

Street Photography is a Visual Game and a Physical Pleasure

Street photography is not just about capturing images—it's about engaging with the world around you. It's a **visual game** and a **physical pleasure**. The act of observing life and framing it within the edges of the viewfinder requires a balance between intention and spontaneity. As photographers, we become participants in this game, where every step we take and every moment we decide to capture is a choice that shapes our experience.

Solving Visual Problems

"I like to consider photography as problem-solving. When you observe life, you're responsible for what you put within the edges of the frame and where you place yourself and the camera."

Photography is a matter of **making decisions**—deciding what elements to include in the frame, where to stand, and how to align the shot. It's a game of **visual problem-solving**, where the puzzle pieces are the elements of life unfolding before you. The camera is the tool, but the photographer is the one who determines how to position themselves and when to press the shutter.

Key Responsibilities:

- Framing: Choosing what falls inside the rectangle.
 - Positioning: Finding the best angle and perspective.
 - Timing: Recognizing the right moment to click the shutter.
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Go Slow and Let Life Flow

"I believe to go slow and allow life to flow towards you requires a sort of zen-like state and visual acuity to things."

Patience is essential in street photography. It's about letting **life flow toward you** rather than rushing to capture it. This approach demands a **zen-like state**, where you remain open and receptive to the world as it moves. In this state, you become attuned to the **subtle rhythms** of the street, the way people move, the light shifts, and the interplay of shadows.

Example: The Colosseum at Sunset

In a photograph I made of the Colosseum in Rome, I positioned myself strategically during sunset. As people flowed my way, I paid close attention to their movements, the direction of the shadows, and how the setting sun illuminated the Colosseum. By being mindful of these elements, I was able to capture a scene that felt both **natural** and **intentional**.

Let the Chips Fall as They May

While photographers can control their position and the timing of their shots, much of what happens in the streets is beyond control. There's a beauty in **embracing the chaos** and letting things unfold as they will.

"While we are responsible for the way we move our physical body with a camera and how we position it, much of life is out of our control."

This unpredictability makes street photography a constant **challenge** and a source of **curiosity**. Each time I step onto the street, I wonder what reality will reveal in a photograph. There's a thrill in **not knowing** what the final image will look like until it manifests on the screen or in a print. The **spontaneity** of life ensures that every photograph is unique—no two moments are ever the same.

Tuning into the Rhythm of the Streets

"Through intuition we are in touch with the patterns of both nature and human behavior and feel our gut instinct to press the shutter."

Intuition plays a critical role in this process. Through **practice** and **repetition**, we start to **tune into the street's rhythm**. It's about developing a feel for how people move, how light changes throughout the day, and how unexpected moments can align in a perfect shot. The **street's rhythm** becomes a guide, allowing the photographer to sense the right time to press the shutter, even amidst the **chaos**.

Photography as a Physical Pleasure

Street photography is more than a mental exercise; it's a **physical experience**. One of the **greatest pleasures** comes from simply being out there, feeling the **sun on your skin** and moving through the world. It's the sensation of being **physically present**, navigating through the streets, and engaging with the environment.

- **The Motivation is in Your Legs:** Photography is as much about movement as it is about observation. The act of walking, exploring, and allowing yourself to be guided by instinct is fundamental.
 - **The Joy of Curiosity:** What keeps me coming back to the streets is the **curiosity** about what life will become in a photograph. It's a playful exploration of reality, where each shot is an experiment.
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Conclusion: Playing the Visual Game

Street photography, at its core, is a **game of observation** and a **pleasure of movement**. It challenges us to find beauty and meaning in the mundane, to solve visual problems with every step, and to remain open to the unpredictable flow of

life. By **going slow** and letting life **flow toward us**, we embrace the **serendipity** that makes each moment on the street unique.

"We just let life roll and let the chips fall as they may."

And in doing so, we find ourselves continually surprised, inspired, and in tune with the **rhythm of the world**.