

Leonid
Furmansky

Oil Towers

“There’s something beautiful about an empty city,” Furmansky wrote to me recently. In the photographs included here, part of a larger portfolio, downtown Houston appears illuminated but uninhabited. The allure of these flat, layered scenes is cut with their eeriness. The quiet is the result of COVID-19, which has caused most everything to seem on pause—the future looms ahead, uncertain but eagerly awaited. Furmansky’s evocative images depict places we know but now see in a different light. In that sense, they’re deeply contemporary artifacts of our pandemic year.

—Jack Murphy













