

Suburbia
 Where the suburbs met utopia
 Lost in the high street, where the dogs run
 Roaming suburban boys
 Mother's got her hairdo to be done
 She says they're too old for toys
 Stood by the bus stop with a felt pen
 In this suburban hell
 And in the distance a police car
 To break the suburban spell
 Let's take a ride
 And run with the dogs tonight in suburbia
 You can't hide
 Run with the dogs tonight
 In suburbia
 Break the window by the town hall
 Listen, a siren screams
 There in the distance like a roll call
 Of all the suburban dreams
 Let's take a ride
 And run with the dogs tonight in suburbia
 You can't hide
 Run with the dogs tonight
 In suburbia
 I only wanted something else to do but hang around
 (Hang around, hang around)
 It's on the front page of the papers
 This is their hour of need
 Where's a policeman when you need one
 To blame the colour TV?
 Let's take a ride
 And run with the dogs tonight
 In suburbia
 You can't hide
 Run with the dogs tonight
 In suburbia, in suburbia, in suburbia
 Run with the dogs tonight
 You can't hide
 Run with the dogs tonight
 You can't hide
 In suburbia
 Suburbia
 Where the suburbs met utopia
 What kind of dream was this
 So easy to destroy?
 And who are we to blame
 For the sins of the past?
 These slums of the future?
 Suburbia
 Where the suburbs met utopia
Suburbia

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a magazin to capture the everyday life dwelling_issue_05

demeure

agglomeration



featuring: claudia+markus. lotti+walter. metschl+noah. ruth. christoph.



Sportliche und
elegante Damenmode

Herbst-Apéro
26. Sept. 1992

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Reich

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demeure: First of all, thank you again for the grapes you gave us two weeks ago—they were delicious! What do you do with all the grapes from the garden?

Lotti: (smiling) We eat some fresh, of course. The rest we make into juice or jam. And sometimes the grandchildren just pick them straight from the vine—it's a treat every time.

Walter: Some go straight into my stomach before Lotti notices. But mostly we preserve them for winter—juice, jam, little pies.

demeure: Why don't we begin with the name of the place. Do you call it something?

Lotti: For us, it's always just been the house. Our family's house. When you grow up here, you don't give it a title.

Walter: Sometimes I call it "The Green Hell" because of Lotti's extensive Gardening activities.

Lotti: Excuse me?

Walter: I mean, I love „The Green Hell“, you tasted the grapes right? Also I am helping as well. I am old but not a macho!

Lotti: Well at least in the garden...I am glad we have separate households.

demeure: That's really interesting for us. If we got you right, you have several generations under one roof. How does that work?

Walter: To add to the previous question first, I am really capable of taking care for my apartment but I am fortunate enough to have an incredible sister that provides me with amazing food.

Lotti: Sharing meals is really important as a family!

Walter: You are right. At least on during the week we usually share our meals all together.

Lotti: So as explanation: Its not just Walter and me living here. I live here together with my husband, Walter and my daughter with her husband and two grandchildren.

demeure: Wow that sounds like a full house.

Lotti: Definitely, we cant complain about feeling lonely. Its nice to have family around all the time. Especially for my daughter and her husband its extremely helpfull to have the grandparents one floor above.

demeure: Sounds like a pretty classical family, most like from a book. Its probably not the norm anymore today. Can it also be exhausting to have family around all the time?

Lotti: I would consider myself pretty much a family person but you are right. For some people it can be a bit overwhelming. It also wasnt like this all the time.

Walter: I just moved in recently and Lea (Lotti's daughter) and her family were not living here ever since. For studying she was living in a city.

Lotti: She is and architect like you two.

demeure: Architects everywhere!

Lotti: I am not worried that you won't have enough to do. Just look at Hochbord.

demeure: How has Dübendorf changed?

Walter: When we were young, it was a village. Fields everywhere, animals, no rush. I wouldn't recognise it! Most of the buildings we see here were buildt from the 50's onwards. It's actually a great exception that our property is still pretty much the same since we were young. All the neighbouring houses were not there.

Lotti: Just when you look at the garden and Glatt in the background it feels like nothing has changed.



demeure: Thank you for the invitation, Ruth. I am so glad I attended the walk (We met Ruth during the 2025 Open House Fontain-Tour in Dübendorf) otherwise we wouldn't be here now. Is that something you do often?

