

# *Antechamber*

## **A solo exhibition by Lise Johansson**

May 1st – June 16th, 2026  
In The Gallery, Copenhagen

**Opening** : May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 4-7 pm

**Location**: Dronningens Tværgade 19  
1302 København



**Antechamber** brings together works from *Resort*, *Absence*, *I'm Not Here* and her most recent series, *Within Frames* is an exhibition that examines the staged interior as a site of perceptual and psychological tension.

Traditionally an antechamber is a transitional space a room one passes through before reaching a more private or significant interior. A place of waiting of anticipation and partial access. This architectural condition serves as the conceptual framework for the exhibition, resonating closely with Lise Johansson's sustained inquiry into thresholds, spatial, temporal and psychological. Her persistent positioning of the viewer at the edge of an image that withholds as much as it discloses. Johansson's practice engages photography not as a descriptive medium but as a structural one: a means of constructing space rather than recording it. Her images operate in a state of suspension, between presence and absence, interior and exterior, the legible and the estranged. Resisting narrative resolution, her compositions propose instead a mode of looking that is contemplative, durational and fundamentally open.

*Within Frames* lies at the heart of this exhibition. Working with the architectural threshold doorways, windows, mirrors and internal partitions. Johansson constructs images that fold space back upon itself, producing layered pictorial structures in which depth and surface become difficult to distinguish. The frame, traditionally understood as the boundary of the image, is here multiplied and destabilized, implicating the viewer's own position in the act of looking and foregrounding the constructed nature of photographic space. The works presented in **Antechamber** represent a significant new development within the series, extending its formal and conceptual range into increasingly intimate and psychologically charged territory.

The surrounding works deepen and contextualise this inquiry. *Resort* developed across the interiors of hotels and temporary residences interrogates the social and psychological function of spaces designed for retreat. Johansson strips these environments of their hospitality, revealing an underlying ambiguity in which carefully made beds, drawn curtains, and untouched surfaces become indices of an absent subject: someone expected, departed, or suspended between the two.

*Absence* approaches its subject with a similar economy of means. These are not images of abandonment but of deliberate vacancy spaces that retain the atmospheric imprint of a presence that has recently and purposefully, withdrawn. Light, arrangement and stillness work in concert to evoke not emptiness but the memory of occupation: a space holding the trace of a life lived within it, now elsewhere.

*I'm Not Here* extends this inquiry into more explicitly subjective territory. Figures appear intermittently, yet their inclusion does not resolve the tension; turned away, peripheral or absorbed beyond the frame, they function less as subjects than as further indices of withdrawal. Presence, in these images, is no guarantee of inhabitation.

Taken together, the works in **Antechamber** articulate a coherent and rigorous practice in which the interior is never simply a setting but a condition, charged, contingent and perpetually deferred. Like the antechamber itself, they offer proximity without full access. The viewer is invited to look, but not to enter: held at the threshold of images where the familiar continues to shift and meaning remains, productively, out of reach.



Within Frames #1, 2025  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 6  
110 x 90 cm.



Within Frames #2, 2025  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 6  
90 x 110 cm.

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Within Frames #3, 2025  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 6  
110 x 90 cm.



Within Frames #6, 2026  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 6  
110 x 90 cm.



Within Frames #7, 2026  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 6  
110 x 90 cm.



Within Frames #8, 2026  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 6  
110 x 90 cm .



Absence #1, 2019  
Archival fine art print - Edition 10 of 10  
50 x 40 cm.



Absence #2, 2022  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 5  
115 x 142 cm.

