




Amy Petersen

Digitized Portfolio
June 2017



View From Willis Tower



Contemplate



Sean



3/23/17



Chicago, 8:23 PM



Urban Oxidation

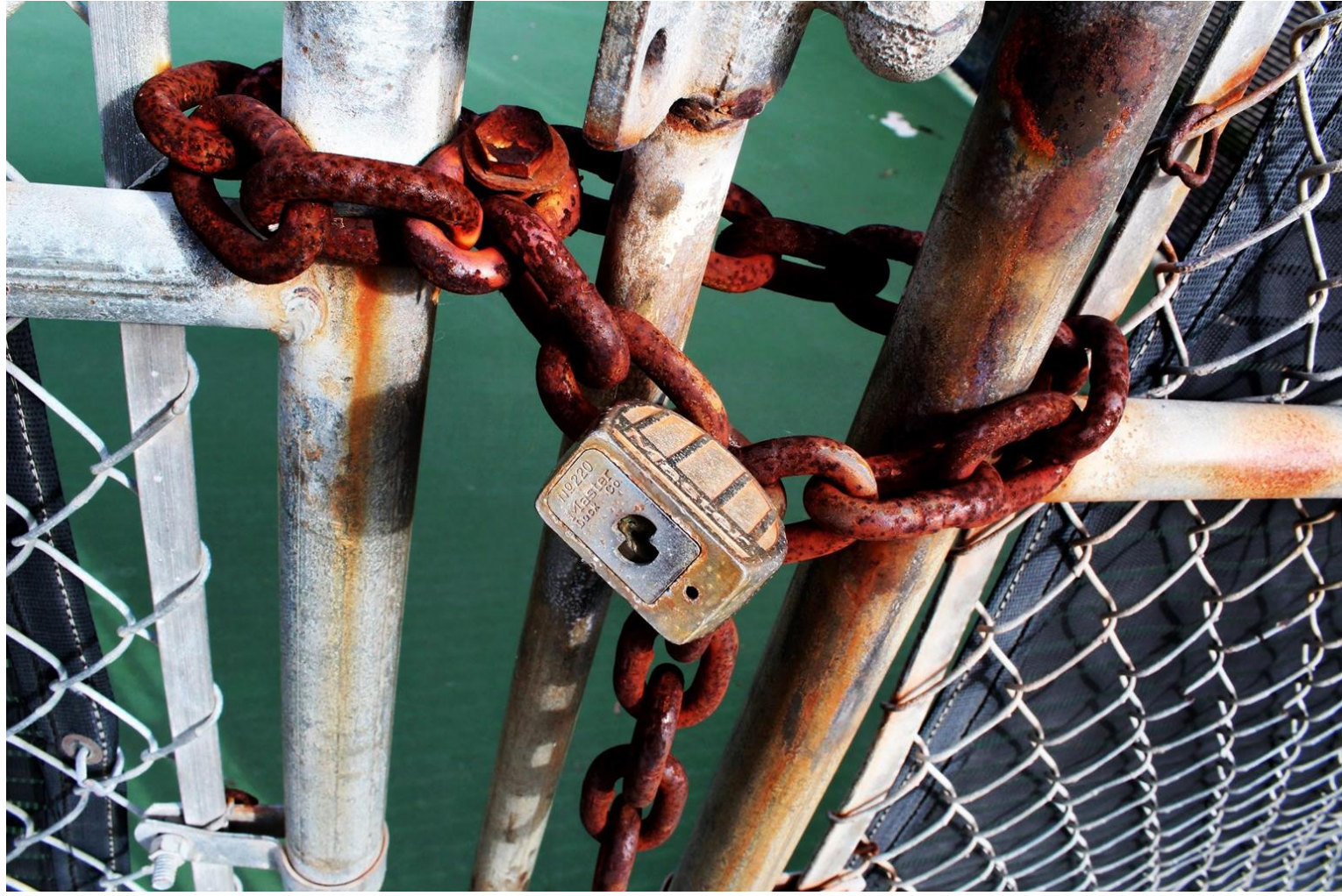
My photography exhibits my interest in structure and texture by focusing on the rusting of items and construction. Vibrant colors and shapes have always interested me, and exploring how they appear in the deep reds and oranges of decay was refreshing. Rust, a sign of ruin and the toll of time, could still exhibit a youthful spirit. Various textures and facets of the rust as well as the different ways it is exhibited in modern life, whether on small objects or large structures, intrigued me.

Urban Oxidation

At first my purpose in shooting rusting structures was to expose the corruption of industrialism and the modern outlook of urbanization and technological progress. I wanted to show with rust the putrefaction and spoilage of human lives by society. Photographing oxidized structures, I initially wanted to display 18th century philosopher Jean Jacques Rousseau's thinking that society corrupts naturally good man.

