



I had a dream

Adrian Schaub, 2022

In 1893 Amélie Zürcher had a dream that the underground below had more potential to nourish her family than the farm she was living on.

The drillings uncovered not the expected oil but potash, which exploitation will however shape the landscape, the economy and the people of the region for the next century.

The exploitation of the 26 mines began in 1904 and survived two world wars, was hit by accidents and strikes and the area changed country between Germany and France four times.

At the beginning of the 21st century the production ceased and the mines had become dilapidated or demolished.

Half a century after its closure a group of former miners continues to maintain the remains of the machines and buildings of Rodolphe II and thereby keeps the memory of the rise and fall of the mining history in Alsace alive.



Last sunrays



Salle des pendus



The origins of Alstom



Chains

Headframe





Miner Godlewski



Miner's best friend



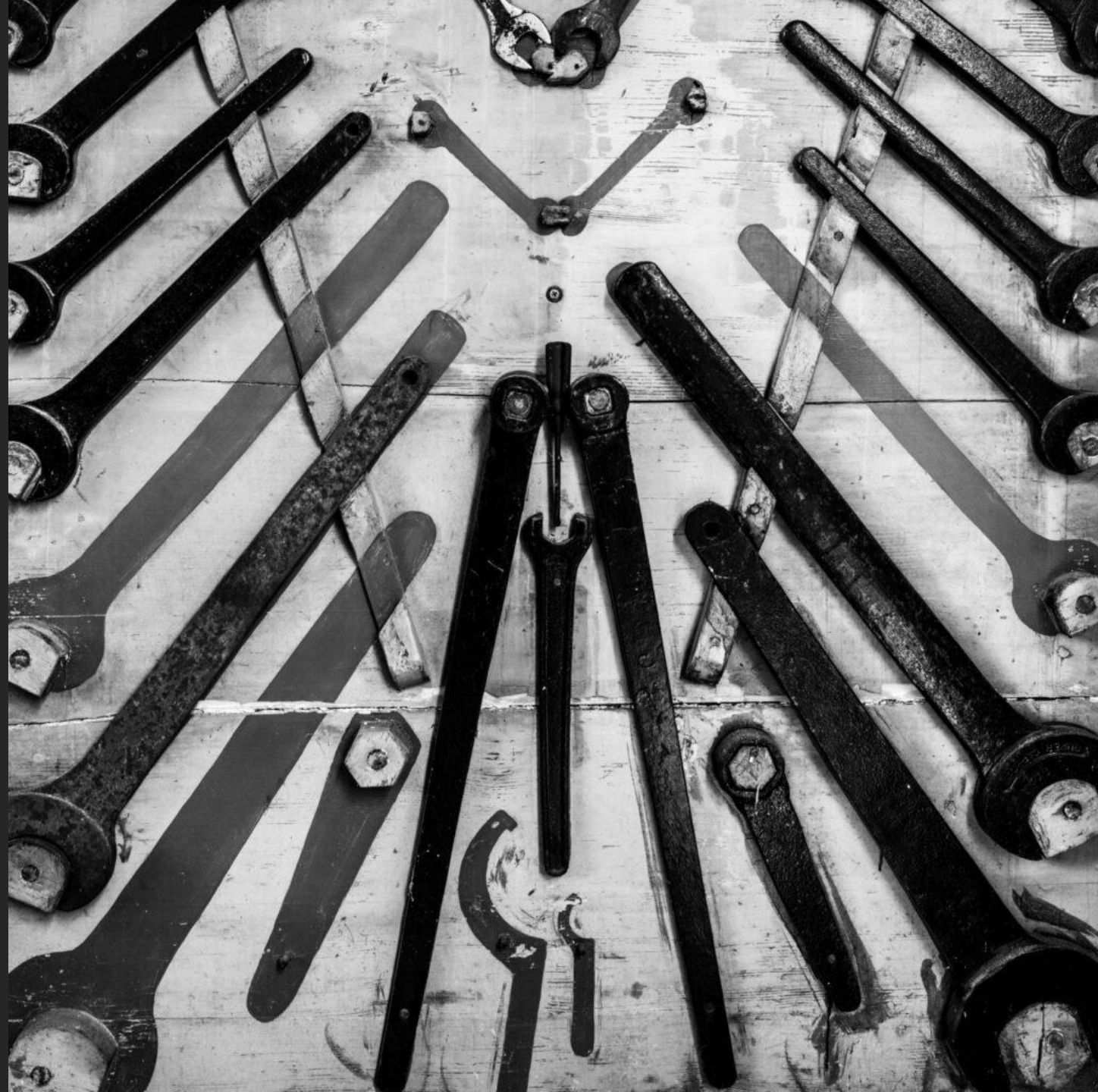
The wheel of industrial time



Worn out



Upwards



Tool kit



The switch

Text and photos:

Adrian Schaub

www.adrianschaub.com

adrian@adrianschaub.com

0041 (0) 79 529 44 49