I'm around books, this is what it will look like. I love the feeling when i completely get absorbed in its different scenarios.

AUTUMN PAGES

Picture below: Tried to capture my obsession with Greek mythology and the penguin classics. Being a literature student was a plus point here.



Photo credit: Mimansa Tomar



Photo credit: Poorvi



Photo credit: Samriddhi Gupta

Picture above: I wanted to showcase the beauty and depth of eyes, while at the same time, merging the concept with the academic vibes, and this was the shot I clicked.

Picture on the right: A open book yet written in cryptic language. While capturing this self portrait i thought of how many people read books yet fail to understand its true meaning similary applying the knowledge gained in practical life. And in end its all about perspective.



Photo credit: Anika Badola

P R E L O Q U E



Photo credit: Vanshika Sharma



Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

FINGERS OF ART

Picture above: This was first time I saw a typewriter from so close and I was in awe. The place where I took this photo had many other such old rusted broken stuff and Dark academia vibes instantly surrounded me and I decided to capture some photos.

Picture on the left: I had to bring in my piano as well in the photoshoot as a hom- age to the classical music students of dark academia,



Photo credit: Anika Badola

Picture above: The british architecture in India is a perfect example of classic ancient modern Architecture, holding it past and presenting to future. Holding its past purpose yet serving the new generations to its needs. The vintage build- ing stands out to be discovered to its minute details and yet we miss out to understand.

Picture on the right: I took this photo in Neh- ru Park. It was a fun evening to climb on those trees and read a book. The security guard was scared that our models might fall but they were well trained.



Photo credit: Mimansa Tomar

ESCAPE FROM BRICKS TO THE WOODS

UNIFORM OF THE DARK ARTS



Photo credit: Samriddhi Gupta

Picture above: I took this shot during the time when the air was extremely cold and the sky remained gloomy most of the time, everyone wore sweaters and boots and warmth was always not enough - I captured together, all the components that'd signify the gloom of Dark Academia.



Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

Picture on the left: Shot this in natural light with the door open in the afternoon. A diligent music student practicing the classical compositions is the lore behind it, lest it is not clear enough.

Picture on the right: Old books are like a strange fascination to me - the smell, the pages. The one I clicked here was first issued in January 1969 and i wanted to preserve this moment by capturing it in my device.

Picture below: My friend is hot & gorgeous so I clicked.

VISUALISE THE LORE



Photo credit: Shivangi



Photo credit: Samriddhi Gupta

IN THE MOOD FOR INK



Photo credit: Poorvi

Picture above: Found this secluded lampshade in the corner of a cafe and the aesthetic sucker in me had to click a picture.