Ruth: (laughs) That was quite brave of you with all the „white heads“. But it turned out quite interesting don't you think so? Yes I think you have to be active in my age, socializing is important. My husband and I have been really active in South America but we stopped it last year. Now we have to look for something new.

demeure: I saw there are a lot of clubs in Dübendorf. Are you involved in any of them?

Ruth: Not yet, I am still looking. The Verschönerungsverein is nice but I wouldn't mind to...have also some younger people in the club.

demeure: Well then the Verschönerungsverein might not be ideal...To make a transition, you live in a really nice house. Since when do you live here?

Ruth: The house is actually from 1947, the same year I was born. Isn't that funny? But we moved in later, we didn't build it. The first owners built it right after the war and then moved to America. My husband bought it from them in the seventies. I think it's an honest house. Not fancy, but solid. But you should have seen it back then. It was on an open field. The industrial buildings around where just built when we moved in.

demeure: Its really interesting how these two worlds are crashing. It looks a bit like your small and sweet plot is under siege.

Ruth: We don't see it that dramatic. Of course in the beginning we've been disappointed because we moved in with the romantic idea of living in the green and raising our children there but we got used to it. Its just Dübendorf I guess. Our house became so dear to us. We raised the children, planted those apple trees, celebrated birthdays and Christmases. Everything happened here.

demeure: And now you live here alone?

Ruth: Just temporarily. My husband is in Reha at the moment, due to longer illness. Before he has been in hospital stationary. So its already two months now. But its also not the first time. Lets hope he recovers soon.

demeure: I am sorry to hear that! All the best to your husband.

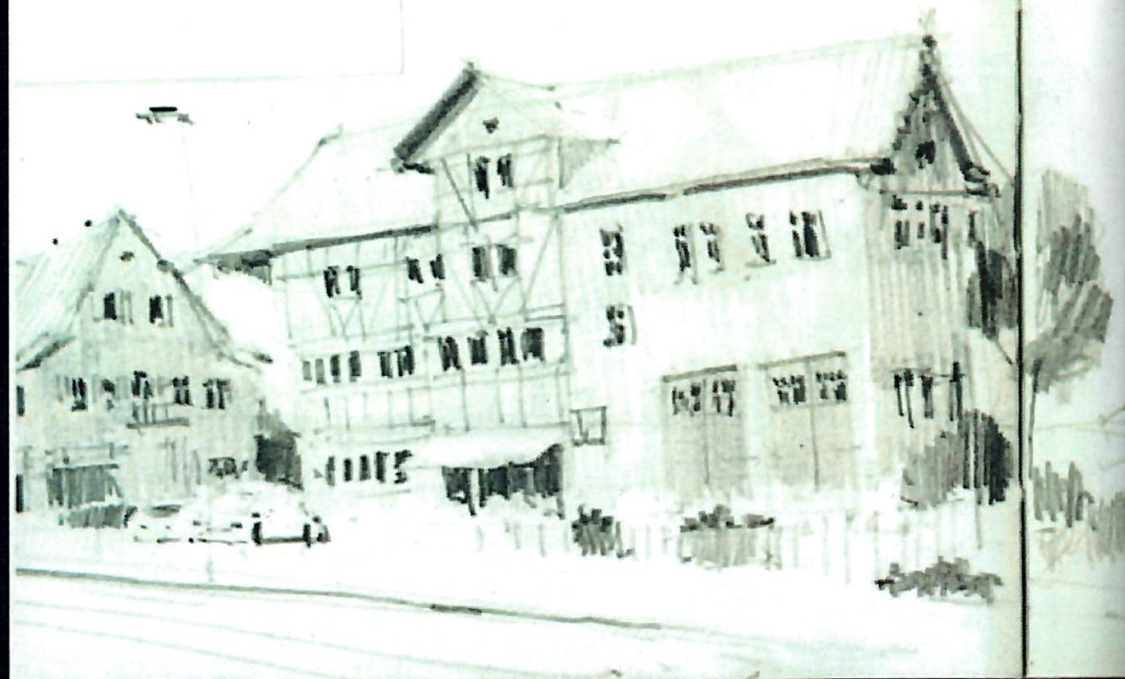
Ruth: Thanks. I think hes on the up. Living alone is really not that nice. It's strange, not hearing him in the evenings. You notice the small sounds missing — his steps, the creak of his chair. But I manage. I keep the radio on. And its always nice to have company, like you right now. I always try to invite people over, for coffee or dinner. During the last weeks when it was so sunny we were spending much time in the garden.

demeure: That sounds like the right thing to do. Do you have a lot friends in the neighborhood?

