

Scarlet Cervantes

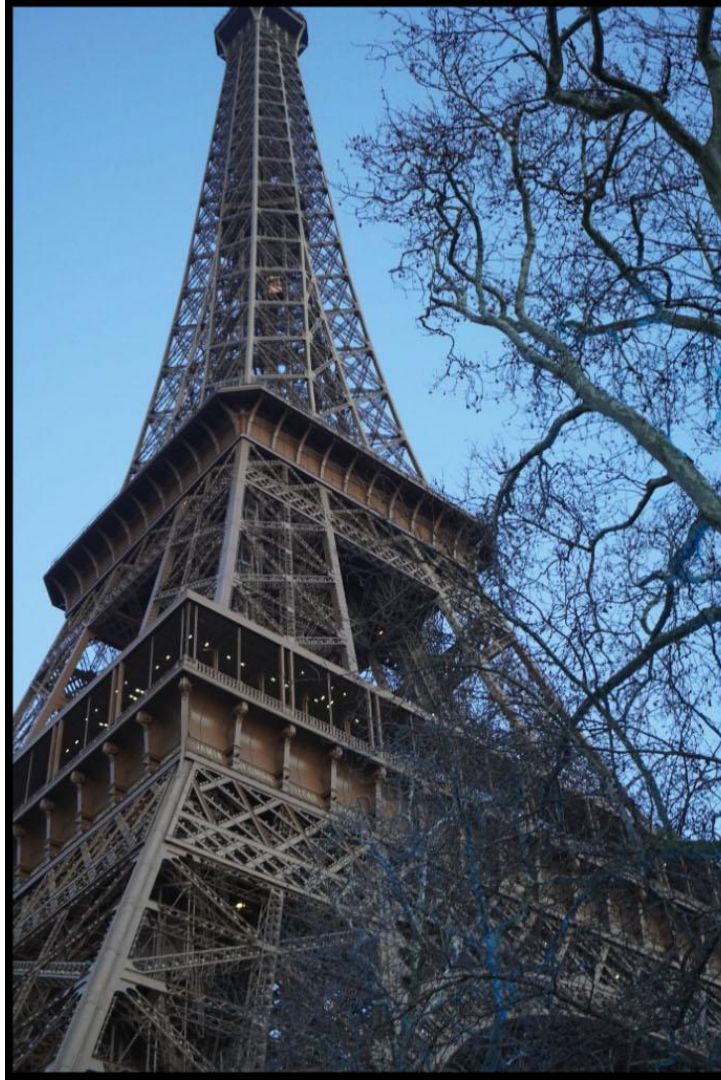
AP Studio Art Final Portfolio 2026

Sustained Investigation

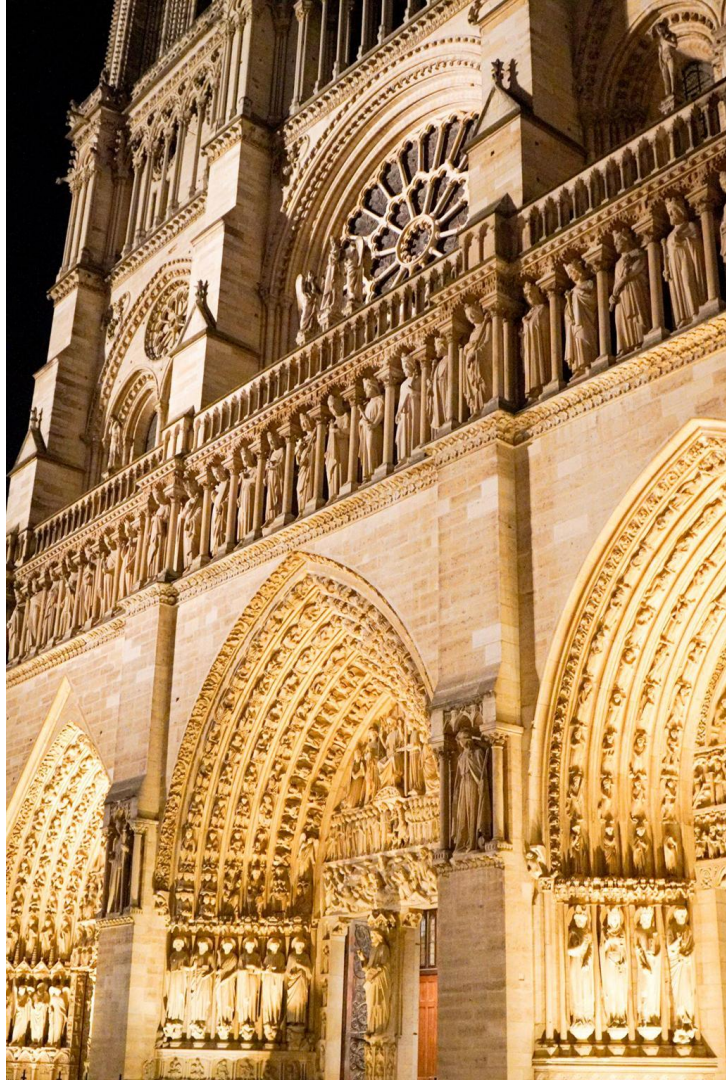
Written Evidence

Paris, the “City of Lights” is known for its romance. Los Angeles, the “City of Angels” is synonymous with urban grit and city sprawl. This investigation penetrates city stereotypes to reveal common rhythms between these metropolises and explores similarities and differences between the cities and how people live in them. I wanted to capture the contrast between LA, rich with diverse cultures and innovation, and the traditional life in Paris. Despite these differences, there is a comforting consistency in how humans live in both cities.

People live in and interact with these cities differently, yet with common threads. I photographed the various ways in which people move throughout and experience the cities, such as through food and shopping, transportation, art, and architecture. I compared the same experiences in Paris and LA. The photos reflect that humans are like moths. We are drawn to the sunshine of Los Angeles and the warm, romantic light of Paris. But, Paris remains steadfast in its identity, while LA continuously strives for newness. Despite this old world vs new world dichotomy, both cities continue to charm us.



