

Embracing Imperfection in Street Photography Composition

In street photography, **composition** has always been a critical element, but my approach to it has evolved over time. Initially, I considered composition the foundation of every shot. I meticulously thought about the **foreground, middle ground, and background**, ensuring they all connected harmoniously. This classical approach remains valid, but my perspective has shifted.

From Precision to Fluidity

While perfecting composition is a skill anyone can learn, I've come to value a more **fluid and intuitive** approach. It's about feeling your way through a scene rather than rigidly applying compositional rules.

"Composition should be innate, not forced. You should feel where the camera needs to be, without second-guessing."

Innate Understanding of Space

When you're deeply connected to your **focal length** and surroundings, you instinctively know where to position yourself. You don't need to constantly check through the viewfinder. It's about trusting your gut and letting your intuition guide you.

Embracing Imperfection

Lately, I've been experimenting with **wonky compositions**, allowing imperfections to creep in. Life itself isn't perfect, so why should our photographs strive for unattainable perfection?

"Perfection in composition is overrated. The imperfections of life are what make it beautiful."

This doesn't mean abandoning composition entirely. It's still an essential tool to help viewers read your images. However, it should no longer dominate your process; it should flow naturally in the background.

Moving Beyond the "Fishing Technique"

In the past, I relied on the **fishing technique**: finding a corner, composing meticulously, and waiting for the perfect moment. While this approach works, I've shifted towards a more dynamic style. Now, I'm constantly **on the move**, letting the imperfections of fleeting moments shape my compositions.

Ultimately, street photography thrives on the **unpredictability of life**. By loosening your grip on traditional compositional rules, you open yourself up to new possibilities. In imperfection, you'll find beauty.