

LIFE BEYOND FIRST CLASS

DAUM CRYSTAL ART | CUSTOM HACKER-CRAFT
BASELWORLD 2012 | CLEVERLEY BESPOKE SHOES

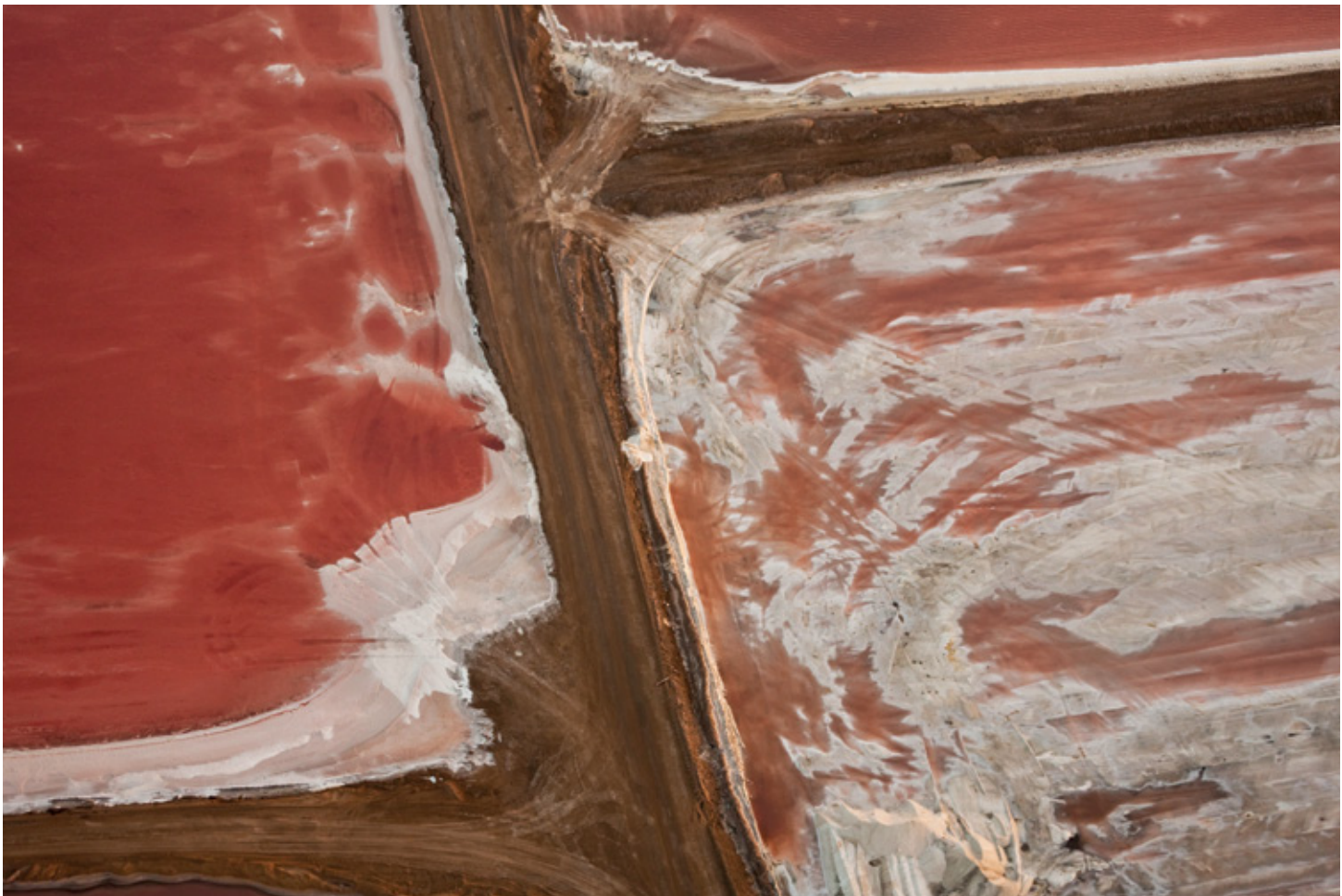
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May June 2012





Viewed from up high, sand dunes, the arid
Namib Desert and the desolate Skeleton
Coast present a surprisingly vibrant palette