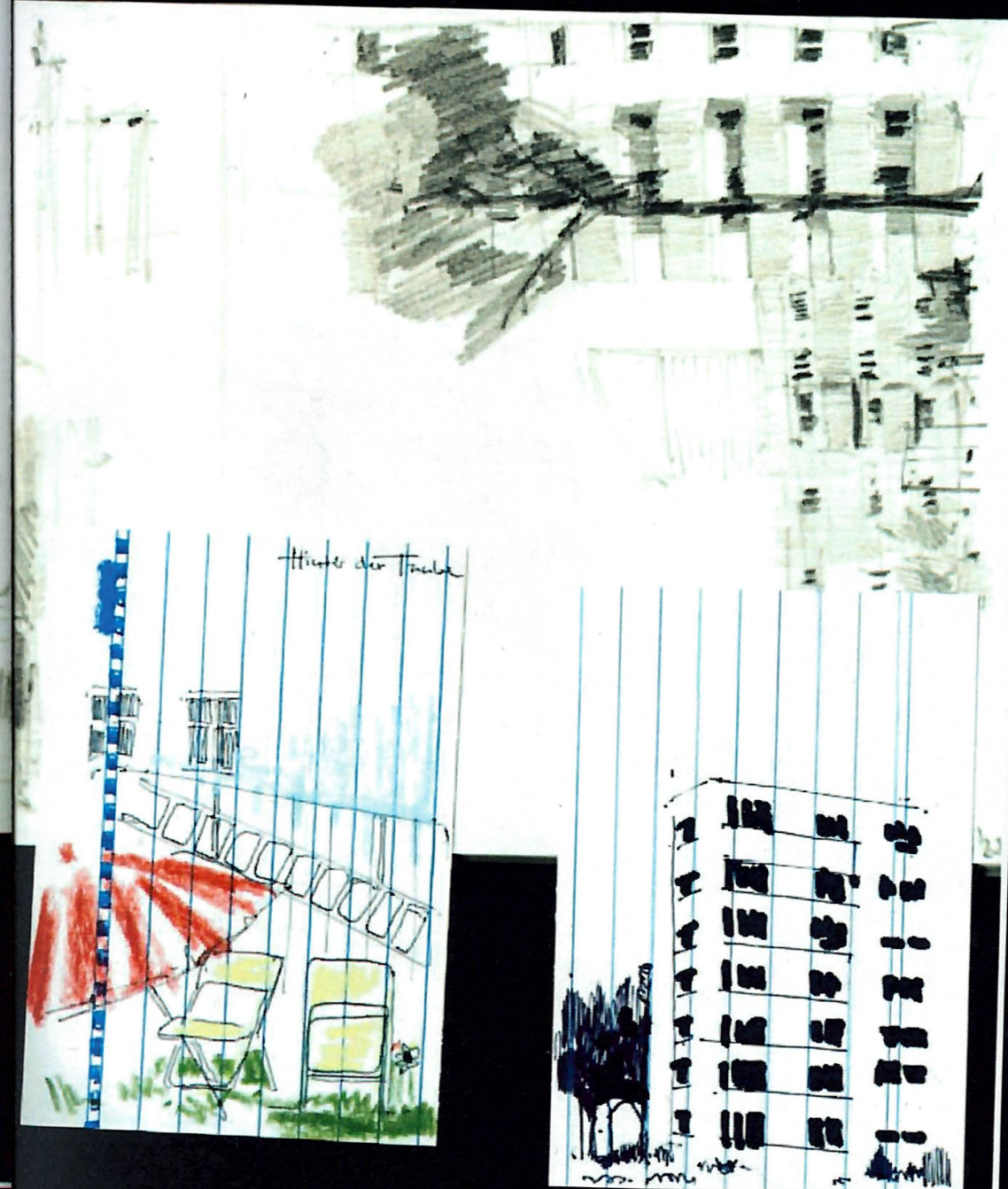




北京園地 北京地
PEKING GARDEN
(China Restaurant - Takzany)



demeure - tentative



demeure - tentative



v. Photo Series 02

demeure - photo series 02

eaten around with decay, little used, unloved. As a woman in Indiana said when asked if she liked the town square, "Nobody there but dirty old men who spit tobacco juice and try to look up your skirt."

