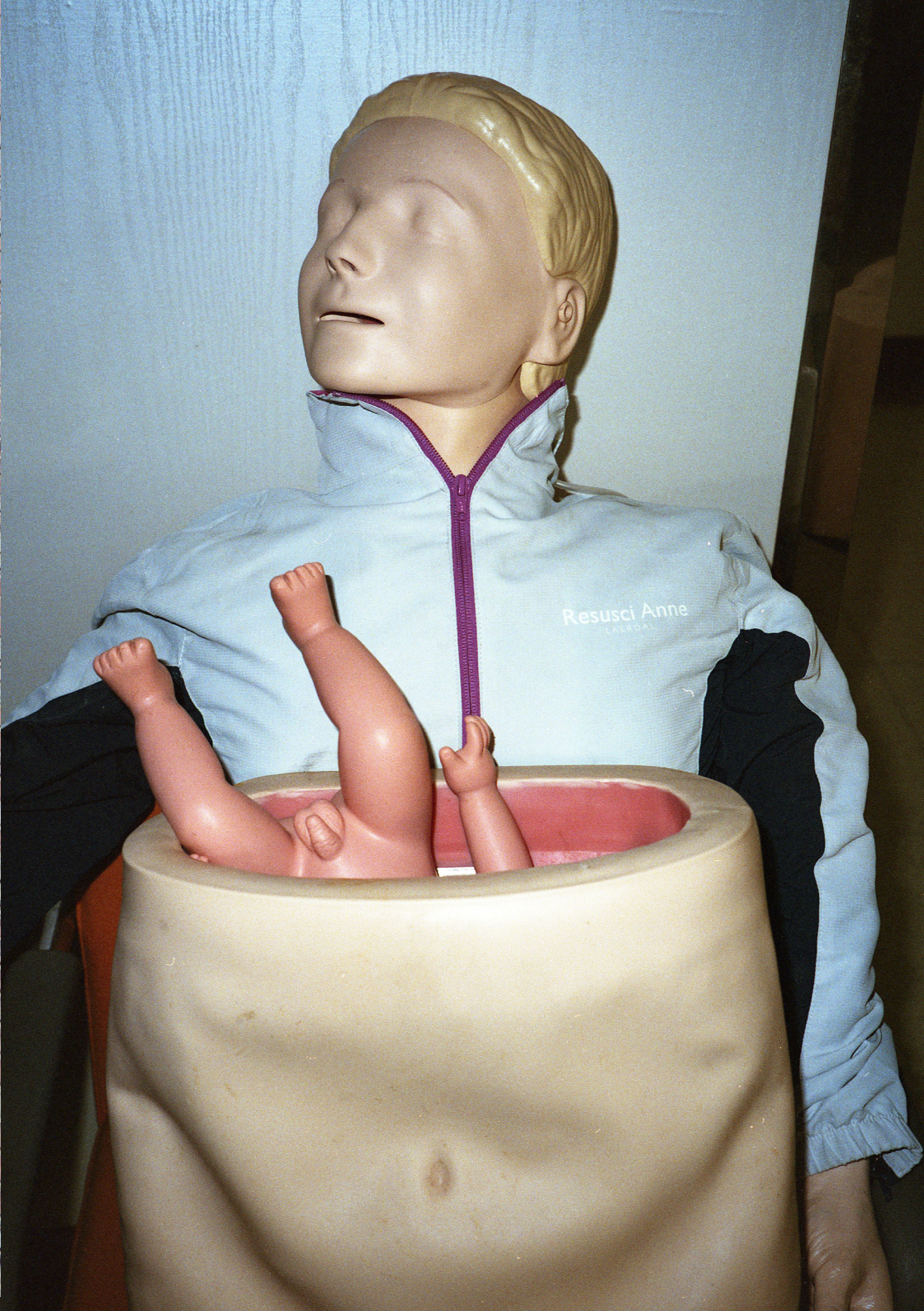


THE
BULLDOZED
FUTURE #2

































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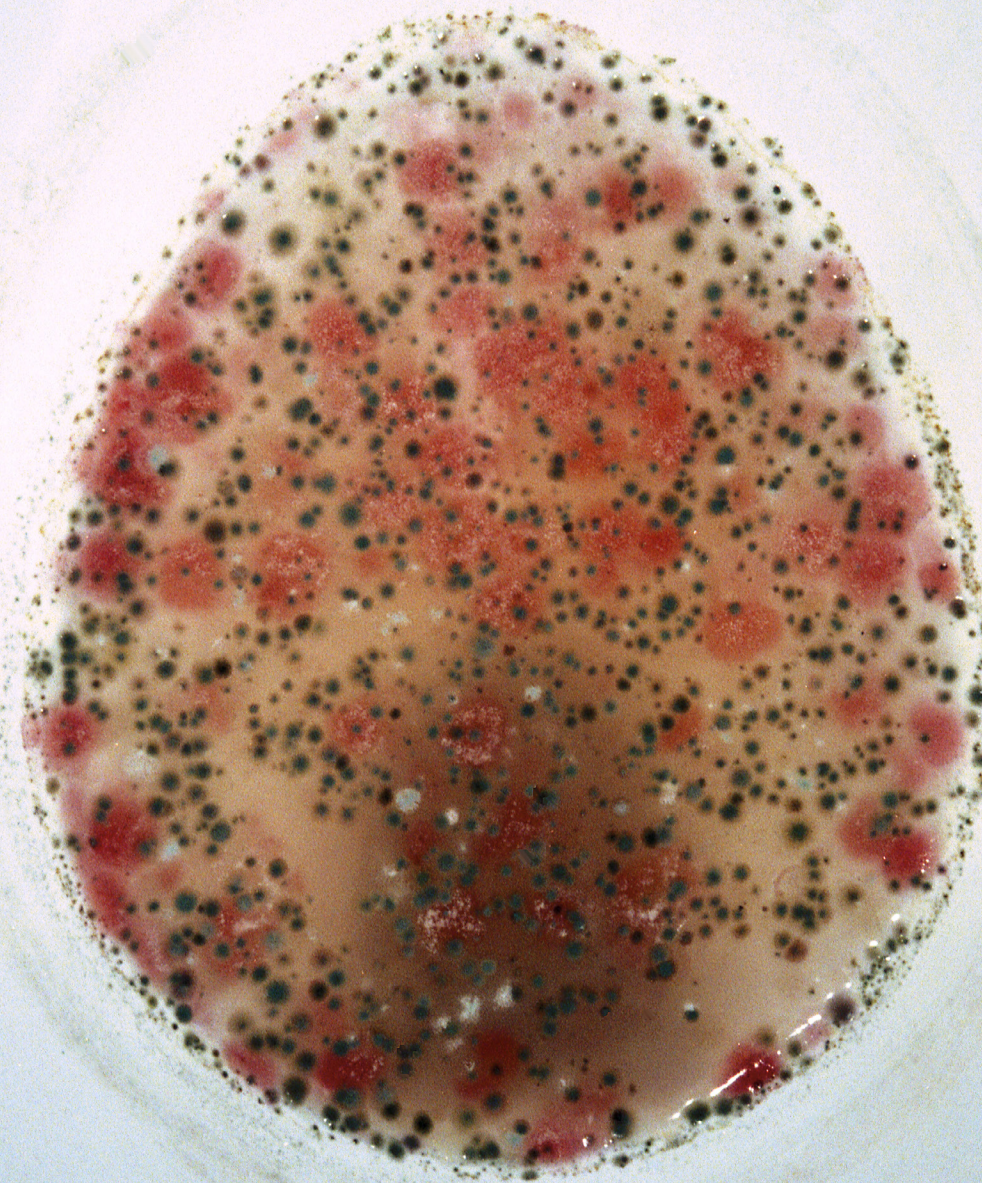
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THE BULLDOZED FUTURE #2

Dear Reader,
Welcome to issue #2!

I offer you another collection of photos from my explorations around the redevelopment zones and abandonments of Korea. As I wander around cities throughout Korea, I always keep my eye out for clues that show a neighborhood is in the early stages of demolition and redevelopment. The most telling sign is if you see a brown tarp or pastel-colored cloth scaffolding used to shield neighbors and passersby from the unpleasant scene of the eviction and removal of a community. There are other indicators, such as buildings without any windows and spray-painted doors and windows. Demolition workers spray in red spray paint words and phrases such as “removal(철거) and “empty house”(공가) to identify the condemned buildings.

Once I discover a neighborhood in the initial stages of a demolition operation, my documenting process begins. I mentioned in the first issue, but my motivation for exploring jaekaebaljiyeok(재개발지역) or redevelopment zones is to chronicle the area before construction companies remake it into a highrise apartment or state-of-the-art shopping complex. Depending on the redevelopment zone’s size, I make numerous visits to the neighborhood until it’s completely gone, using various film formats and an iPhone to shoot scenes that capture my interest. Korean traditional style houses called hanok(한옥), Mom-and-Pop businesses, and even Shaman’s homes(무당집) are what you commonly come across in the jaekaebaljiyeok. It’s pretty unbelievable what people leave behind as they vacate their residence or workplace. School annuals, bankbooks, hanbok(한복), graduation certificates, and even wedding photos are typical examples of personal items I find while investigating Korea’s redevelopment zones. As long as abandoned neighborhoods continue to pop up, I will do my best to show up and shoot. ♣

Photos shot on 135 and 120 film between 2019-2021 in Korea.
Edited and designed by Sounion Hong.
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