Photography by Peter Adams
Text by Katrina Balmaceda

AMBIGUITY OF SCALE

“I’M ALWAYS DRAWN TO COUNTRIES THAT ARE CULTURALLY AND VISUALLY DIFFERENT FROM MY HOMELAND,” says Englishman Peter Adams, whose wandering feet fuelled his passion for photography in his younger years. Now, it is his camera that spurs his travels. “I’m always curious to know what’s actually there on the map and meet people, but without the motivation to take pictures, I might be too lazy to make so much effort.” One of his aerial projects led him to an area that Namibian Bushmen called ‘The Land God Made in Anger’ — the Skeleton Coast — and to the arid Namib Desert. His subject was the salt pans in these regions, but his view from the sky captured more: purplish sand dunes, multi-hued volcanic rock, coloured pebbles on the shore, the tempestuous sea’s waves.

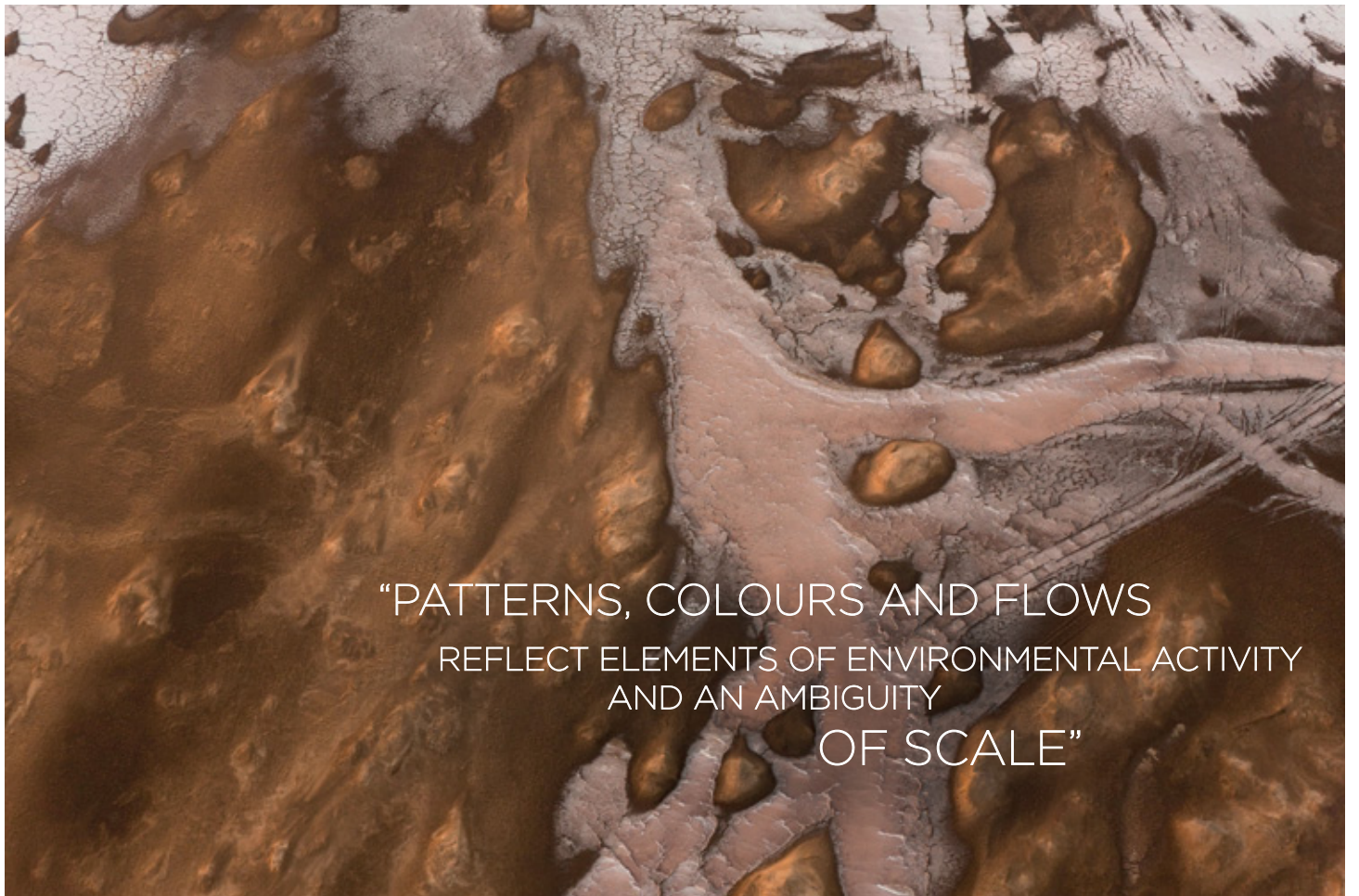
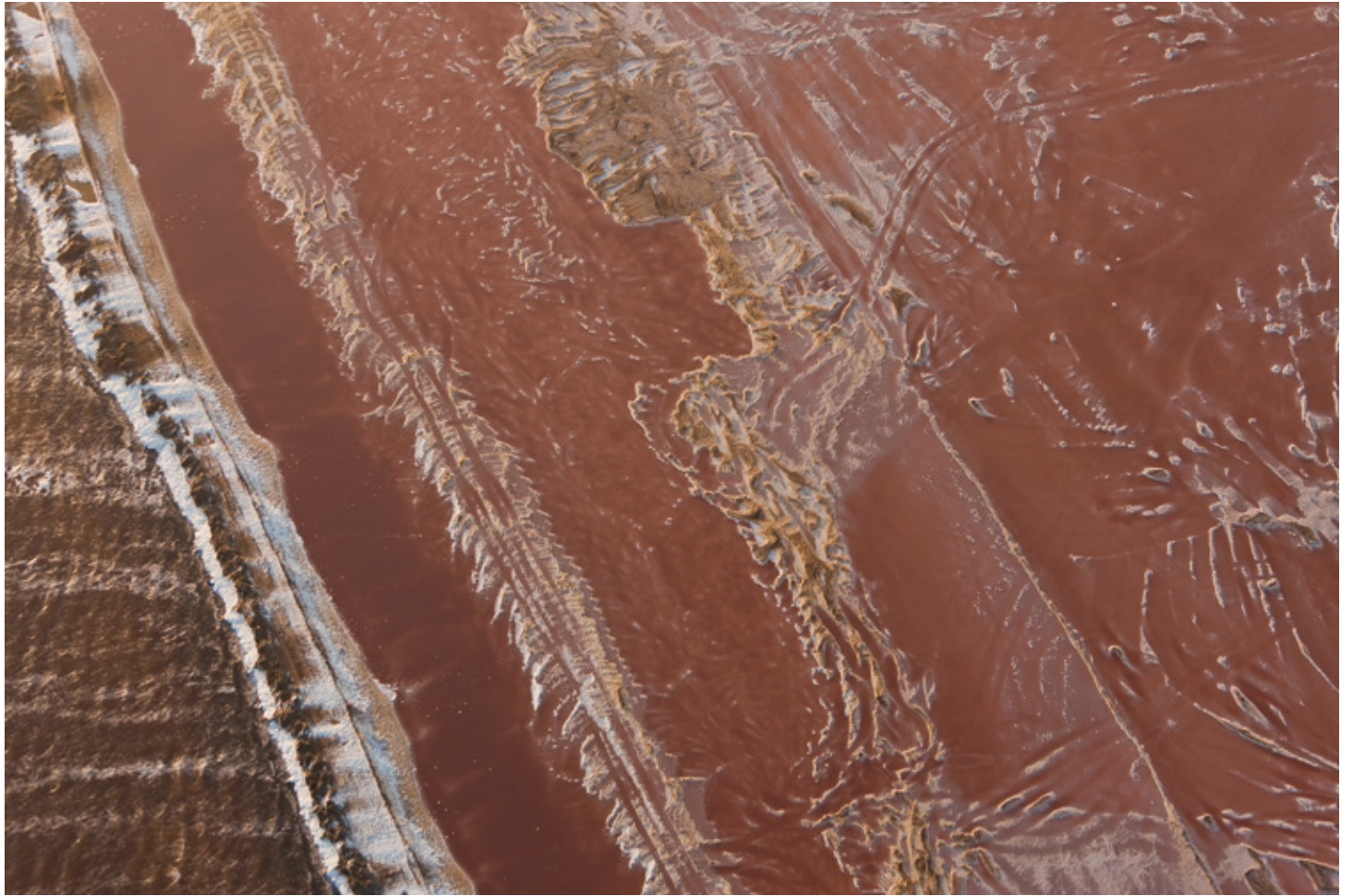
Adams, who also takes portraits and candid photographs of people, says that aerial photography is rarely spontaneous because it entails heavy research and planning. Namibia was chosen for its “elemental and empty landscapes”, but also for its calm, relatively predictable weather. Yet, the patterns and colours of the salt works in the region surprised his trained eyes. This different perspective is what he likes to see and share — an “ambiguity of scale that helps engage the eye, and so prompts questions”. His aerial photography made him a finalist in the 2011 Travel Photographer of the Year Awards in the Natural Elements category. Recently home from a trip to China, he plans a photography workshop in Myanmar later this year and a digital photo book. www.padamsphoto.co.uk