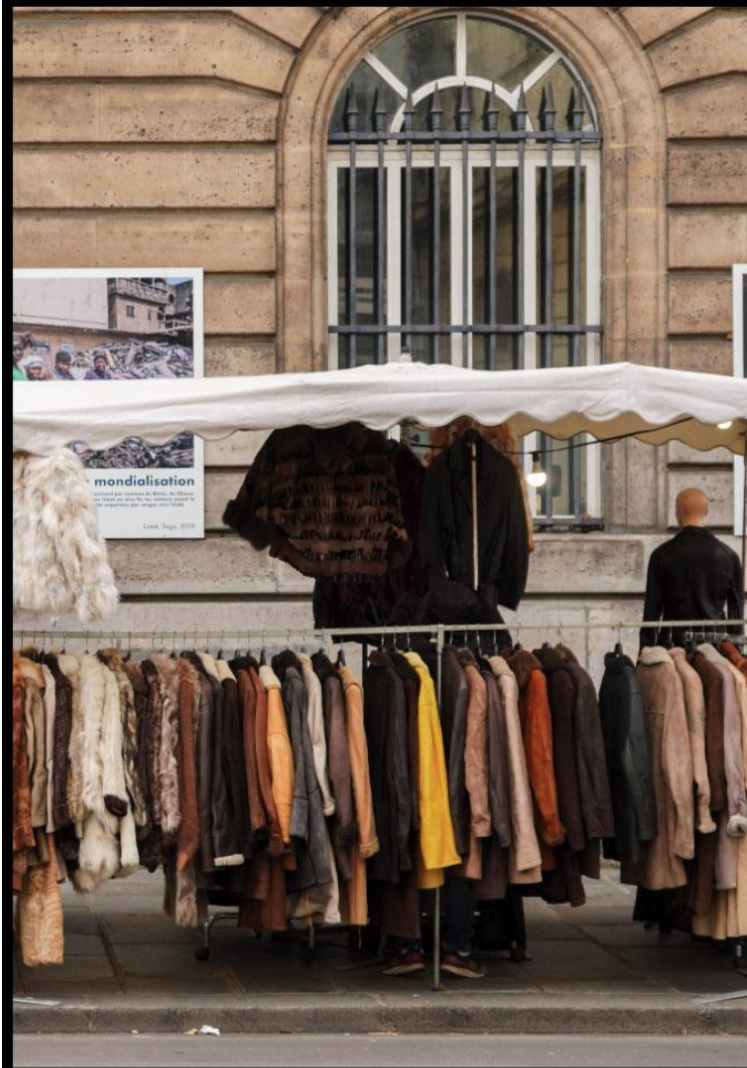






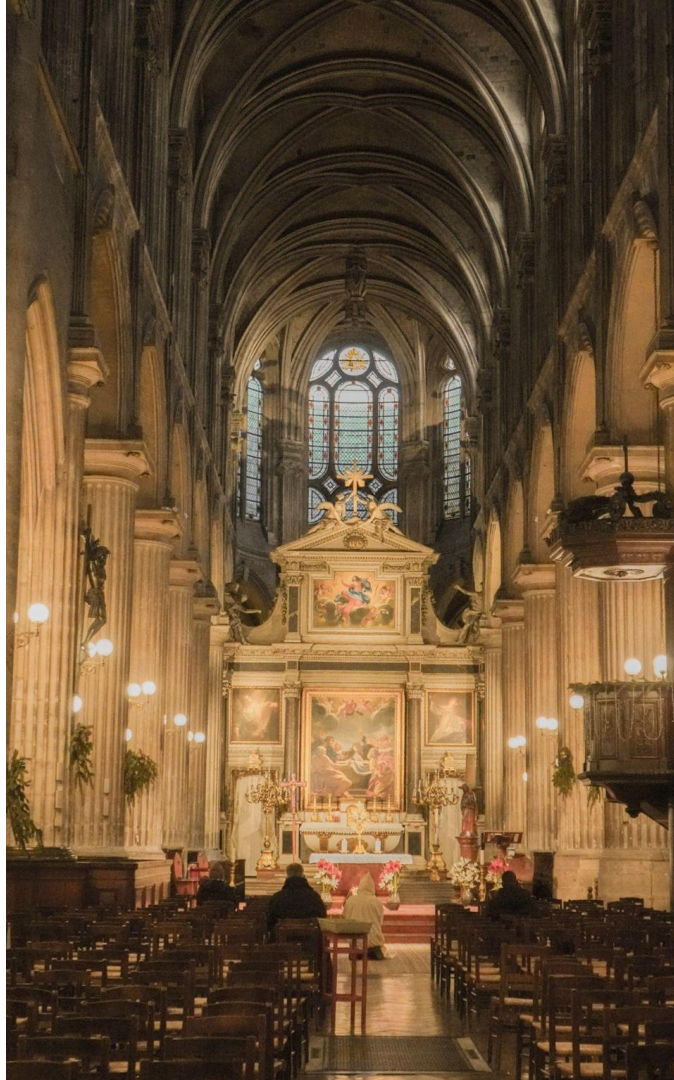




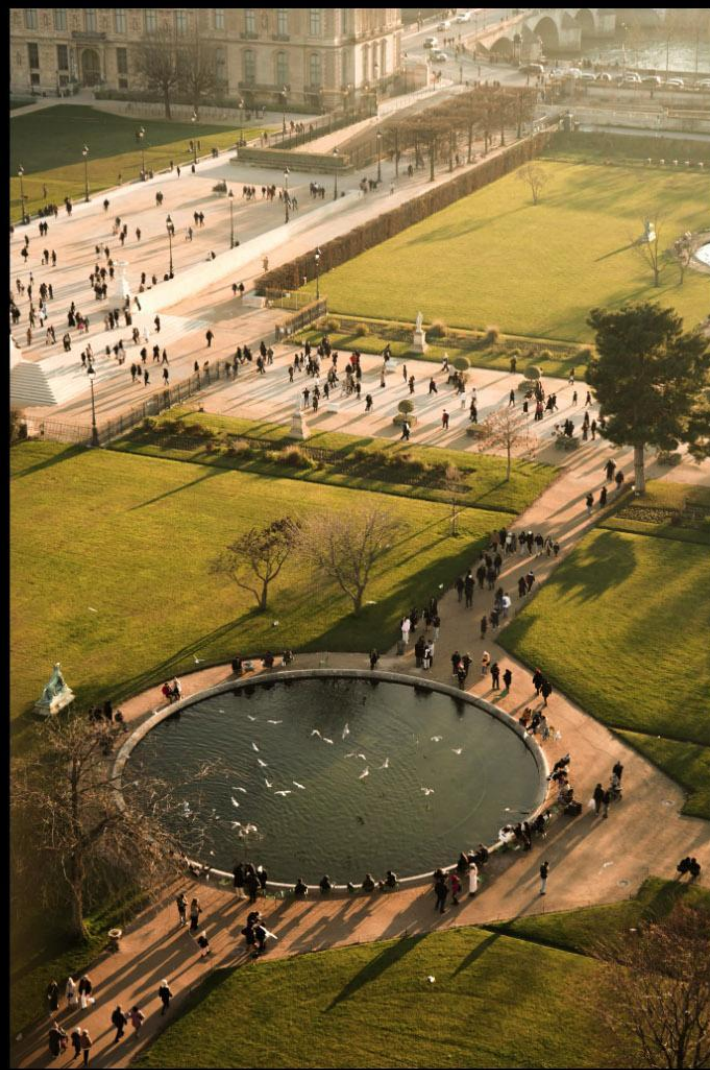














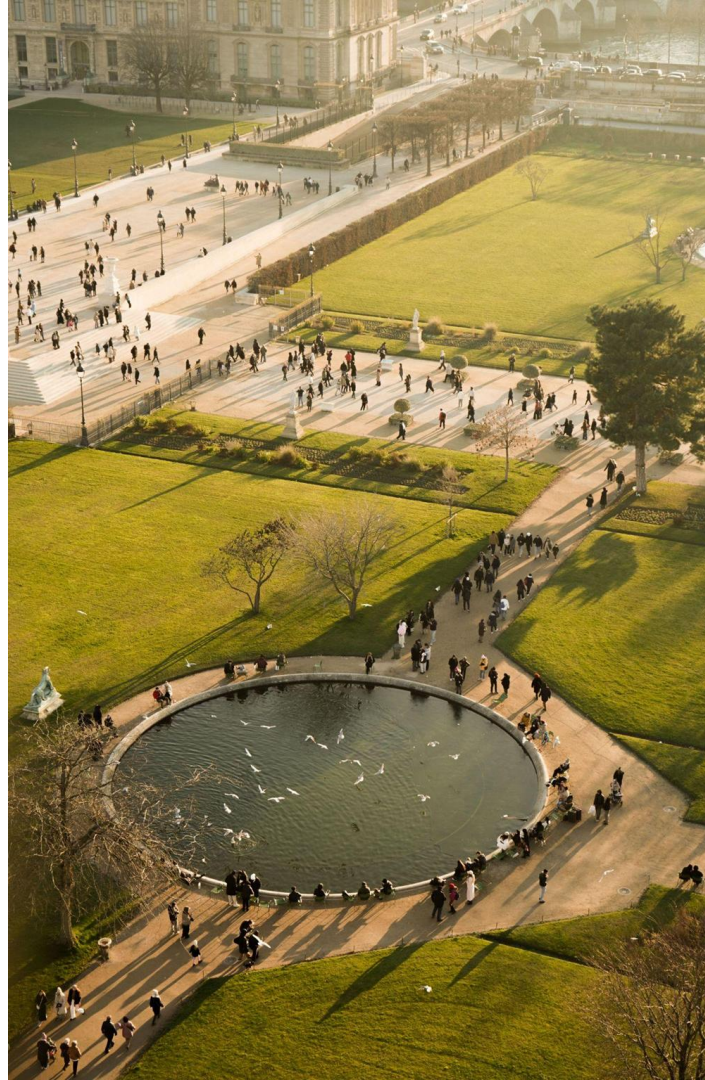




Selected Works











Sustained Investigation Text:

1. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, contrast, exposure
2. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, brightness, contrast, exposure
3. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, brightness, contrast, exposure
4. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, dodge and burn, contrast, exposure
5. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, color balance, contrast, exposure
6. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, contrast, exposure
7. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, brightness, contrast, exposure
8. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, saturation, contrast, exposure
9. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, contrast
10. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, brightness, contrast, exposure
11. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, saturation, contrast, exposure
12. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, saturation, contrast, exposure
13. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, brightness, contrast, dodge and burn
14. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** layers, brightness, color adjustment, contrast, lowered saturation
15. **Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop **/Processes:** levels, color balance, contrast, exposure

Selected Works Text:

1. **Ideas:** The calm, expressionless man against the wild, ferocious background of nature creates contrast./**Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop /**Processes:** levels, black and white mask
2. **Ideas:** I created a glum yet artsy mood to depict the beautifully rugged, often dismissed, aspects of Paris./**Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop /**Processes:** layers, brightness, color adjustment, contrast, lowered saturation
3. **Ideas:** Despite the busy scene, the sun's warm light and nature's greenery creates a tranquil atmosphere./**Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop /**Processes:** levels, contrast, saturation adjustment, color balance, exposure
4. **Ideas:** The street performer's smile paired with the pre-industrial scene reveals the joy of simplicity./**Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop /**Processes:** Levels, dodge and burn, exposure, contrast, saturation adjustment
5. **Ideas:** The vintage aspect depicts what's current in Paris, but seems to us like it occurred 100 years ago./**Materials:** Sony DSLR camera, Lightroom, Photoshop /**Processes:** levels, exposure, contrast, saturation adjustment, color balance