







## The grid

Thibault Drutel's mirrorlike shots of underground stations reveal the serenity that rush hours disguise

If you slow down to pay attention, there is often something quietly enchanting about underground stations – especially if, like French photographer Thibault Drutel, you wait for the rush-hour chaos to pass and observe the spaces when they are empty. Struck by the geometric beauty of Pannenhuis station in Brussels, Drutel began his series, Symmetric Subway, to capture the fascinating architecture of Europe's many subterranean stations, his images vivid with kineticism, taut lines and a certain theatricality.

"What fascinates me is the contrast," says Drutel. "These are places built purely for function, yet some of them possess a strong aesthetic. I'm especially drawn to symmetry, repetition and the dialogue between still structures and passing trains. It's where geometry meets rhythm – and I try to frame that tension." Tara Joshi

See more at thibault-drutel.com





## The Simone Lia cartoon