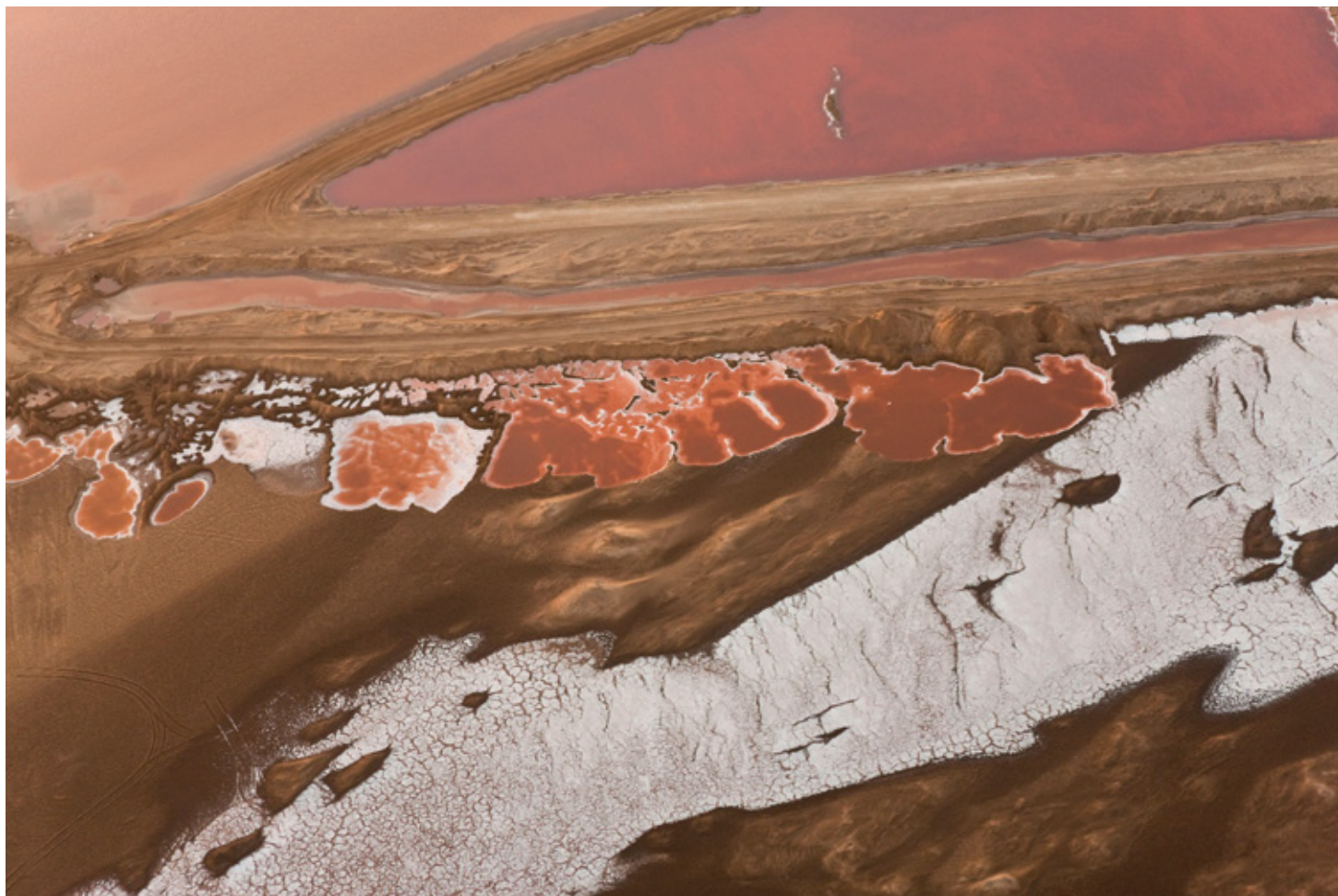
Sossusvlei, which loosely translates to 'dead end marsh', has sand rich in salt and iron