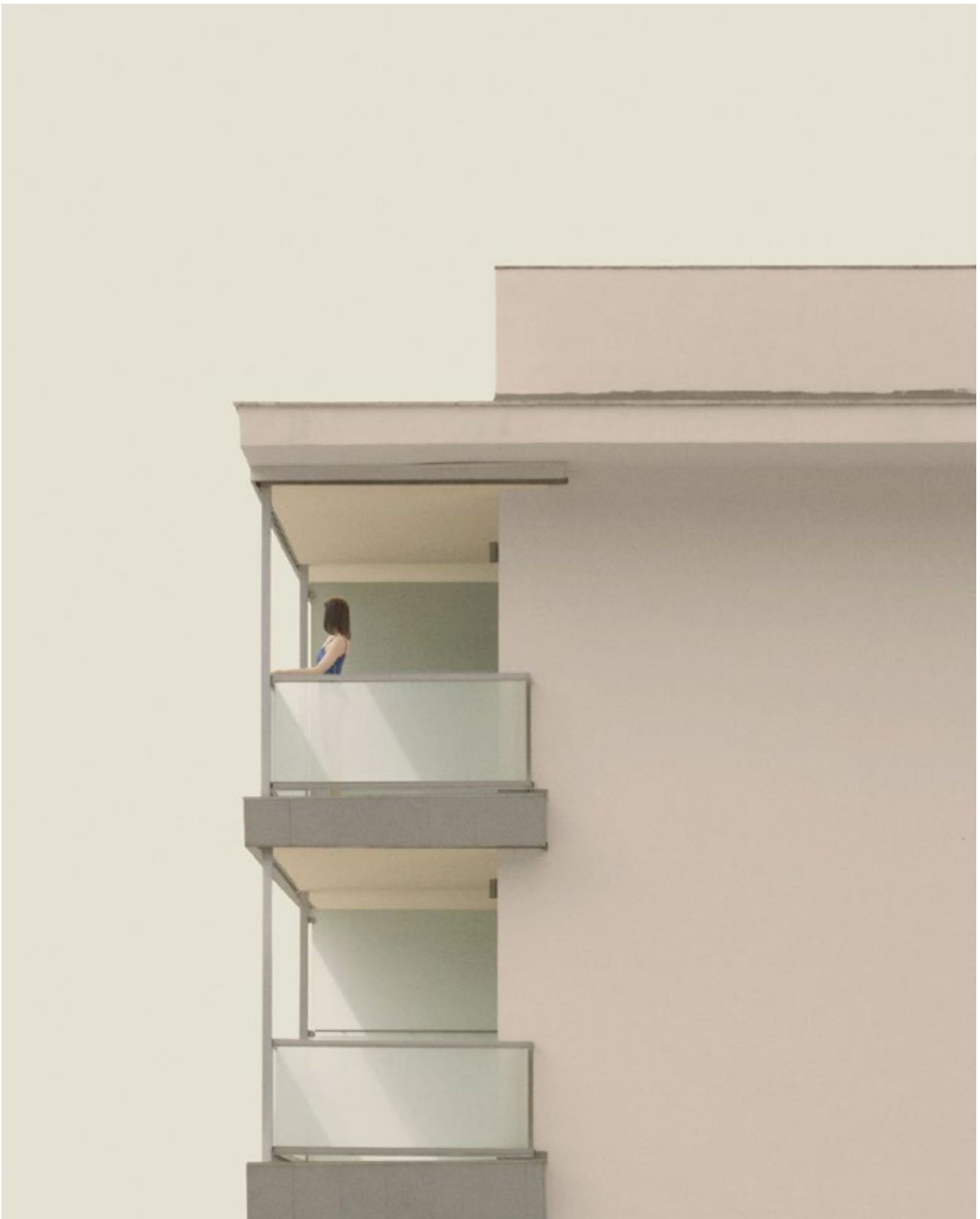
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I'm not here #1, 2022  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 10  
40 x 50 cm.



I'm not here #3, 2022  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 6  
90 x 110 cm.



Resort #1, 2021  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 6  
110 x 90 cm.



Resort #3, 2026  
Archival fine art print - Edition of 6  
110 x 90 cm.

CONTACT INFORMATION  
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OPENING HOURS

|           |                |
|-----------|----------------|
| Wednesday | 12:00 – 16:00  |
| Thursday  | 12:00 – 18:00  |
| Friday    | 12:00 – 16:00  |
| Saturday  | by appointment |