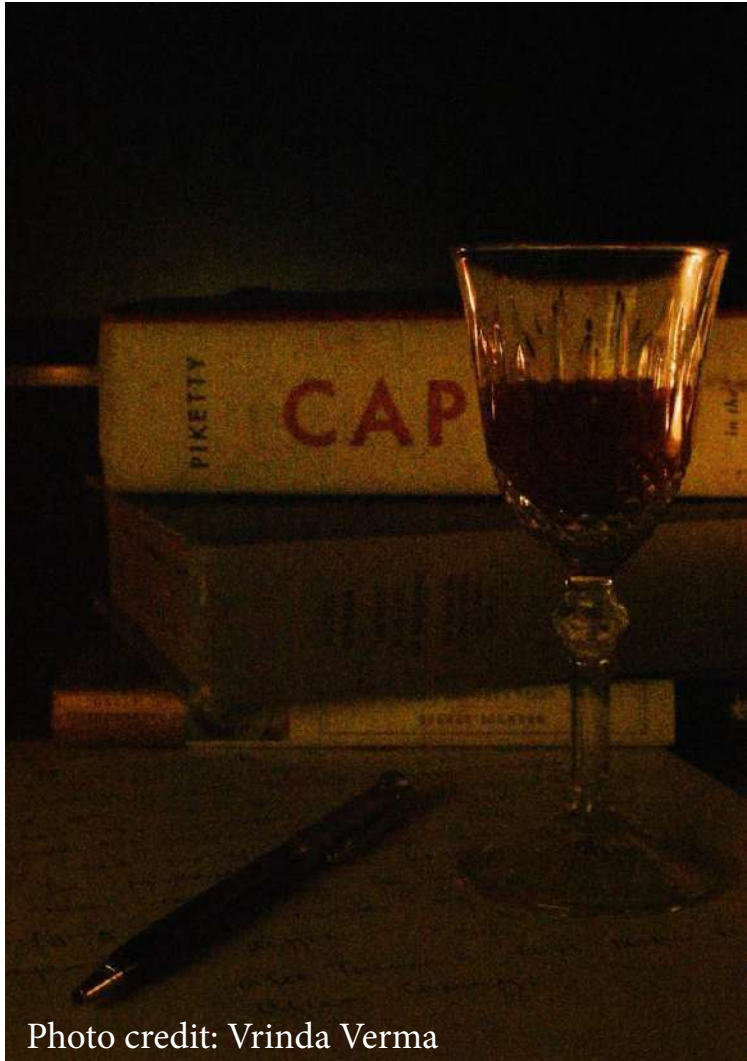


Photo credit: Vrinda Verma

Picture on the left: Writing drunk love letters in the candlelight- isn't that what dark academia is all about?

WOODS AND BOOKS



Photo credit: Mimansa Tomar

Picture above: Relaxed evening leaning on a tree reading a book is the best therapy. The weather was very pleasant in Nehru Park. Like our lives, reading a book is altogether a different experience. You get to create multiple scenarios with your own imagination.

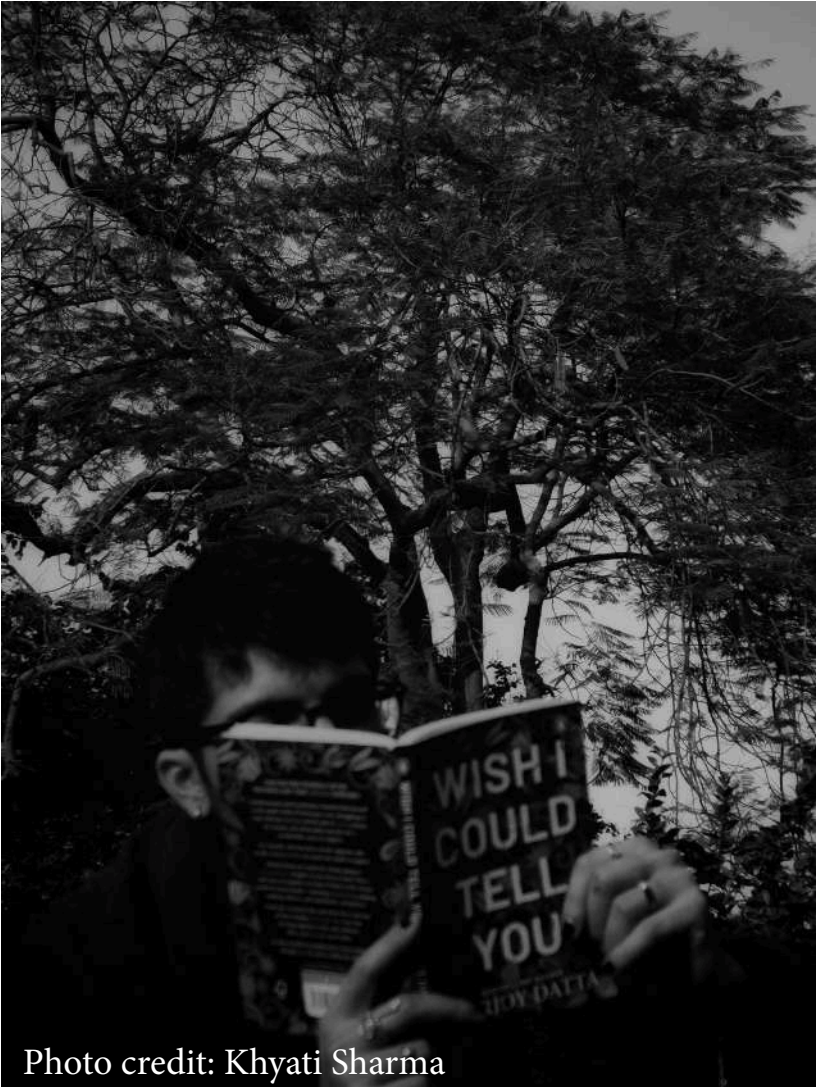


Photo credit: Khyati Sharma

Picture on the right: My very handsome boyfriend posed for me and we shot it in a park near our home, i used the inbuilt filter for this picture.

STUDENTS
OF
DARK
ACADEMIA



Photo credit: Poorvi

Picture above: Went for the Desi dark academia vibes, this was my first attempt at taking self portraits. Setting up was a hassle, but the pictures turned out how i wanted them, win-win situation.



Photo credit: Samriddhi Gupta

Picture on the left: I tried to portray Indian Dark Academia via a shoot done in college, with subtle background and props, as my friend, Anita posed in her vintage jewelry and an elegant smile.