However, focusing on a seemingly corruptive and indeed corrosive aspect of modern living taught me multiple lessons. Beauty even in age as I described earlier, but also the significance of time. All things; food, structures, lives, end up rotting. Humanity is constantly in the pursuit of an infinite impact, building monuments and buildings that will last forever. In focusing on rust, I didn't see industrial society's corruption of man, but rather time's control over all aspects of life. We cannot outrun or outlast time, the clock will always catch up to us, no matter what we do. Decay is inevitable, but I hope to demonstrate that we do not need to race against time. We must see the beauty in aging and accept time's role in our lives.

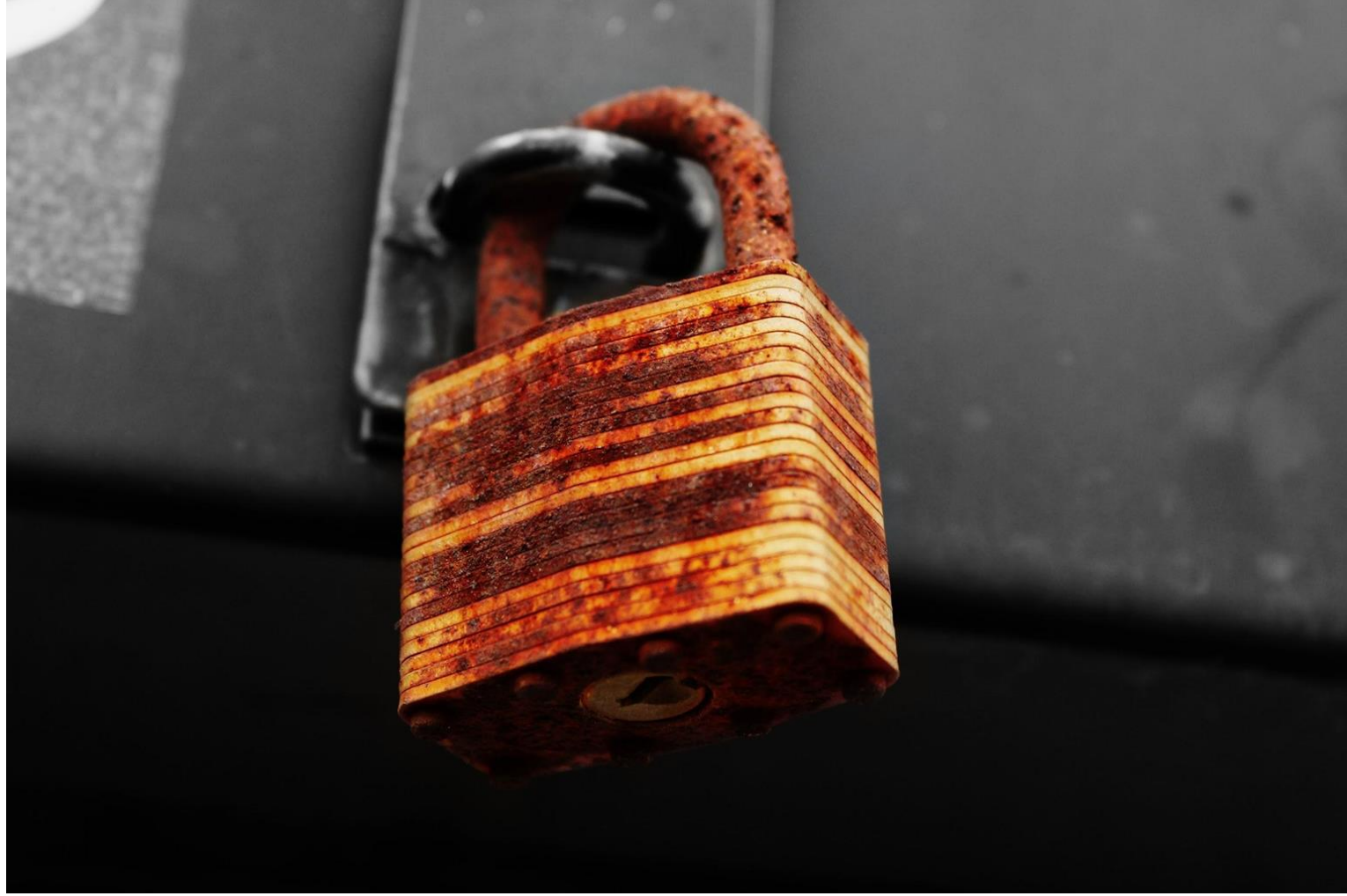
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2122



Corrosion



Pipeline



Rust and Ruin