In orthodox city planning, neighborhood open spaces are venerated in an amazingly uncritical fashion, much as savages venerate magical fetishes. Ask a houser how his planned neighborhood improves on the old city and he will cite, as a self-evident virtue, More Open Space. Ask a zoner about the improvements in progressive codes and he will cite, again as a self-evident virtue, their incentives toward leaving More Open Space. Walk with a planner through a dispirited neighborhood and though it be already scabby with deserted parks and tired landscaping festooned with old Kleenex, he will envision a future of More Open Space.

More Open Space for what? For muggings? For bleak vacuums between buildings? Or for ordinary people to use and enjoy? But people do not use city open space just because it is there and because city planners or designers wish they would.

In certain specifics of its behavior, every city park is a case unto itself and defies generalizations. Moreover, large parks such as Fairmount Park in Philadelphia, Central Park and Bronx Park and Prospect Park in New York, Forest Park in St. Louis, Golden Gate Park in San Francisco, Grant Park in Chicago—and even smaller Boston Common—differ much within themselves from part to part, and they also receive differing influences from the different parts of their cities which they touch. Some of the factors in the behavior of large metropolitan parks are too complex to deal with in the first part of this book; they will be discussed later, in Chapter Fourteen, The Curse of Border Vacuums.

Nevertheless, even though it is misleading to consider any two city parks actual or potential duplicates of one another, or to believe that generalizations can thoroughly explain all the peculiarities of any single park, it is possible to generalize about a few

E.g., "Mr. Moses conceded that some new housing might be 'ugly, regimented, institutional, identical, conformed, faceless.' But he suggested that such housing could be surrounded with parks"—from a *New York Times* story in January 1961.

demeure - photo series 02

demeure: First question right off - herWeinspaziert?

Metschl: (laughs) what do you think, quite funny right?

Noah: You can argue about that

demeure: What a perfect transition for our first question: There seem to be some things you disagree about. How is it like to live together as mother and son in a WG?

Noah: Should I start? I am already used to answer this question because i get asked it all the time. It definitely not the most casual thing to do in the late 30's. When I moved in again first I was sure it would be just temporary but as you

good offers for apartments. Actually I haven't for a while, maybe I should do it again...

Metschl: As Noah said, I have more than enough space since I live here on my own. Also, I know the prices at the moment, its unbelievable. I checked myself, looking for a smaller apartment. I mean an retired women living on her own doesn't need 90m² all for herself but the prices for two-room apartments were so high that it wouldn't have made any sense to give up this big flat. Also I live here from the 70's on when it was buildt and lived here ever since. So as mother, of course I offered him to move in and stay as long as he wants. I am actually quite happy for the company, its not that much fun to live on my own. So to answer your question, I think we get along quite well, otherwise



The idea was born pretty much out of need. Zürich rents are crazy, and I couldn't find an affordable apartment. Then I was looking here in Dübendorf but even here, prices a really high now, not that much difference to Zürich actually. So Metschl offered me to move in her place again because she has more than enough space. Of course that was super weird in the beginnig, I mean I grew up here and spendt my childhood and youth in this house. At least I didn't move in my old „kinderzimmer“. Its also not forever. I am still checking the usual platforms for

we would have noticed already. Don't you think so Noah?

Noah: For sure! Due to the large space, it works suprisingly well.

demeure: How do you organize yourselves to have enough distance?

Metschl: When Noah moved we were switching rooms. There is one room inbetween our rooms now . That layout already helps a lot.

Noah: And also my room is directly next to the staircase, so I can directly sneak into my room in case without disturbing her. We also respect each other's schedules—she has her morning tea, I have my coffee, we don't collide too often. It works.

Metschl: We are sharing the other rooms but that works quite well. Also taking care and cleaning works much better now than in Noahs teenage years.

Noah: (laughs) Otherwise, she would retreat her offer really quick.

demeure: The room inbetween - how do you use it?

Noah: We can use it quite diverse what I really appreciate. I am making a lot of music and I can use the room for practicing for example.

Metschl: And I started painting since I retired. I use the room as my atelier. On top, there is a bed as well so it can be used as a guest bedroom.