A vast dune sea surrounds Sossusvlei, a salt and clay pan in the Namib Desert

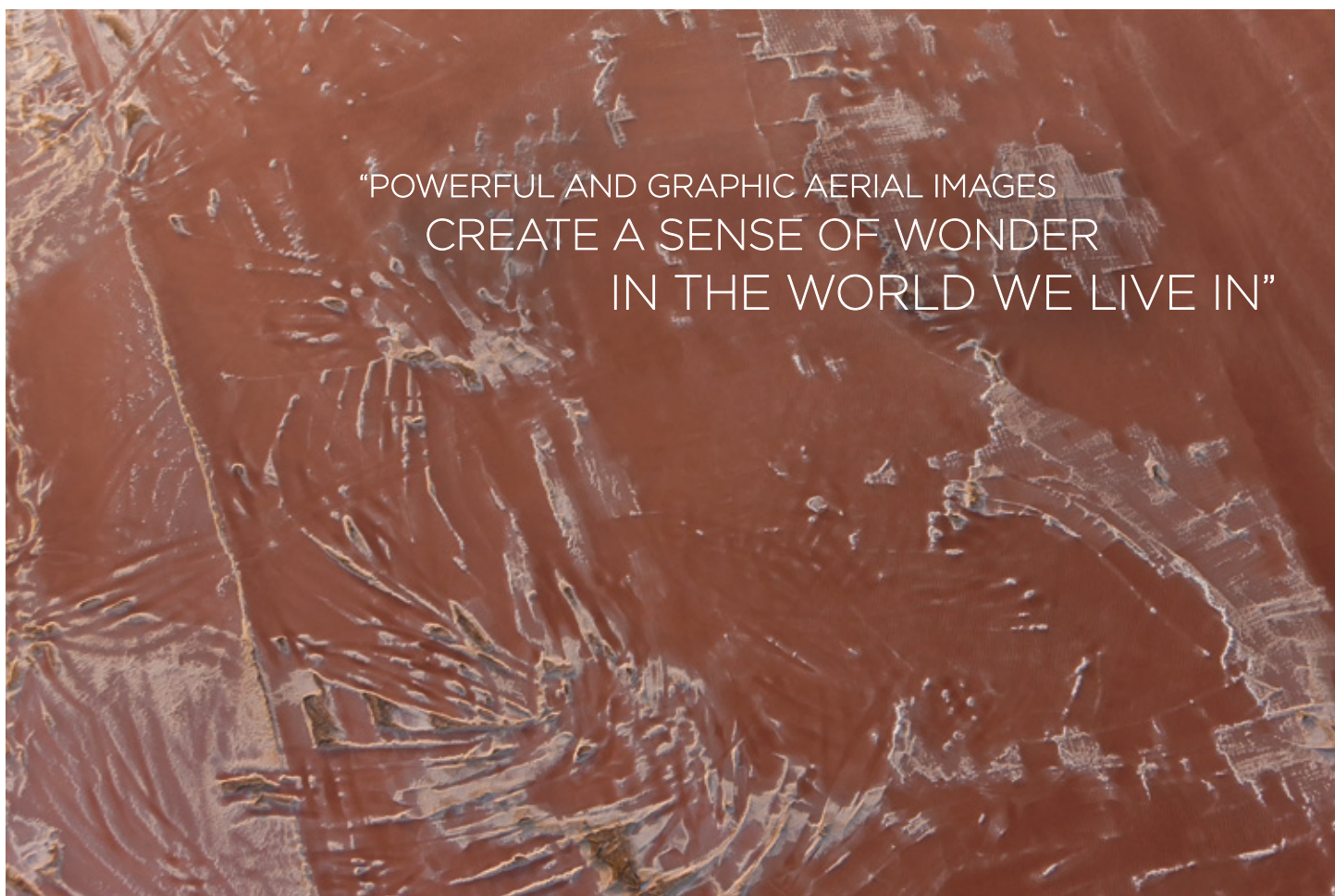


“PATTERNS, COLOURS AND FLOWS
REFLECT ELEMENTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITY
AND AN AMBIGUITY
OF SCALE”





Adams' Namibia aerals won him the bronze prize in the London Photographic Association's landscape series competition



"POWERFUL AND GRAPHIC AERIAL IMAGES
CREATE A SENSE OF WONDER
IN THE WORLD WE LIVE IN"