Photo credit: Manna Phanjoubam

Picture above: I wanted to make the black bow visible in the picture somehow; it has been a new addition of pride to my accessories collection.

Picture on the right: I think more people need to create art and create art that's imperfect- so pictured here is a rejected canvas and my bestie who patiently painted the thin air as i tried to get the dark academia shot of my dreams.

PAINTING
THE
MUSIC



Photo credit: Vrinda Verma

MEET THE PHOTOGRAPHERS



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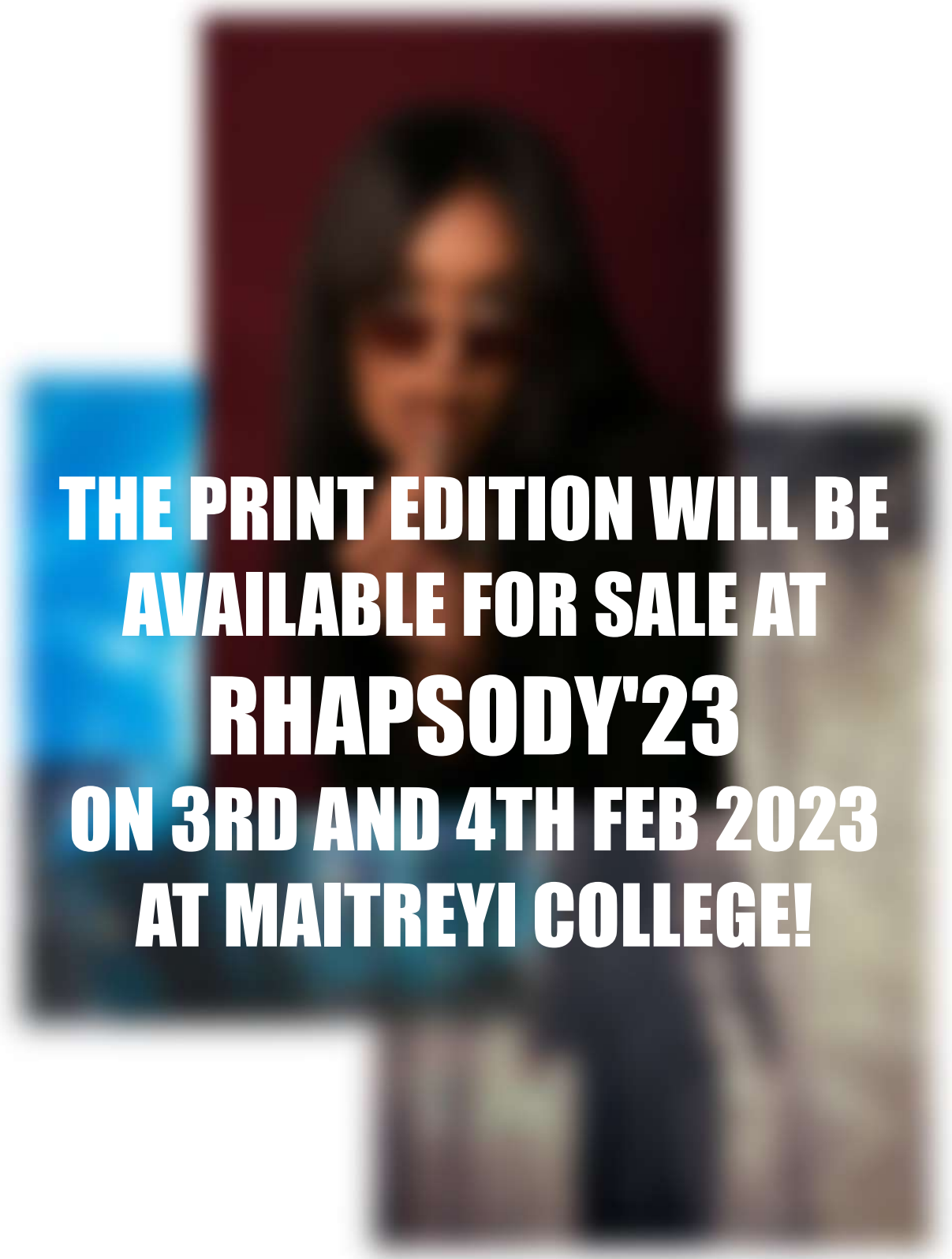


Khushi
@khushivatss



KHYATI
@its_khyatish

CHECK OUT OUR PRINT EDITION FOR THREE EXTRA THEMES!



**THE PRINT EDITION WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR SALE AT
RHAPSODY'23
ON 3RD AND 4TH FEB 2023
AT MAITREYI COLLEGE!**