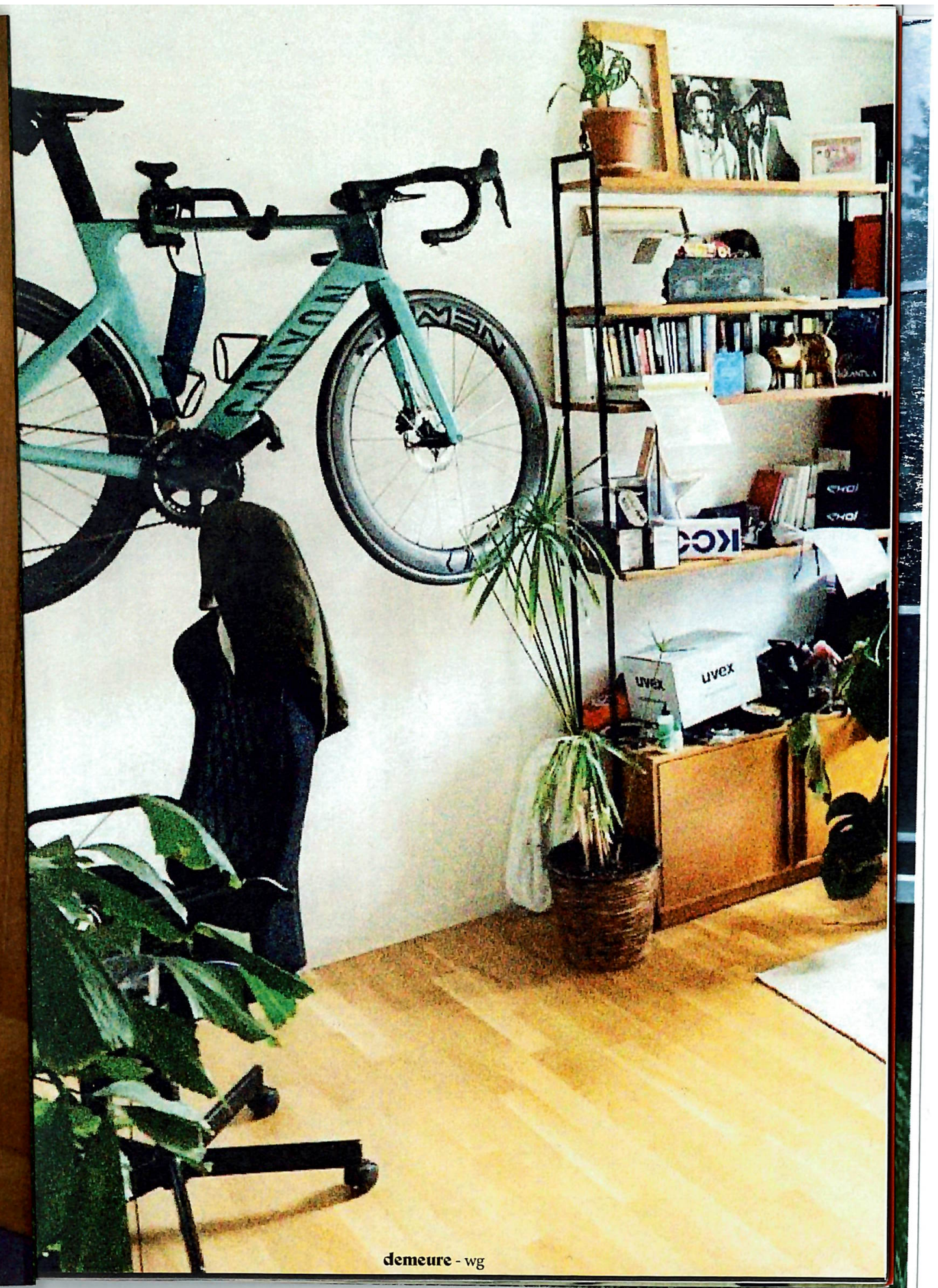
demeure: Talking about friends: Do you enjoy having friends over?

Metschl: I do. I have a friends over all the time. We use the kitchen and the living room for that. If the weather allows it we also spend time outside on the green space—there you are getting sure you don't disturbe each other.

Noah: I have to admit, I don't have friends over so often. Somehow, I am still a bit tempted about that. In these situations I still feel like a guest and don't want to abuse my mothers hospitality. But there are enough options to meet outside or somewhere else. Also just going to Zürich is extremly fast by public transport.



demeure - wg



demeure - wg